

Library Service & Technology Act Statewide Library Service Grant Guidelines

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Executive Summary

Federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) are available from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL) to develop and implement services for public, academic (postsecondary), school (K-12), and special libraries (including library staff and library boards) across Pennsylvania.

Available grant funds will be awarded to proposals that are the most competitive and most closely aligned with the goals and outcomes outlined in [Pennsylvania's LSTA Five-Year Plan](#) (PDF, 15 pages) located at <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>.

Projects will begin on or about October 1, 2017. Single-year or multi-year contracts (up to five years) may be awarded to successful applicants.

Eligible applicants include: Pennsylvania non-profit organizations that provide services to public, academic (postsecondary), and school (K-12) libraries; District Library Centers that currently receive Public Library Subsidy funds; and library system headquarters that currently receive Public Library Subsidy funds.

Eligible applicants may submit an application for more than one LSTA Statewide Library Service grant program category. Separate applications must be submitted by the applicant for each grant program category.

Applications must be submitted via the PDE eGrant system to PDE by the close of business (5:00 P.M.) on Friday, August 11, 2017. Paper applications will not be accepted.

LSTA Background

LSTA funds are available to states from the federal IMLS through a program stipulated by the Library Services and Technology Act to develop library services throughout the States, U.S. Territories, and the Freely Associated States.

In Pennsylvania, the LSTA program is administered through OCL. OCL's goals are to:

- Facilitate the statewide expansion of electronic and physical linkages in order to coordinate and improve the delivery of resources;
- Create opportunities for libraries to enhance their capacity to provide 21st century resources, services, and programs to their communities; and
- Preserve unique collections and prepare libraries for disaster recovery.

LSTA Statewide Library Service Grant Program Intent

OCL is accepting applications for LSTA grants from organizations that are capable of developing and implementing services for Pennsylvania's public, academic (postsecondary), school (K-12), and special libraries such as those located at prisons. These services must support one of the following LSTA priorities:

1. **Electronic Linkages:** Establish or enhance electronic and other linkages and improved coordination among and between libraries for the purpose of improving the quality of and access to library and information services. Grant categories include:
 - a) Management and development of the state's open source statewide integrated library system, Spark, an Evergreen open source application;
 - b) Provision of services to harvest and upload digital collection records in Pennsylvania libraries to the Digital Public Library of America's Pennsylvania hub.
 - c) Improve access to open educational resources for teaching, learning and research in order to reduce students' textbook costs.
2. **Training and Professional Development:** Provide training and professional development, including continuing education, to enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership, and advance the delivery of library and information services. Grant categories include:
 - a) Leadership development for new Pennsylvania public library directors that provides an orientation to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's statutory, fiduciary, policy, and reporting requirements;
 - b) Leadership development for public, academic (postsecondary) and special professional librarians who have recently received their master's degree in library science (as certified by PDE) and para-professional public and academic (postsecondary) managerial library staff;
 - c) Leadership development for school librarians (as certified by PDE);
 - d) Development of programming and community partnership skills for library staff that will support citizens' acquisition of five types of literacy skills: basic; information; civic/social; health; and financial; and
 - e) Development and provision of training and continuing education programs targeted for academic (postsecondary) professional librarians.
3. **Outreach to Youth:** Library and information services for youth, ages 12 to 18, who are underserved in urban and rural communities, or whose family's income is below the federal poverty line. Grant categories include:

- a) Development and support of interactive book discussion outreach programs at public libraries for young people, ages 12-18, especially those who are underserved or are living in poverty.

No specific dollar amounts have been set aside to fund grants in the categories. Available grant funds will be awarded to proposals that are the most competitive and closely aligned with the goals and outcomes outlined in [Pennsylvania's LSTA Five-Year Plan](#) (PDF, fifteen pages) located at <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>.

Single-year or multi-year contracts (up to five years) may be awarded to successful applicants. Multi-year contracts are awarded at the discretion of OCL in accordance with Pennsylvania's LSTA Five-Year Plan and the availability of federal funds. Each subsequent year of the grant after the first is contingent upon satisfactory performance and the availability of funds. Additionally, the award amount in subsequent years may change from the initial contract year.

Eligible applicants may submit an application for more than one LSTA Statewide Library Service grant program category. Separate applications must be submitted by the applicant for each grant program category.

