



### **What is BARC?**

BARC (Bibliographic and Referral Center) is a clearinghouse for regional interlibrary loan requests (ILL). It operated as an inhouse service for about 30 years before being outsourced for a period of time. In Summer 2025, the SCRLC Board of Trustees voted to return BARC to an in-house service on a pilot basis. The current iteration of BARC launched in February 2026.

The purpose of BARC service is to provide both interlibrary loan support and backup services to libraries that need access to borrowing and lending networks, including WorldShare and DOCLINE.

Through BARC, libraries can request both returnable materials (e.g., books) and nonreturnable items such as articles or book chapters. Although the focus of BARC is interlibrary loan, it can also update a library's local holdings for the OCLC Union List of Serials records.

### **What Will BARC Do for My Library?**

- Search for correct bibliographic records of items to borrow using a variety of electronic resources
- Place an ILL request within 24 hours of the request being submitted under most circumstances.
- Place renewal requests where needed and available.

### **How Do I Get Started with the new BARC?**

- Request BARC Credentials, using [resourcesharing@scrlc.org](mailto:resourcesharing@scrlc.org)
- Watch the recording of the BARC Training which is available on our website.
- Submit a request for an item through the Clio Request and Renew system. (you will need your BARC Credentials to access this system.)

### **What are the BARC Guidelines of Service?**

BARC operates on agreed upon trust, consideration, and respect for fellow members. BARC should **not** be used as a replacement or substitute for a library's existing interlibrary loan service.

BARC expects all libraries and library systems to:

- Exhaust their local or regional resources first, if they are known. Contact your library system office or review the library membership map.

- Recognize that there are exceptions that will be applied where requests will not be submitted through BARC.
  - Textbooks, special collections, dissertations, and non-circulating material are items that are difficult or impossible to find available for ILL so requests for such items won't be filled.
  - Popular or high demand items such as books published within the past year, are difficult if not impossible to locate
  - Inexpensive items that should be purchased by your library
- Adhere to copyright regulations. (need a link here)
- Remit any charges incurred (e.g., shipping, lending fees).

### Is There a Charge to Use BARC?

Member libraries may submit a certain number of requests at no charge. Additional requests are billed at a per-request rate. Please see the fee schedule below for details.

SCRLC will cover the cost of medical requests through Medical Information Services Program (MISP) funds. Borrowing libraries are responsible for paying return shipping costs for any items they borrow. They are also responsible for lost or damaged materials

### How Do I Pay for BARC?

SCRLC bills libraries or library systems quarterly for BARC services. Libraries may also establish a deposit account with SCRLC and add funds in advance to cover ongoing request fees.

#### BARC Fee Structure (July-June) (effective July 2017)

Organization Type	Requests (filled or unfilled)	Fee Charged <sup>1</sup>
Single Library	1-50	Free
	51+	\$5.00 each
Library System or System Affiliate*	1-200	Free
	201+	\$5.00 each

\*Requests from public or school libraries belonging to a system are added to that system's total volume.

<sup>1</sup>Charges listed in this section do not include additional costs of shipping or fees for lending that may be incurred by the borrowing library or library system.

### What are Shipping Best Practices?

Participating libraries are expected to pay the cost of returning physical items. Here are guidelines for shipping items to be returned to the lending library.

- Follow any lender shipping requirements
- use library rate to ship items unless directed otherwise by the lending library
- reuse packaging as long as it's sturdy and in good condition
- avoid using staples when sealing packages. strong packing tape should be sufficient
- Use appropriately sized packaging (ie not to big or too small)
- Use a box if shipping more than one item.
- consider using tracking

What is the SCRLC Union List of Serials (ULS)?

- BARC also provides SCRLC a Union List of Serials via OCLC for member libraries that don't have full access to OCLC. OCLC support includes holdings updates, title changes, and deletions of local data records.
- As a member library, and for the benefit of others, you are encouraged to keep your local holding for serials up to date in the union list. You can do this through BARC, which will accept single updates or your library's entire list. BARC provides this service free of charge.

The cost structure was approved by the SCRLC Membership on October 21, 2016.

### **Have Questions About BARC?**

Contact Christine Brown by email at [resourcesharing@scrlc.org](mailto:resourcesharing@scrlc.org) or by phone at 607-273-9106 ext. 204.