

2016-2017 LSTA Annual Program Plan

Important Dates	
Early September 2015	Annual Program Plan posted EZ Grant Guidelines and Applications posted Project Grant Guidelines posted Letter of Intent Application posted NC Cardinal Guidelines and Application posted
November 2, 2015	Letter of Intent (LOI) applications due NC Cardinal applications due
December 14, 2015	Letter of Intent applicants notified NC Cardinal applicants notified Project Grant applications posted
February 26, 2016	Applications Due All EZ Grants and Project Grants
June 8, 2016	Grant awards announced at < http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ld/grants/lsta.html >

The 2016-2017 grant programs outlined in this document are aligned with the State Library of North Carolina's [Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan 2013-2017](#) and its goals.

Summary of Goals

The State Library of North Carolina's *Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan for 2013-2017* contains four goals. Each of the goals listed below is related to one or more of the eight LSTA purposes, is based on identified need, and strives toward excellence and equity in North Carolina's libraries.

1. Partnerships and Collaboration

North Carolina libraries will partner with each other, with businesses, and with other organizations to extend their reach and enhance their capacity.

2. Continuing Education

North Carolina library staff will have the necessary planning and learning opportunities that enable them to provide exceptional library programs, services, and resources.

3. Literacy and Lifelong Learning

North Carolina libraries will equip users for success in life, school, and work through library programs and services that support literacy and lifelong learning.

4. Access, Digitization, and Preservation

North Carolina libraries will expand access to information resources by strengthening, sharing, digitizing and preserving our valuable and unique collections.

Libraries eligible to apply for North Carolina’s in LSTA program are public libraries, community college libraries, UNC libraries, and private academic libraries (NCICU). Eligible partners include school libraries, other libraries, and non-library organizations.

State Library staff and the LSTA Advisory Committee set criteria for each Grant Category; applications are reviewed and funding decisions are determined based on those criteria.

EZ Grants are used for single year projects with clearly defined purposes and outcomes. The **minimum** that may be requested for all EZ Grant categories is \$5,000; the **maximum** is \$50,000.

Grant Category	Match
EZ Digitization* Grants to increase access to, and use of, North Carolina’s library holdings by increasing the local library’s capacity to digitize selected materials from their genealogy, local history, or other collections in order to make them available online.	25% or 10% with a partner
EZ Literacy & Lifelong Learning Grants to advance literacy and lifelong learning through projects that expand patrons’ ability to read, write, and interact across a range of platforms, tools, and media; and/or projects that promote continuous learning.	25% or 10% with a partner
EZ Planning Grants to support consulting assistance in planning for use of existing space to provide or expand services for library users; planning for technology; or project planning prior to applying for an LSTA Project Grant.	none

Project Grants have a two-step process requiring 1) a preliminary Letter of Intent (LOI) Application and 2) a full application after the LOI is approved. These grants are for more complex projects that may be single or multi-year and are funded at a higher level than EZ Grants. The **minimum** that may be requested for all Project Grant categories is \$50,000; the **maximum** is \$100,000 for single year projects and \$150,000 per year for multi-year projects.

Grant Category	Match
Access & Digitization* Grants to increase access to, and use of, North Carolina’s library holdings by digitizing selected materials from their collections in order to make them available online.	10%
Literacy & Lifelong Learning Grants to advance literacy and lifelong learning through projects that expand patrons’ ability to read, write, and interact across a range of platforms, tools, and media; and/or projects that promote continuous learning.	25% or 10% with a partner

*Prospective applicants should consider whether the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center (NCDHC) can help them achieve their goals; they may find that working cooperatively with NCDHC is more efficient than applying for and managing an LSTA grant. The [NCDHC](#) is a statewide digitization and digital publishing program housed in the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is supported by the State Library with LSTA funds. The NCDHC works with cultural heritage institutions across North Carolina to digitize and publish historic materials online. Support from the State Library enables the NCDHC to offer these services at no cost to participating libraries. For further information, [contact the NCDHC](#).