LSTA Statewide Library Service Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include: Pennsylvania non-profit associations that provide services to public, academic (postsecondary) and school (K-12) libraries; District Library Centers that currently receive Public Library Subsidy funds; and library system headquarters that currently receive Public Library Subsidy funds.

In addition, the following requirements must be met:

General:

All LSTA Statewide Library Service applicants must:

1. Be incorporated as a Pennsylvania not-for-profit corporation or be a department or agency of county/local government. If incorporated as a not-for-profit organization, the applicant must be designated as a charitable organization having tax-exempt status under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. § 501)
2. Possess the following:
 - a. **Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) or Employer Identification Number (EIN).**
 - b. **Pennsylvania Vendor Number:** This number is required for entities that receive payments or grants from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

You can register for **OR** verify an already existing **Vendor** number at: <http://www.vendorregistration.state.pa.us>. (If you are registering for the first time, consider registering for a Pennsylvania Non-Procurement Vendor Number. This means that you receive payments or grants, but do not plan to bid on goods or services for which the commonwealth seeks bids.)

- c. **Administrative Unit Number (AUN):** An AUN is a nine-digit number assigned by PDE to uniquely identify entities such as libraries, school districts, intermediate units, higher education institutions, professional education associations, etc. To verify an already existing Administrative Unit Number, visit: <http://www.edna.ed.state.pa.us/Screens/wfHome.aspx>. To register for an AUN, email ra-edna-admin@pa.gov.
- d. **Dun & Bradstreet D-U-N-S® Number:** A D-U-N-S® number is a unique nine-digit identifier for businesses. It is used to establish a business credit file, which is often referenced by lenders, potential business partners and the federal government to help predict the reliability and/or financial stability of the business. To register for or to verify an already existing D-U-N-S® Number, visit: <http://www.dnb.com/duns-number.html>. (To ensure that you don't register unnecessarily, be sure to verify whether you have a number first.)

Policies and Procedures:

To comply with the federal Uniform Administrative Requirements for grants (2 CFR §200.300 - §200.345), all LSTA Statewide Library Service applicants must have a written:

1. **Cash management procedure or policy** which establish LSTA fund controls and accountability, including written procedures for determining the allowability of costs under the terms and conditions of the LSTA award (2 CFR §200.302(b)(6), §200.302(b)(7), §200.305).
2. **Bid and procurement procedure or policy** that establish standards and controls for the purchase of all goods and services, including written procedures for the evaluation of the proposals received and for selecting awardees (2 CFR §200.319(c), §200.320(d)(3)).
3. **Conflict of interest policy** which governs the actions of its employees or board members who engage in the selection, award and administration of contracts, including disciplinary actions should the policy be violated (2 CFR §200.318(c)).
4. **Travel policy** (2 CFR §200.474(b)).

5. **Compensation and fringe benefit policy if federal funds are used for compensation and fringe benefits** (2 CFR §200.430(a), §200.431(a), §200.464 [Relocation Costs of Employees]).
6. **Indirect cost rate development procedure if an indirect cost rate other than ten percent has been negotiated directly with the federal government.** (2 CFR §200.414, §200.331(a)(4), Appendices).

For more information on policies and procedures that comply with the federal Uniform Administrative Requirements for grants (including sample policies), visit <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>.

Experience and Capacity with Statewide Library Service Delivery:

Applicants must demonstrate that they have the requisite experience and capacity needed to provide services to public, academic (postsecondary), school (K-12) and special libraries and library staff across Pennsylvania.

Sharing Results:

Grant recipients must agree to share the results of their projects with other libraries and statewide. All grant recipients are expected to conduct an evaluation of their project that includes outcomes. Some grant recipients may be selected for project review by an outside evaluator.

LSTA Statewide Library Service Award Recipient Requirements

In addition to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania contract responsibilities, LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must also observe the following requirements:

Record Retention

LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must agree to retain records which adequately support that the LSTA grant funds were properly used through at least December 31, 2021. Multi-year contract awards must retain records at least five PDEyears after the ending date of the contract. Please note that records may be required for longer periods of time in the event of an audit.

Cash Management

LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must agree to deposit funds in a non-interest bearing account or an account that earns less than \$100 annual interest in a one-year grant period.

