

Changes Coming to the ERIC Database

April 2025

The library faculty and staff received notice about the recent federal budget cuts' impact on libraries, so we are sharing what we know at this time and will continue to keep you informed as needed.

1) Per the ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center) Help Desk, the content - full-text journals and research reports in education and related fields - in the libraries' free ERIC database will be significantly reduced as of **April 24, 2025**. We are unaware if this removal is temporary or permanent. Some journal titles may be duplicated elsewhere, such as in our other library databases, open access from the publisher, or from other libraries. Please contact the library faculty for assistance locating the information you need.

"The Department of Education is working with the Department of Government Efficiency to "reduce overall Federal spending" and "reallocate spending to promote efficiency" (EO 14222). As a result, the number of records added to the ERIC collection will be significantly reduced going forward. The number of actively cataloged sources will be reduced by approximately 45% (from 1200 to 700 titles) starting April 24, 2025. Subject matter was not considered during the process to identify which sources would be made inactive. Please note that all records currently in ERIC will remain available. There has been a delay in notifying publishers impacted by this content reduction due to the government reduction in force. Once publishers have been notified, a final list of retained sources (journals and non-journals) will be posted. We will provide more information about this list as soon as possible."

2) As of July 2025, the defunding of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the primary source of federal support for U.S. libraries and museums, could impact operations at Minitex, library organization at the U of M. While primarily state funded, Minitex also receives federal monies from the IMLS, some of which is used to coordinate Interlibrary Loan (ILL) services for public and academic libraries throughout the state and in neighboring states. It is not clear at this point how and to what extent ILL service would be impacted, but we will keep a close eye on it.

Sources: MnPALS Spring Gathering, UC Merced and Drexel University Libraries, Marshall Independent, The New Ulm Journal