

# 2026 MORE Budget Hearing

June 20, 2025

## Discovery/Online Catalog

MORE's public-facing website for search, discovery, and library account access.

### **Current product – BiblioCore**

- Vendor: BiblioCommons
- Vendor website: <https://www.bibliocommons.com/>
- Pricing: Not yet available. 2025 cost was \$53,107

BiblioCore has been in use as the MORE Catalog since early 2020, with staff and public testing in late 2019. About 59,000 MORE cardholders have registered catalog accounts. There are about 100,400 MORE cardholder accounts created or used in the last year.

BiblioCore can be used with all major library management systems (LMS, aka integrated library system [ILS]), including MORE's current product, Sierra; Innovative Interfaces' other LMS product, Polaris; SirsiDynix Horizon and Symphony; TLC CARLX; and Evergreen.

Vendor demo, May 28, 2025: <https://youtu.be/ljJ7KAEN2IU>

As noted in the demo, St. Louis County Library and St. Louis Public Library share a collection but use different public catalogs:

- St Louis County's Vega Discover catalog: <https://www.slcl.org/>
- St Louis Public's BiblioCore catalog: <https://www.slpl.org/>

Example of the new BiblioCore Browse and Discover landing page mentioned in the demo: <https://cml.bibliocommons.com/v2/browse>

Question addressed by vendor BiblioCommons following the webinar:

If the group decided to switch away from BiblioCore and BiblioApps, but then wanted to switch back, would the consortium be required to pay implementation fees?

In terms of implementation fees if IFLS were to go to Vega and Solus, but then come back to BiblioCommons later, it's a little hard to gauge, because it depends how long IFLS would be gone, and how much work it is to stand everything back up. (The longer IFLS is gone, the more work it is to stand everything back up. If IFLS was gone for a year, and then came back, we would have to start implementation all over again.)

However, if IFLS were to go with a pilot/test of Vega later this year—like in the fall, and then let us know by November (we just need 60 days notice if you're going to leave or stay), then you could get patron feedback on Vega and not have to take down BiblioCommons and BiblioApps, so implementation wouldn't be affected. IFLS's renewal is Jan 1, 2026.

### **Potential switch – Vega Discover**

- Vendor: Innovative Interfaces
- Vendor website: <https://www.iii.com/products/vega/>
- Pricing:
  - \$10,000 for year 1, annual increase allowance of 3.5% would apply to new and existing products during initial term. This is down from previous 4% rate.
  - One-time implementation services: \$13,500

Vega Discover is a relatively new discovery service from our Sierra vendor, Innovative Interfaces. Vega Discover can only be used with Innovative's 2 LMS products, Sierra or Polaris.

Vendor demo, April 15, 2025: <https://play.goconsensus.com/uba505575> Use the "Other Viewers" button to start the video

Questions addressed by vendor Innovative Interfaces following the demo:

1. Can we get some kind of contract that guarantees a cap on increases for the next 7-10 years?

Yes, we can make that part of an agreement.

2. Are there different levels of the catalog? I heard the presenter mention a "premium" and a "classic".

Vega Discover Consortium is the top level with all available functionalities. It has everything that Classic, Plus, and Premium have, with added consortium-specific functionality.

3. Does it integrate credit card payments and if not would our old school version still integrate in some way?

Yes, it includes a connection and integration with a fines processing system. The payment processor provides the transaction environment, and we provide the portal and communication back to Sierra.

4. And could staff and patrons easily put multiple holds on an item, i.e. for book clubs, classroom use, etc.?

YES – we recently demonstrated this to another consortium using Bibliocore and they were very pleased to see it work live. If needed, we could provide a short video demonstrating this functionality.

5. In terms of having a showcase featuring new items - Does it show all of your new items even if some of them are checked out?

YES

6. I would be interested to know if all of the features they described are included in the price of Vega Discover? Or are certain features that we add on for an additional fee? What would that fee structure look like? Would we have to determine to have all the same features across MORE or would some libraries be able to pay extra to have more features?