Financial Reports

LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must agree to submit:

- Quarterly reports using OCL's required forms and format.
- A final financial report using OCL's required forms and format no later than 30 days after the project ends, or annually by October 30, whichever occurs first.

LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must also agree to work with OCL staff to resolve any accounting discrepancies on quarterly or final financial reports.

Audits

LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must conduct and submit annual audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards during and after the LSTA Statewide Library Services' grant period. If there are findings reported on these audits, the applicant must show evidence of the implementation of a corrective plan of action, or show satisfactory evidence as to why a corrective plan of action is not feasible or needed at this time.

In addition, some organizations that receive federal grant funds, such as LSTA, may be responsible for performing a single audit under provision of the single Audit Act of 1994, as amended, and all rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the Act. The current single audit threshold for federal funds from all sources is \$750,000.

Inventory

The agency must have a plan to inventory and track equipment items purchased under this grant. The records should include the equipment description, date of purchase, serial number, the location of the equipment and purchase price. Equipment should be tagged to identify the source of funds used for the purchase and cross-referenced on the [LSTA Record of Equipment form](#) (PDF, two pages). The form is located at: <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>.

The agency must have a written plan to dispose of equipment items in compliance with federal Uniform Administrative Requirements for grants. For more information, including a sample policy, visit <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>.

Indirect Cost Payments

To support the indirect costs associated with the LSTA project, LSTA Statewide Library Service grantees are eligible for up to 10 percent of the grant award as payment for indirect costs. (Alternatively, if the LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipient has negotiated another indirect cost rate with the federal government, it may charge up to the percentage specified in that agreement.)

Indirect costs are defined as those that are incurred which cannot be readily isolated or identified with just one project or activity. These types of costs are often referred to as "overhead costs." Typical examples are charges for utilities, general insurance, use of

office space and equipment that you own, local telephone service, and the salaries of the management and administrative personnel of the organization.

SAM.gov Registration

LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must maintain the currency of their information (which includes financial and banking information) in the federal System for Award Management (<http://sam.gov>). This requires that the LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipient review and update the information at least annually after its initial registration, or more frequently if required by changes in the recipient's information, or if other guidance is received.

PLEASE NOTE: Your SAM registration must be active at the time OCL executes the LSTA Statewide Library Service's grant contract and remain active throughout the award and reporting period.

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires that information on federal awards (grants and contracts) be available to the public by a single searchable website, www.USASpending.gov.

As required by the FFATA, all LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must complete a FFATA form. This form requires a D-U-N-S[®] number and the reporting of total compensation for each of the LSTA Statewide Library Service' applicant's five most highly compensated staff for the preceding completed fiscal year, if the following criteria are true:

- More than 80 percent of the applicant's annual gross revenues are from the federal government, and those revenues are greater than \$25 million annually; and
- Compensation information is not already available through reporting to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

The [Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency ACT FFATA Form](#) (PDF, one page) is located at: <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA> .

Assurances – Non-Construction Programs

All applicants must complete an "Assurances – Non-Construction Programs" form to apply for federal funding of non-construction projects. The [Assurances – Non-Construction Programs form](#) (PDF, two pages) is located at: <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>.

Internet Safety Certification (if applicable to the grant)

If applicable to the grant, all public library or library system LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients must certify compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (20 U.S.C. § 9134(f)(1) et seq). The [Internet Safety Certification form](#) (PDF, one page) is located at: <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>. See Appendix One for more information about CIPA compliance.

Use of Funds

Detailed information regarding [LSTA Allowable Expenditures](#) (PDF, three pages) is located at: <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>. A brief summary follows:

Expenditures that May Be Eligible

1. Expenditures that support the project's implementation.
2. Indirect costs of up to ten percent of the grant total. Or, if the LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipient has negotiated another indirect cost rate with the federal government, it may charge up to the percentage specified in that agreement.

Ineligible Expenditures

1. Electronic materials that are already via POWER Library or the Bureau of the State Library.
2. Subscriptions that expire after the contract termination date.
3. Supplies for processing library materials.
4. Furniture.
5. Extended warranties that expire after the contract termination date.

