



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State Library of North Carolina
Administration and Library Development

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary

Sandra M. Cooper, State Librarian

Memorandum

To: Directors, North Carolina Public & Academic Libraries;
Directors of Media Services, Public School Districts

From: Sandra M. Cooper, State Librarian

Date: August 25, 2003

Subject: **Strengthening Library Collections Grants**
Deadline to Apply: October 22, 2003

The State Library is pleased to announce a special grant available in 2003-2004 under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Eligible public and academic libraries in North Carolina, as well as public school districts, are invited to apply for federal LSTA funds to strengthen their library's materials collections. This grant program is targeted to libraries serving low wealth communities and institutions.

Grants of up to \$20,000 will be awarded in December 2003, **with applications due October 22, 2003**. Projects must be completed by June 30, 2004. The grants have no matching requirement. This is a pilot grant program. If these grants are offered again, there *will* be a matching requirement.

In addition to giving priority to libraries serving low wealth communities, applications will be evaluated on several key criteria:

- defined and justified user need(s);
- documented collection deficiencies limiting the libraries ability to meet the need(s); and
- impact of the new materials on the targeted user population.

For this pilot grant program, the application process has been streamlined—even first time applicants should find it user friendly. The application information is available at the State Library's Web site. The packet is available as a PDF file for downloading, reading, and printing using an Adobe Acrobat Reader. It is also posted as a Microsoft® Word 2000 document. The URL for the information is <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm>>.

For additional information, questions, or assistance in obtaining a copy of the grant package, please contact the State Library's Federal Programs Consultant Penny Hornsby by telephone at 919.733-2570, or e-mail at phornsby@library.dcr.state.nc.us.