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## **Law Librarians' Salaries Show Strength**

AALL survey offers extensive review of staffing, benefits, compensation nationwide

**CHICAGO – Nov. 13, 2019** – The *2019 AALL Biennial Salary Survey & Organizational Characteristics* report (*AALL Salary Survey*) conducted by the [American Association of Law Libraries](http://www.aallnet.org) (AALL) shows salaries for law librarians continue to strengthen.

The survey, the 14th conducted by AALL, provides the only comprehensive, comparative salary information designed by and for legal information professionals in academic, law firm/corporate, and government settings.

“The *AALL Salary Survey* offers a thorough review of many of the factors that define the legal information industry, including information budgets, salary data, benefits, and other critical financial data,” noted Michelle Cosby, president of AALL. “The report emphasizes not only how the legal information field continues to grow, but also the increased importance these organizations place on retrieving and protecting information.”

The survey revealed a sizeable compensation difference for law librarians relative to those employed in other areas of librarianship. According to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](http://www.bls.gov), the average annual salary for librarians overall is \$59,050. The *2019 AALL Salary Survey* found that the average salary for reference/research librarians was \$84,999 in firm/corporate, \$75,211 in academic, and \$66,835 in government law libraries. Additionally, the median annual salary for a director or chief law librarian was \$158,731 in academia, \$124,000 in firm/corporate, and \$96,711 in government law libraries.

The *AALL Salary Survey* has been tracking expenditures on electronic resources since the 1990s, and the 2019 findings showed that they continue to claim a greater portion of the budget for all three types of law libraries relative to 2017. On average, firm/corporate law libraries used 79 percent of their total information budgets on electronic resources, while academic and government law librarians spent 51 and 38 percent, respectively.

Other data detailed in the report included institutional benefits for professionals and non-professionals paraprofessionals in law libraries, staffing numbers, hard copy information budgets, educational characteristics, and more.

The survey was distributed to 760 law libraries around the country with 446 surveys completed for a response rate of 58.7 percent. The complete survey is available as a complimentary digital edition to AALL members at [bit.ly/2019AALLSalarySurveyDigital](https://bit.ly/2019AALLSalarySurveyDigital). Hard copies may be purchased for \$250 by nonmembers and \$130 for members. Details are available at [bit.ly/2019AALLSalarySurveyPurchase](https://bit.ly/2019AALLSalarySurveyPurchase).

### **About AALL**

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) is the only national association dedicated to the legal information profession and its professionals. Founded in 1906 on the belief that people—lawyers, judges, students, and the public—need timely access to relevant legal information to make sound legal arguments and wise legal decisions, its more than 4,000 members are problem solvers of the highest order. AALL fosters the profession by offering its members knowledge, leadership, and community that make the whole legal system stronger. For more information, visit [www.aallnet.org](http://www.aallnet.org).