Restrictions on the Use of LSTA Funds

1. OCL will not approve grant awards for projects already under way or complete at the time of the grant application or before the grant is approved.
2. LSTA funds may not be used for basic operating costs of a library.
3. LSTA funds may not be used to supplant previously available local funds.
4. LSTA funds may not be used for capital improvements.
5. LSTA funds may not be used for promotional items and memorabilia that are not related to the LSTA project.
6. LSTA funds may not be used for food unless an educational component is associated with the food that is provided.

7. LSTA funds may not be used for the purchase of equipment with a unit cost of \$5,000 or more unless permission has been granted by OCL and IMLS. Prior approval must be requested by using the form "[Equipment - \\$5000+ Request for Approval](#)" (PDF, one page) located at: <http://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/LSTA>.
8. Applicable federal and state laws govern LSTA funds.
9. Grant recipients may make no financial commitments of grant funds until the LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipient receives the fully executed agreement containing the signatures of the appropriate officials.
10. LSTA funds may not be used to pay the salaries of current staff unless the cost is for hours added specifically to support the LSTA project.

Program Income

Award recipients are encouraged to earn income to defray program costs where appropriate. Program income is the gross income earned by an award recipient from the activities supported by grant funds or from products resulting from grant activities. It includes, but is not limited to, income from fees for services performed and from the sale of items created under a grant, usage or rental fees for equipment or property acquired under a grant, and license fees and royalties from patents and copyrights.

Program Income Earned during the Grant Period

The federal share of program income earned during the grant period (the time between the effective date of the award and the ending date of the award reflected in the final financial report) shall be retained by the grantee and, unless the grant award specifies how such income will be used, the grantee must use it in one or more of the following ways:

1. It may be added to the existing project funds and used to further project objectives; and/or
2. It may be deducted from the total allowable costs to determine the net allowable project costs that may be charged to the IMLS grant.

While both uses above are allowed, IMLS prefers that option #1 be followed—that program income will be added to the existing project funds and used to further project objectives.

Please note that before program income is earned, OCL and IMLS must approve the use of program income and will do so on a case-by-case basis.

Program Income Earned after the Grant Period

Unless otherwise stated in the grant award, the grantee shall have no obligation to the federal government regarding program income earned after the end of the grant period.

For further information on program income, see: 2 CFR 200.307.

Grant Award Acknowledgement

Award recipients must include an acknowledgment of IMLS support in all grant products, publications, and websites developed with IMLS funding. Acknowledgment should include the credit line (below) and the IMLS logo, where space permits.

The credit line should read:

This project is made possible in part by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Tom Wolf, Governor.

Online products, publications, and websites must link to the IMLS website, [Institute of Museum and Library Services website URL](#), and include the IMLS logo, and the credit line (above).

In news releases, the credit line (above) should be included, and the following information about the IMLS should be included:

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is celebrating its 20th Anniversary. The IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation's approximately [123,000 libraries](#) and [35,000 museums](#). Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

In materials that contain or present substantive project content, such as an exhibition, article, catalogue or other publication, video documentary, or online exhibition or website, the acknowledgement must also include the following statement:

The views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this (publication) (program) (exhibition) (website) (article) do not necessarily represent those of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Pennsylvania Department of Education or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

At programs or public gatherings related to your award, acknowledge the IMLS and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania orally. Display the IMLS logo on signage at events.

At news media interviews, including radio, television, and press acknowledge the IMLS and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania orally.

Audio/video broadcasts must include the tagline:

This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Tom Wolf, Governor.

Video broadcasts must display the IMLS logo.

To obtain the IMLS logo and related-graphic standards, or to learn more about how to acknowledge the IMLS, read the IMLS grantee communications kit at:

<https://www.ims.gov/grants/grant-recipients/grantee-communications-kit>

Application Evaluation Criteria

Applications that are incomplete or that do not meet the minimum requirements as outlined in this document will be disqualified.

Reviewers will use the point values below in determining a score for each application.

