

Rapid Rocks!



Rapid Pods, Demystified

Of course, you all know what a Rapid pod is - if you are a Rapid site, your institution belongs to a Rapid pod, probably several Rapid pods. But do you know *which* pods? Why *those* pods? Are you eligible for any *other* pods? Are there any *dolphins* in your pod?? Here is everything you ever wanted to know about Rapid's pod structure.

Let's start with the basics:

- RapidILL is composed of groups of libraries referred to as 'pods.' Pods are created to support peer or consortium resource sharing.
- Your library is welcome to join all pods for which it meets the membership requirements and service expectations. There is **no** additional charge for multiple pod participation.
- There are no dolphins in your pod. Period.

Now for some details:

There are four "standard" Rapid pods. They are the:

- ARL pod
- Academic E pod
- Academic I pod and
- Academic M pod

The ARL pod is open only to ARL libraries, and international libraries meeting specific criteria.

Membership in the other three standard pods is based on the Carnegie Foundation's "Classification of Higher Education" document. We use this document to review each institution to verify its classification. (<http://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu/lookup/lookup.php>)

Libraries in the Academic E pod falls into one of these two categories:

Classification	Category
Basic	Doctoral Universities: Highest Research Activity
Basic	Doctoral Universities: Higher Research Activity

And Academic I pod members are listed as:
Basic Doctoral Universities: **Moderate** Research Activity

Stay in touch with
RapidILL

Do you have ideas to improve
Rapid?

Is there a Rapid feature that you
do not understand or would like a
tutorial about?

Please ask!

Send your ideas, comments and
suggestions to the Rapid team at:

Rapidstaff@RapidILL.org



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The Academic M pod is comprised of institutions categorized as Masters **Large**.

Classification	Category
Basic	Master's Colleges & Universities: Larger Programs

With very few exceptions, noted below, every Rapid library must belong to one of these four pods.

In addition to the standard Rapid pods, there are also thirteen consortial, or closed, pods. (In order to create a closed pod, there must be at least seven libraries willing to participate.)

Consortial pods set their own membership criteria; for example, a consortial pod may allow a small library that is not eligible for a standard Rapid pod to participate in its group. A consortium may also decide whether that library may participate only as a borrower. That small library would be eligible **only** for the consortial pod and would not be permitted to participate in any standard Rapid pod, including the Cosmo pod (described below).

The consortial pods are:

ASERL: Participants are members of the **A**ssociation of **S**outheastern **R**esearch **L**ibraries.

Boston Library Consortium: Participants must be members of the BLC.

California: Members of this pod must be California institutions *and* eligible for one of Rapid's standard pods.

ConnectNY: The ConnectNY libraries are the members of this pod.

JULAC: This pod is home to libraries in the **J**oint **U**niversity **L**ibrarians **A**dvisory **C**ommittee group, *plus* the University of Macau.

It is interesting to note here, that sometimes a consortial or closed pod will welcome other sites into the pod, as is the case with JULAC and the University of Macau.

Maryland: In order to participate in this pod, your institution must be a Maryland institution.

Oberlin pod: This pod is comprised of member libraries of the Oberlin group.

PALCI: The **P**ennsylvania **A**cademic **L**ibrary **C**onsortium, **I**nc. is the basis for membership in this pod.

Prospector: Colorado and Wyoming academic libraries that are part of Prospector INNReach *and* eligible for a standard Rapid pod populate this group.

SCELC: This pod is home to members of the **S**tatewide **C**alifornia **E**lectronic **L**ibrary **C**onsortium regardless of whether the institution is eligible for a standard Rapid pod. (Of course, those small libraries are limited strictly to the SCELC pod.)

SECAC: **S**outheastern **A**thletic **C**onference **A**cademic **C**onsortium.

Taiwan: Peer academic libraries in Taiwan have created a Taiwan group for JADE, which is what they call RapidILL.

