**Delaware Library Reference Transactions Tally Sheet FY25**

tracking Reference questions (Dewey Delaware/types)

This Reference Tally Sheet includes areas for keeping track of questions Delaware library staff are asked in their libraries, primarily in person and on the telephone. **This updated form also includes an additional field to capture questions library staff answer through an email account that is outside of LibAnswers/Ask a Librarian DE.** It is organized by Dewey to align all Delaware public library reference questions (on the desk and online).

* **Instructions:**  After the completion of each month, please compile **in-library reference totals** (to include any questions received on the telephone, through social media and your

library’s email if it is separate from LibAnswers/Ask a Librarian DE) and submit them through the [**online reporting tool**](https://de.countingopinions.com)by the **5th of each month**.

(Please edit the following form to fit your library’s need; it is a template to get you started. Print out as many Tally Sheets as needed for staff who provide any type of reference/patron assistance services.)

tracking stories (Maslow/impact)

Did an interaction with a patron stand out for you? These are great stories to collect! Please take a moment to offer a brief recount of these events on the “**Delaware Libraries Story Journal**”!

* **Instructions:**  Submit stories using the online form: <https://bit.ly/DELibraryStories>
  + Use initials or first names only; no personalized identifiers for patrons.
  + Submit patron stories as soon as possible after they occur, while they are still on your mind.
  + Categorize by Dewey **and** Maslow.

**Categories:**

**Find** First level: *basic needs* Example: “My family is hungry. How do I get help?”

**Connect** Second level: *community partnerships* Example: “Is there a community garden cooperative where I can grow and share food?”

**Learn** Third level: *skill-building, lifelong learning* Example: “I want to learn more about gardening.”

**Inspire** Fourth level: *motivational, exploration* Example: “Where can I take a course about becoming a master gardener in Delaware?”

**Transform** Fifth level: *transformational, change*  Example: “I want to start a community garden in my low-income neighborhood. Where do I begin?”

**Dewey Types of Question**

**Category**

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**000** **Generalities** (computer help, computer technology, eMedia such as how to find and use eBooks, eAudiobooks, Flipster, online resources, etc.)

**100** **Philosophy/Psychology** (philosophy, psychology, parapsychology, self-help)

**200** **Religion** (world religions, cults)

**300** **Social Sciences** (census research, education, law, personal finance, veterans, government, politics, folklore, homelessness, social work, community connections)

**400** **Language** (ESL, literacy questions, PAWS to Read)

**500** **Science** (mathematics, physics, chemistry, zoology, botany, earth sciences, paleontology, evolution, dinosaurs)

**600** **Applied Science** (STEM, technology [not computer tech], health, engineering, pets, cooking, business and management, job training, entrepreneurship, home building and construction)

**700** **Arts** (arts/crafts, fine arts, architecture, urban planning, interior decorating, photography, music, theater, motion pictures, recreation and sports)

**800** **Literature** (fiction authors, author talks, book discussions/clubs, readers’ advisory, storytimes, Dolly Parton Imagination Library, find a book/purchase requests)

**900** **History and Geography** (history, genealogy, geography, travel and biography)

* [Ask a Librarian Delaware](https://answers.delawarelibraries.org/admin)

Ask a Librarian Delaware (AaLDE) virtual reference reports are gathered by entering Reference Analytics in each ticket, compiled each month by the AaLDE Reference Coordinator ([missy.williams@lib.de.us](mailto:missy.williams@lib.de.us)), and posted on the AaLDE staff support site: <http://aalstaff.lib.de.us/reports>. This data is added to the monthly reporting totals to the Delaware Division of Libraries Data Team. These compiled monthly totals are extremely important for our federal LSTA reports as well as to gain and retain statistics for Delaware.

**Reference Transactions Weekly Tally Sheet FY25 Weekly dates from: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

While tallying questions, consider the story behind the interaction you’ve had. See the Tracking Stories (Maslow/Impact) instructions for submitting stories.

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|  | **000**  computer help, computer technology  eMedia,  generalities | **100**  philosophy,  psych,  self-help | **200**  religion, cults | **300**  social sciences, legal, financial, government, folklore, politics | **400**  language,  ESL, literacy | **500**  Astronomy, science, math, chemistry | **600**  applied science, health, business, jobs | **700**  arts, crafts, sports, hobbies, motion pictures | **800**  literature, author talks, book groups, readers’ advisory | **900**  history, genealogy  geography, travel,  biography | TOTALS |
| **Monday** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| email\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Tuesday** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| email\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Wednesday** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| email\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Thursday** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| email\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **000**  computer help, computer technology  eMedia,  generalities | **100**  philosophy,  psych,  self-help | **200**  religion, cults | **300**  social sciences, legal, financial, government, folklore, politics | **400**  language,  ESL, literacy | **500**  Astronomy, science, math, chemistry | **600**  applied science, health, business, jobs | **700**  arts, crafts, sports, hobbies, motion pictures | **800**  literature, author talks, book groups, readers’ advisory | **900**  history, genealogy  geography, travel,  biography | TOTALS |
| **Friday** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| email\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Saturday** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| email\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sunday** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| email\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| TOTALS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\*email: List only those received through a **unique library-created email**, such as through a “contact us” form on your library’s website or social media sites. **Please do not include emails received through Ask a Librarian Delaware/LibAnswers** on this form. These email interactions are tallied separately through the AaLDE platform and Reference Analytics feature.

**If you have any questions, please email** [**helpdesk@lib.de.us**](mailto:helpdesk@lib.de.us)