Criteria	Best (Points)	Good (Points)	Fair (Points)	Poor
Need for Proposed Project: The need for the proposed project is clearly linked to the target population and is supported by qualitative and quantitative data.	20 The need is strongly and clearly articulated. Both qualitative and quantitative data is provided that supports the target audience's need for the proposed project.	10 The need is clearly articulated. Either qualitative or quantitative data is provided that supports the target audience's need for the proposed project.	5 The need is articulated. Little qualitative or quantitative data is provided that supports the target audience's need for the proposed project.	0 The need is not clearly articulated. Little to no data is provided that supports the target audience's need for the proposed project.
Strategic Plan: The organization's strategic plan supports the implementation of the proposed project.	20 The applicant's strategic plan supports the proposed project's implementation, specifically recommending its implementation.	10 The applicant's strategic plan implies support for the project's implementation.	---	0 The applicant's strategic plan does not support the project's implementation.

Criteria	Best (Points)	Good (Points)	Fair (Points)	Poor
Project Results: The proposed project's results are reasonable and achievable within the project's timeframe.	20 The proposed project's results are reasonable and achievable within the project's timeframe.	10 The proposed project's results are reasonable, but may not be achievable within the project's timeframe.	---	0 The applicant's proposed results are not reasonable or achievable.
Project Purpose: The proposed project's purpose statement is clear and identifies a benefit that is desirable for the grant category area.	20 The proposed project's purpose statement is very clear and identifies a benefit that is highly desirable and innovative for the grant category area.	10 The proposed project's purpose statement is clear and identifies a benefit that is desirable for the grant category area.	5 The proposed project's purpose statement is clear and identifies a benefit that is may be desirable for the grant category area.	0 The proposed project's purpose statement is not clear and/or does not identify a benefit that may be desirable for the grant category area.
Project Activities: The proposed project's activities and methods support project goals and projected results.	20 The proposed project's activities and methods are innovative and support its goals and projected results.	10 The proposed project's activities and methods support its goals and projected results.	---	0 The proposed project's activities and methods do not support its goals and projected results.
Project Outputs¹: Collection of the proposed project's output measures are feasible/reasonable and support project goals and projected results.	20 The proposed project identifies output measures that are feasible to collect (do not place an undue burden on participating libraries or library staff). The outputs support the project's goals and projected results	10 The proposed project identifies output measures that are feasible to collect but may place some burden on participating libraries or library staff to collect. The outputs support the project's goals and projected results.	5 The proposed project identifies output measures that are feasible to collect but will definitely place an undue burden on participating libraries or library staff to collect. The outputs support the project's goals and projected results.	0 The proposed project does not identify output measures that are feasible to collect and/or the outputs do not clearly support the project's goals and projected results.
Project Outcomes²: Collection of the proposed project's outcomes is feasible/reasonable and they support project goals and projected results.	20 The proposed project identifies outcomes that are reasonable and they do not place an undue burden on participating libraries or library staff to collect. The outcomes support the project's goals and projected results	10 The proposed project identifies outcomes that are reasonable but may place some burden on participating libraries or library staff to collect. The outcomes support the project's goals and projected results.	5 The proposed project identifies outcomes that are reasonable but will definitely place an undue burden on participating libraries or library staff to collect. The outcomes support the project's goals and projected results.	0 The proposed project does not identify outcomes that are reasonable to collect and/or the outcomes do not support the project's goals and projected results.
Project Timeline: The proposed project's implementation plan is feasible and achievable within the grant timeframe.	20 The proposed project's implementation plan is feasible and achievable within the grant timeframe.	10 The proposed project's implementation plan is feasible, but will probably not be achievable within the grant time frame	5 The proposed project's implementation plan may not be feasible or achievable within the grant time frame	0 The proposed project's implementation plan is not feasible and is not achievable within the grant time frame

¹ An output is defined by the Institute of Museum and Library Services as "direct products of program activities, usually measured in terms of work accomplished." It is a quantitative measurement.

² An outcome is defined by the Institute of Museum and Library Services as "benefits or changes for individuals or populations during or after participating in program activities, including new knowledge, increased skills, changed attitudes or values, modified behavior, improved condition or altered status." It is usually a qualitative measurement. Outputs can be used to measure outcomes; but outcomes cannot be used to measure outputs.

