

Downloadable and Streaming Services for Patrons

The online resources that can be offered to patrons to download or stream media have truly ballooned in recent years, with a wide range of products and vendors. This includes the usual eBooks and Audiobooks, but has evolved into magazines, video, comics, and more.

Roughly speaking, there are two pricing models for such products:

- Flat Fee – With these products, libraries pay an annual fee, and then pay up front to buy specific items for their collection. These individual titles are “owned”, but only within the limits of their license (see below). Patrons can choose among all of your currently licensed items, along with (in some cases) a default collection that the vendor has made available. Items can only be checked out to one patron at a time. Overdrive and RBDigital are some of the best examples.
- Pay per Use – Libraries pay a fee for each patron use of an item, dependent on that item. Libraries set monthly and daily use limits, in order to maintain a structured budget. Patrons can typically choose among all of the vendor’s available items, and multiple patrons can usually check out a single item. This is most common for streaming services, like Hoopla Kanopy, or Freegal.

* Which are currently used in Vermont?

Downloadable eBooks & Audiobooks

- Overdrive * (offered through GMLC) - <https://www.overdrive.com/>
- RBDigital * (limited eBooks) (offered through VTLIB) - <https://www.rbdigital.com/>

Downloadable eBooks

- Freading * - <https://www.libraryideas.com/freading>
- Baker & Taylor Axis 360 * - <http://axis360.site.baker-taylor.com/>
- Bibliotheca Cloud Library (formerly 3M CloudLibrary) - <https://www.bibliotheca.com/cloudlibrary/>
- Enki Library (mostly California-based) - <https://califa.org/enkilibrary/>
- There are other vendors who focus on academic titles

Multiple Resources

- Hoopla * – eBooks, Audiobooks, Video, Music, Comics - <https://library.hoopladigital.com/home>

Video

- Kanopy * - <https://www.kanopy.com/about-us/libraries>
- IndieFlix (affiliated with RBDigital) - <https://www.rbdigital.com/service/indieflix>
- AcornTV (affiliated with RBDigital) - <https://www.rbdigital.com/chathamny/service/acornTV>

Magazines

- RBDigital Magazines (formerly Zinio) * - <https://www.rbdigital.com/service/magazines>
- Flipster (Ebsco) - <https://flipster.ebsco.com/who-we-serve/public-libraries>
- Overdrive has recently added magazine options - <https://www.overdrive.com/>

Comics

- RBDigital Comics - <https://www.rbdigital.com/service/comics>

- ComicsPlus: Library Edition (through RBDigital) - <https://www.rbdigital.com/service/comicsplus>

Music

- Freegal * - <https://www.libraryideas.com/freegal>