

Attachment A

Office of Commonwealth Libraries State Aid to Public Libraries Eligibility Standards 2009-2010 Criteria

Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development
Discussion Draft

March 9, 2009

Waivers will be granted as allowed in the Library Code and Regulations

Extensions of time will be granted as allowed in the Library Code and Regulations

Libraries with a currently approved Plan to Meet Standards and/or Extension of Time to Meet Standards that extends into 2009-2010 and beyond will continue in effect.

Criteria:

Extensions of time will be granted in additional areas beginning with the 2009-2010 fiscal year based on the following priorities and criteria:

- Requests for an extension of time to meet standards must document that all other avenues of recourse have been exhausted;
- Request must clearly describe and, where possible, document the circumstances of the library's financial distress;
- Reduction in services must be proportional to the financial deficit;
- Library must demonstrate steps taken to meet needs of the community within reduced services status;
- Library system or independent local library will be considered in compliance with the collection standard if it expends at least 12% of its normal operating expenditures on collections.

Priorities:

- Collection expenditures continue to represent 12% of overall operating;
- Libraries fulfill at least Quality Libraries Aid hours of weekend service;
- Libraries demonstrate appropriate proportion of staff, resource expenditure, service hours and community need.
- Maintenance of Local Government Income and Local Financial Effort. An acceptable basis for a waiver to this standard is if a county, school district, or local municipality reduces its library support in the same proportion as reductions that it has made to all of its programs, or; if library dividend or interest income has been reduced.