Criteria	Best (Points)	Good (Points)	Fair (Points)	Poor
Project Budget: The proposed project's budget clearly describes costs that are reasonable and related to project activities and outcomes.	20 The proposed project's budget clearly describes costs that are reasonable and related to project activities and outcomes.	10 The proposed project's budget clearly describes costs that are reasonable and related to project activities and outcomes; but some related costs are not included		0 The proposed project's budget does not describe costs that are reasonable and/or related to project activities and outcomes.
Local Funds Used to Support Project: The proposed budget includes local funds or in-kind resources that support project implementation.	20 The proposed budget includes the organization's own funds (not state or federal funds) and in-kind resources to support the project. It also includes financial or in-kind support from partner organizations that are participating in the project.	10 The proposed budget includes the organization's own funds (note state or federal funds) and in-kind resources to support the project.	5 The proposed budget includes in-kind resources that support project implementation.	0 The proposed budget does not include the organization's own funds (not state or federal funds) or in-kind resources to support the project.
Applicant Requirement: Percentage payment requested for indirect costs	20 Indirect cost percentage is less than five percent	10 Indirect cost percentage is five percent to ten percent	5 Indirect cost percentage is greater than ten percent	0 Indirect cost percentage is higher than 10 percent, and evidence supporting this higher rate is not provided.
Organizational Audit: Compliance with organizational audit requirements; and, if applicable, implementation of plan of corrective action for any audit findings	20 Applicant has conducted recent organizational audit without any findings	10 Applicant has conducted recent organizational audit with findings and has implemented a corrective plan of action (or demonstrated a plan is not needed/feasible)	---	---
Uniform Grant Administration Requirements: Adoption of policies and procedures that comply with federal Uniform Grant Administration requirements	20 All policies and procedures have been adopted and they comply with federal requirements	10 All policies and procedures have been adopted but require the organization to make some changes to comply with federal requirements	---	---
Supporting Attachments: The application's supporting documents demonstrate the organization's experience and capacity to implement and achieve project activities/goals	20 The application's supporting materials demonstrate more than five years of highly satisfactory experience as an OCL Statewide Library Service provider	10 The application's supporting materials demonstrate two to five years of highly satisfactory experience as an OCL Statewide Library Service provider	5 The application's supporting materials demonstrate less than 2 years of highly satisfactory experience as an OCL Statewide Library Service provider	0 The application's supporting materials do not demonstrate satisfactory experience and/or capacity to provide Statewide Library Services; or past Statewide Library Service grants have been poorly managed.

Award Decisions

Each grant application will be reviewed by a team of evaluators consisting of staff from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries.

Grant award decision-making priorities are:

1. Within each grant program category, LSTA Statewide Library Service applicants with the highest score are eligible to receive the grant award.
2. In the event of tied scores for a grant program category, the qualified applicant with the lowest indirect cost may be awarded the contract.
3. If an applicant is awarded more than one grant, it may choose to decline acceptance of all or just one or two of the grant awards. If any LSTA Statewide Library Service grant is declined, it will be awarded to the next highest qualified applicant in that grant program category.

Using the recommendations, OCL's Bureau of Library Development will make funding recommendations for LSTA Statewide Library Service awards to the Deputy Secretary and Commissioner for Libraries. The Pennsylvania Secretary of Education makes the final decision of awards.

Following the evaluation and selection process, each applicant will receive a letter with notification of the approval or rejection of their application.

Successful applicants will begin their projects on or about October 1, 2016. Multi-year contracts (up to five years) may be awarded.

Application Instructions

Online eGrants System

PDE uses eGrants, an online system for the submission and management of grant applications and contracts: <http://www.egrants.pa.gov>

The eGrants system is available to all participating agencies eligible to apply for and receive educational grants including libraries, school districts, charter schools, intermediate units, and other institutions. Each participating agency must assign an Agency User Administrator to create and manage eGrants accounts for all employees and associates who access the system. The authorized Agency User Administrator must be verified by OCL to receive a valid account login ID, password, and instructions.

If your organization does not already have a login for the eGrants system, OCL must create an Agency User Administrator for your organization. If you need an Agency User Administrator login to be created, or if your Agency User Administrator has forgotten

his/her login, contact ra-lsta@pa.gov with the subject line: “Need eGrants User Administrator Login” and provide your contact information.

If you are not the Agency User Administrator and you have forgotten your login and password, contact your organization’s Agency User Administrator (usually the director) to request assistance.

If you have forgotten your password, go to <http://www.egrants.pa.gov> and click the “Forgot Password” link.

Once logged in, the “Getting Started Guide” that covers the basic functions of eGrants is located on the right side of the eGrants home page.

