I would like you to think of your continuing education hours not as a time burner but as an opportunity to develop your career. Build your own Yellow Brick Road.
“Public Librarian Professional Certificates issued as of January 1, 2010, and thereafter shall only remain valid when 60 hours of professional development are completed every five-year period. Such periods will be defined as every five years from the initial certificate date”.

The New York State Board of Regents revised Commissioner’s Regulation § 90.7

I understand that you may find it unfair that only librarians who received their certification after 2010 must undergo continuing education courses to retain their certification. The world is changing and you will be changing with it. Your skills will improve and your opportunities will grow, and libraries’ influence in society will strengthen.
Do you know when you must submit your continuing education hours to the New York State Library?

Do you know when your public librarian certification was issued?

http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/cert/search.htm

Where do you find the date your certificate was issued?
Where do you submit your hours?
Let's start with the WHY: Why did you become a librarian? Out of all the professions that you could pick, why this one?
What do you think the role of libraries is in our community? What would happen to our society as a whole if libraries were to be dissolved?
In History, when a society want to take over another, they burn their libraries first. WHY?
What are your goals? What are your aspirations? What is your dream job? Do you want to be a Library Director? If yes! What type of Director do you want to be?
What are your patrons asking for the most?

What kind of help do they need? When do they ask you? Who is asking you?

How many times a day do you find yourself saying to yourself: "I do not know how to do that" "So and So will be coming in later"
Find the gap in your library services between your existing library services and what your community needs. What services do you want your library to do or do better? How would you do it? Every time you help a patron you are advocating for your library. You are building library supporters.
What does your library need? How are you going to meet your community needs? What Knowledge and skills do you need to have to provide those services?
When you identify the knowledge, skills, and support require to help your library. These are some of the choices you can make.
According to the NYSED website

**ACCEPTABLE**
- RCLS Workshops
- NYLA Sessions & pre-conferences workshops
- WebJunction webinars
- ALA & PLA webinars & conferences
- Archived webinars with manager supervision

**NOT ACCEPTABLE**
- Booklist webinars advertising forthcoming books
- NYLA Lobby Day
- BookExpo Exhibits
- When webinar completion cannot be confirmed with a registration e-mail, supervisory verification may be requested.
- Previous workshops are not applicable. The 60 hours must be completed within each five-year certification period.

In all cases, the New York State Library reserves the right to approve/disapprove credits.

Based on the New York State Library website.
Is the Ramapo Catskill Library System going to keep track of my continuing education hours?

Yes, but only for workshops or webinars that are hosted by or at RCLS.

How do I request RCLS continuing education certificates?

At the end of each year, anyone who would like a record of their continuing education hours may fill out RCLS’s online request form [http://guides.rcls.org/training](http://guides.rcls.org/training)

Do the classes I take via Lynda.com count toward continuing education?

Yes, if your supervisor confirms in advance in writing that the coursework is job-related.
How can the RCLS team help YOU?
YOUR RCLS PUBLIC SERVICES CONSULTANT & OUTREACH COORDINATOR

- Facilitate your professional development by:
- Host ALA, PLA & NYLA webinars at RCLS
- Collaborate with other non profit organization to bring certified programs to RCLS member librarians
- Bring together for RCLS, consultants to design individualize workshops for your continuing education needs.
- Continually scanning the library field to find innovative practices to better serve your community.

Examples: Collaborated with the Orange and Rockland Counties Mental Health Associations to provide the Mental Health First Aid training for our member librarians at RCLS headquarters and in their libraries for their staff.
WHY

Librarians help connect people to our World

Every time you speak to a friend, a neighbor and they ask why do we need libraries. You have an opportunity to advocate for your profession and your society. I invited you to be proud of your role in society as a librarian.

Dynamic System where librarians have an important role to provide individuals with the information to enhance their way of life.
AND people still wonder WHY we need librarians?

Whaddya mean all my facts are wrong?!?

I copied everything straight off the internet!!
THANK YOU FROM
THE RCLS TEAM
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