VALE: This pod is comprised of academic libraries who are members of the **V**irtual **A**cademic **L**ibrary **E**nvironment in New Jersey

So far we have covered the four standard Rapid pods and the thirteen consortial or closed pods, now let us take a look at Rapid's three 'special' pods.

Medical Pod: This pod has very specific membership criteria and is designed to help expedite requesting for medical libraries. The membership requirements are that participating institutions must:

- 1) support an accredited medical, veterinary, or dental program.
(See list of AVMA, AMAC, and Commission on Dental Accreditation accredited programs.)
- or
- 2) have a medical branch library.

Cosmo Pod: Any Rapid library that participates in a standard Rapid pod is eligible to participate in the Cosmo pod. This pod is home to some of the largest and some of the smallest Rapid sites and is very popular.

Document Suppliers Pod: Participants in the Document Supplier Pod are:

- CAI - Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI)
- CRL - Center for Research Libraries (includes the LHL4CRL project)
- LHL - Linda Hall Library
- Reprints Desk and
- Easy Lending - Open Access Journals

All Rapid libraries are automatically set-up to use Rapid's Easy Lending feature. In Easy Lending, Rapid automatically runs borrowing requests against a uniquely designed database of over 17 million open access articles. When a match is made, the article is automatically sent to your library. There is no charge for Easy Lending. The turnaround time for Easy Lending requests is 3-5 minutes.

Only institutions that are members of CRL, the Center for Research Libraries, are eligible to have CRL and LHL4CRL as document suppliers. The inclusion of CRL/LHL4CRL in their pod list is automatic.

The other three document suppliers must be chosen by your institution. Each of these sites charge for fulfillment and they are used as a last resort in your Rapid lending string.

Please contact the Rapid staff if you have questions about the document suppliers or would like to add a document supplier to your lender options.

Now that you understand how your institution is placed into a Rapid pod, and what the different consortial pods are, let's talk about *cross-podination*.

Cross-podination is a fancy, made-up word, that simply means "belonging to more than one Rapid pod." Cross-podination is *free* and you can be in every Rapid pod you are eligible to join. Here are the cross-podination guidelines:

- ARL pod members are eligible to join the Academic E, Academic I, Academic M and Cosmo pods, in addition to any consortial pods for which they meet the membership requirements.
- Academic E pod participants can participate in the Academic I, Academic M and Cosmo pods, in addition to any consortial pods for which they meet the membership requirements.
- Academic I libraries can cross-podinate into the Academic M and Cosmo pods, in addition to any consortial pods for which they meet the membership requirements and
- Academic M pod members can also participate in the Cosmo pod in addition to any consortial pods for which they meet the membership requirements.

All this talk about cross-podination may make you wonder, "In what pods does my institution participate?" The answer is easy to discover on your Rapid webpage. To see your Rapid pods simply log into your Rapid webpage (<http://rapidill.org>) and click the "My Profile" link under the Rapid Tools header near the bottom of the left-hand toolbar.



Which will bring up your profile screen listing the pods with which your institution is associated.



Current number of participants in the pod.

It appears that library above is cross-podinating in all of its possible pods. Great job! How about your library? Are you participating in all of your possible pods? Need help figuring out which ones you are eligible for? Just ask! Contact the Rapid staff and we'll be happy to help.

Finally, did you know you can decide in what order you want your requests to go into Rapid? For example, you can have your requests go into Pod A first or Pod B first; or you can combine the members of Pods A & B into a virtual pod. The Rapid staff can do this for you.

Note #1: on Rapid's Home page the pods are listed, but in order to see the *members* of each pod, you must be logged into the system.

Note #2: CRL members -> you will not see "LHL4CRL" on your pod list. It is invisible.

I hope you've found this Rapid Rocks issue interesting and informative.

This great topic idea was suggested to us by Kevin at CRL. Thanks, Kevin!

If you have an idea for a future Rapid Rocks or are interested in guest writing an issue, please contact the Rapid team at: rapidstaff@rapidill.org