Application Attachments

Clearly named, scanned PDF copies of all the documents supporting the project should be uploaded individually into the Attachments section of the online application.

Attachments over 3MB (megabytes) are not accepted in eGrants. If you are scanning your attachments, please set the scanner resolution to low. Attachments can only be submitted in Word, Excel, or PDF formats.

Requested documents include:

1. Cash management procedure or policy
2. Bid and procurement procedure or policy
3. Conflict of interest policy
4. Travel policy
5. Compensation and fringe benefit policy (if federal funds are used for compensation and fringe benefits)
6. Indirect cost rate development procedures (if an indirect cost rate other than ten percent has been negotiated directly with the federal government)
7. Annual audit for the most recent annual accounting period including evidence of the implementation of a corrective action plan, or why a plan is not feasible or needed at this time.
8. Supporting documents that demonstrate the applicant’s experience and capacity with developing and implementing statewide library services.
9. [*Internet Safety Certification for Applicant Public Libraries, Public Elementary and Secondary School Libraries, and Consortia with Public and/or Public School Libraries \(CIPA\).*](#)

Indirect Cost Instructions

To support the indirect costs associated with developing and implementing statewide library services, LSTA Statewide Library Service award recipients are eligible for up to ten percent of the grant award as payment for indirect costs. (Or, if the LSTA Statewide

Library Service award recipient has negotiated another indirect cost rate with the federal government, it may charge up to the percentage specified in that agreement.)

Indirect costs are defined as those that are incurred which cannot be readily isolated or identified with just one project or activity. These types of costs are often referred to as "overhead costs." Typical examples are charges for utilities, general insurance, use of office space and equipment that you own, local telephone service, and the salaries of the management and administrative personnel of the organization.

LSTA Statewide Library Service applicants may opt for **one** of the following three options:

1. Do not include any indirect costs (zero percent of the grant award); or
2. Select a percentage rate of the grant award that does not exceed ten percent of the total indirect costs; or
3. Select an indirect cost rate that does not exceed the percentage that has been negotiated with the federal government by your organization. If this option is selected, you must include a copy of the current negotiated agreement as an attachment.

If you selected option number 2 or 3 from the indirect costs menu in the application, enter the indirect cost percentage value in the field. For example, enter 0.07 in the percentage field if your indirect cost rate is 7 percent of the total award.

Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted via the PDE eGrant system to PDE by the close of business (5:00 P.M.) Friday, August 11, 2017. Paper applications will not be accepted.

Funding of Projects

LSTA Statewide Library Service Award Agreement/Formal Contract

The Grant Agreement is a binding agreement between PDE and the eligible grant award recipient. The beginning and ending date of the project, total amount of funds, and project number will appear on the grant agreement.

Contract Signatures

The authorized signer must be an authorized representative of the agency as described below:

Agency	Authorized Representative
Professional Educational Association	Executive Director
Public Library or System	Director

Please note that changes to the agreement language will require review and approval by Pennsylvania Department of Education, Office of Chief Counsel, and will cause delays in approving the agreement.

After complete review and approval by Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Comptroller's Office, an approved and fully executed grant agreement will be made available in eGrants.

Contracts may be signed electronically or manually.

e-Signatures

Applicants electing to use e-signatures are not required to manually sign and mail the grant agreement. Instead, authorized individuals will be able to conveniently affix e-signatures and submit e-signed grant agreements via the Internet. This will make the state's application and contracts process much faster, and reduce copying and postage costs for your organization. The use of e-signatures is voluntary and if your organization decides not to participate, you will still be able to print and manually sign the grant agreement.

Sign-Up for e-Signatures

If you decide to use e-Signatures:

1. Ask your board of directors to adopt the required eGrants Signature Resolution which identifies and authorizes the library director to sign electronic documents on eGrants. Please note that the Resolution must be processed prior to applying for a grant on the eGrants system. A fillable eGrants Signature Resolution ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#)) is available at [Office of Commonwealth Libraries LSTA website URL](#). It must be:
 - Completed and adopted as it is written;
 - Signed by the appropriate board officers in **blue** ink;
 - Attested to by the governing body's secretary; and
 - Signed by the authorized signer in **blue** ink.