Everything is included at the quoted price. This includes future enhancements like the AI Search Assistant.

7. I believe they mentioned we could remove Novelist and instead use Syndetics Unbound...Is Syndetics Unbound automatically included with Vega Discover?

Yes, Syndetics Unbound is included with Vega Discover. This includes cover images, series information, you may also like, similar authors, similar series, professional reviews, reader reviews, awards, contributors, and reading level (A/R, Lexile, and Age / Grade Level). [Note for MORE: this could eliminate the need for a separate NoveList Select subscription]

8. MORE might be interested in a Spanish language version of Vega Discover and the mobile app. Is that available for both products, and what costs and configuration are involved?

Yes, languages are included with both and there is no additional fee to add them. You can decide what languages you make available to your patrons. Currently Discover has about 20 and the app has about 30.

9. Can you provide examples of libraries/consortia that are using the built-in app search function vs. routing users to the browser-based version of Vega Discover?

Yes, Monarch and Milwaukee County are both using built-in app search. Mid-Hudson Library System is another Sierra consortium using the app search.

10. Do either Vega Discover or Vega Mobile have the option to exclude or indicate titles in the user's reading history from search results?

NO

Examples of Vega Discover catalogs currently in use:

- Northern Waters Library Service (neighbor library system to the north): <https://mylibrary.northernwaters.org/>
- Monarch Library System (based in the Sheboygan area): <https://search.monarchcatalog.org/>
- Winding Rivers Library System (neighbor library system to the south): <https://windingrivers.na4.iiivega.com/>
- PrairieCat (large ILS consortium in northern Illinois): <https://prcat.na2.iiivega.com/>

## Library app

MORE's public-facing mobile app for search, discovery, and library account access.

### **Current product – BiblioApps**

- Vendor: BiblioCommons
- Vendor website: <https://www.bibliocommons.com/>
- Pricing: Not yet available. 2025 cost was \$13,277

BiblioApps has been in use as the MORE Libraries app since 2021. The average monthly app user count for January – May 2025 is 7,221. BiblioApps can only be used in conjunction with BiblioCore.

Vendor demo, May 28, 2025 (integrated with BiblioCore demo):

<https://youtu.be/lj7KAEN2IU>

### **Potential switch – Vega Mobile**

- Vendor: Innovative Interfaces
- Vendor website: <https://www.iii.com/products/vega/>
- Pricing:
  - Included with Vega Discover (\$10,000 for year 1, annual increase allowance of 3.5% would apply to new and existing products during initial term. This is down from previous 4% rate.)
  - One-time implementation services: \$10,000

Vega Mobile is developed by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party company, Solus, and branded as Vega Mobile. The interface and patron account portal differ from Vega Discover.

Vendor demo, April 15, 2025 (integrated with Vega Discover demo):

<https://play.goconsensus.com/uba505575> Use the "Other Viewers" button to start the video

### **Patron self-registration**

MORE's option for patrons to register online for a card granting immediate access to online resources (MORE ecard). A record is created in Sierra that staff can upgrade into an account with regular library privileges.

### **Current product – Sierra legacy self-registration**

- Vendor: Innovative Interfaces
- Pricing: Included with MORE's Sierra maintenance costs

This free product has been in use by MORE since about 2018. It offers no duplicate checking, no data verification, and no spam prevention. There are about 3,877 MORE ecard accounts created or used in the last year that have not been upgraded to regular accounts.

Innovative is developing an updated self-registration service for which MORE could be a test site later this year. Pricing for the updated service is not known, but may be included with MORE's Sierra maintenance.

**Possible switch – Quipu eCARD**

- Vendor: Quipu
- Vendor website: <https://www.quipugroup.com/ecard/>
- Pricing:
  - Approximately \$9,000 annually
  - \$10,500 consortium set-up fee; \$4,000 additional per-library set-up fees (optional)

This product is likely to have more customization options than Sierra's self-registration options, both at the consortia- and library-level. Spam prevention and address verification is included, which could allow MORE to limit registrations by patrons' place of residence.