

Preparing for OLC Legislative Day - 2019

The annual Ohio Library Council (OLC) [Legislative Day](#) will be held **Tuesday, April 9, 2019**. The OLC is sending letters to all legislators advising them that library representatives will be calling them to arrange appointments. Even though this year's schedule will include a luncheon with legislators, **attendees are encouraged to still schedule a separate appointment with their legislator(s)** because time for discussion at the luncheon may be limited.

The following tips and guidelines are provided to help you make the day as beneficial as possible for you and your legislators:

- Contact your legislator to make an appointment for April 9.
- Coordinate legislative visits with other library representatives in your area by working with your OLC Legislative Network Representative. **THIS IS CRITICAL**. Legislators are swamped with visits, meetings, and hearings. Combining visits with other libraries is a better use of everyone's time and can mean a bigger impact on the legislator. It is also a good way to demonstrate collaboration. If you are uncertain which libraries are in your legislative district, contact your OLC Legislative Network Representative by checking the Advocacy page of the OLC Website (<http://olc.org/resources/government-relations/advocacy/>).
- OLC Legislative Day attendees are encouraged to **WEAR BLUE!** This will help legislators easily identify library supporters in the hallways of the Ohio Statehouse.
- This year our lobbying efforts will focus on the state budget and Restoring the Public Library Fund as well educating legislators on essential library services. Some of the highlights include:
 - ✓ **Briefings and Tools** – Be sure to attend one of the morning briefings to receive the latest information from the Statehouse and to pick up your packet which will include additional tools for use during meetings with your legislators.
 - ✓ **Ohio Senate Leadership Perspective** – Both Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) and Senate Minority Leader Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Heights) will be joining us to share their insights on the state budget and their perspective. We want to make sure we have a full room when they speak to attendees beginning at 10:00 a.m.
 - ✓ **OLC Luncheon with Legislators** – The OLC will be hosting a luncheon for legislators and attendees in the Statehouse Atrium at 12:00 p.m.

- The Ohio Statehouse has special security measures including keycard turnstiles, metal detectors and the prohibition of backpacks. Be sure to allot additional time between meetings for possible security delays. Please review the Statehouse Security FAQ at: <http://www.ohiostatehouse.org/Assets/Files/1002056.pdf>
- Take a picture with your legislator during your meeting or at the luncheon! Don't forget to:
 - ✓ Share the picture on social media and tag your legislator.
 - ✓ Thank your legislator for meeting with you.
 - ✓ Tweet the picture, post it on the library's Facebook page, post it on the library's website, send it to your local media, include it in your next newsletter.
 - ✓ Remind your legislator to share the picture as well – they love to highlight their meetings with constituents on social media!

In addition to the above information, the OLC will present a [Legislative Day Preparation Webinar](#) on **Monday, March 18 at 1:00 p.m.** The webinar will be recorded and posted to the OLC website.