



Dear GADD Patrons,

Thank you for your messages and enthusiasm for our e-book offerings. Two weeks into our transition to our new vendor, we have overcome many of the inevitable bumps in the road in this process. We appreciate your patience!

To clear up some potential confusion about the move to RBDigital, here is more information about GADD and the decision to choose a new vendor:

- GADD is a consortium of over 40 member library systems, representing roughly  $\frac{2}{3}$  of all library systems in Georgia. It is not a state agency or affiliated with GPLS, the Georgia Public Library Service.
- GADD's decision-makers are the library directors of all its member library systems. Before the expiration of our contract with Overdrive, GADD directors held a vote to determine which vendor to choose for our platform. 73% of directors chose RBDigital.
- GADD committee members and officers represent GADD member libraries in discussions with vendors, but do not hold any additional voting power. They also serve on a strictly volunteer basis for the benefit of GADD libraries and their patrons.
- GADD's member libraries voted to move from Overdrive to RBDigital for a variety of reasons, including:
  - Lower costs
  - The ability to offer e-magazines
  - Better accessibility for blind or visually-impaired patrons
  - Better customer service for library staff, administrators, and patrons

Our apologies to those patrons who have been inconvenienced by this move to a new vendor. Our preference is for all patrons to be able to access our e-books with any device. We are working to find a solution for those patrons with e-reader devices in the coming months, and strongly value your input in this process.

Finally, we have received several messages about funding sources for e-books and e-audiobooks. On the state level, library systems receive funds for books and e-books through the State Library Materials Grant, which allocates funding on a per capita basis. We encourage any GADD patron who has questions or concerns about library funding to contact the office of their state representatives or senators and discuss the funding level for this grant. GADD's offerings and vendor choices are directly impacted by this grant.