2. Update or create a user profile for the authorized signer in eGrants. Instructions are attached. (The authorized signer's user profile must already exist for the Department of Education to complete the e-Signature process.)
3. After the user profile for the authorized signer has been created, mail the original resolution document (signed in **blue ink**) to:
 Pennsylvania Department of Education
 Bureau of Management Services
 Attn: Terri Porter
 333 Market Street, 15th Floor
 Harrisburg, PA 17126
4. PDE will not accept photocopies or scanned/mailed Resolutions.

If you have any questions about e-signatures, contact Terri Porter at teporter@pa.gov or 717 346-9725.

Manual Signature

Applicants signing contracts manually, must print the grant agreement from eGrants, have it signed in blue ink by the authorized representative and mail it to OCL. Stamped signatures are not acceptable on the original copy. The signature page should arrive no later than ten business days after the grant contract is received.

All manually signed grant agreement should be mailed to:

Pennsylvania Department of Education
Office of Commonwealth Libraries
Forum Building
ATTN: LSTA Administrator
607 South Drive
Harrisburg PA 17120-0600

Funding of Projects:

Grant award recipients shall be paid on a reimbursement basis upon final execution of the Grant Agreement and with the submission of invoices and supporting documentation of expenditures.

Grant recipients must provide OCL with invoices for reimbursement. Templates will be available. Invoices must be submitted quarterly and include documentation that supports the charges.

Appendix 1: CIPA Compliance Information

Overview

CIPA is the Children's Internet Protection Act. It applies to public libraries and to public elementary and secondary school libraries seeking funds under the federal Universal Service E-rate program or LSTA grant programs funded by IMLS and administered by the OCL.

Affected Libraries

The following types of libraries applying for LSTA grants from the OCL must submit the Internet Safety Certification document as part of the application process:

- Public libraries;
- Public elementary and secondary school libraries; and
- Consortia with public and/or public school libraries

If a library of a type listed above is already compliant with CIPA under the rules for receiving E-rate funds, that library is not affected by the rules established for LSTA grant recipients. Accordingly, the compliance information in this document applies **ONLY** to libraries meeting ALL THREE of the following conditions. The library:

1. Is a public library or public elementary or secondary school library;
2. Is NOT required to comply with CIPA through the federal Universal Service (E-rate) program; and
3. Seeks LSTA funds for the purchase of computers used to access the Internet and/or for the payment of direct costs associated with accessing the Internet.

Libraries that are required to comply with CIPA because of the receipt of funds from the Universal Service (E-rate) program must adhere to a different and more stringent set of requirements. The compliance information in this document does not apply to libraries that must comply with CIPA under the Universal Service (E-rate) rules.

Purchases That Require CIPA Compliance

A library that is subject to CIPA under the rules for LSTA must comply with the law when either of the following is approved for purchase with LSTA funds:

- Computers used to access the Internet; or
- Direct costs associated with accessing the Internet (i.e., the costs of connecting to an Internet service provider [ISP]).

Requirements for Compliance

To receive LSTA funds for purchases of the above types, the library must have in place a policy of:

- a) Internet safety for minors that includes the operation of a technology protection measure with respect to any of its computers with Internet access that protects against access through such computers to visual depictions that are (I) obscene;

(II) child pornography; or (III) harmful to minors; and is enforcing the operation of such technology protection measure during any use of such computers by minors; and

- b) Internet safety that includes the operation of a technology protection measure with respect to any of its computers with Internet access that protects against access through such computers to visual depictions that are (I) obscene; (II) child pornography; and is enforcing the operation of such technology protection measure during any use of such computers.

Please note that the difference between (a) and (b) is that (a) applies to minors and includes the category of “visual depictions” that are “harmful to minors”, while (b) applies to adults and does not include the category “harmful to minors”.

For purposes of CIPA, a “minor” is someone under 17 years of age. The policy requires that some form of “technology protection measure” be in use on all computers used to access the Internet. This includes computers that were not purchased with LSTA funds but that are used to access the Internet. The law provides no other guidance on technology protection measures. According to the CIPA legislation, the technology protection measure may be disabled upon the request of the user for “bona fide research or other lawful purposes.” The law as applied to LSTA grant recipients does not differentiate between minors and adults when a request is made to disable the technology protection measure or unblock a website. Anyone may make such a request.