

**LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT
STATE LIBRARY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

OVERVIEW OF GRANT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES FOR 2006-2007

Important Dates for 2006-2007 LSTA Grant Programs	
October 4, 2005	Guidelines and Letter of Intent applications available for Project and Innovation Grants
November 21, 2005	Letters of Intent (LOI) due for Project and Innovation Grants [LOI not required for EZ category grants]
December 20, 2005	Approval of Letters of Intent announced; application forms provided to approved libraries
December 20, 2005	Guidelines and applications available for EZ Grants
February 22, 2006	ALL PROPOSALS DUE
June 12, 2006	Grant awards announced at http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm

EZ Grants -- Letter of Intent Not Required

With a simplified application process, EZ Grants are used for programs with clearly defined purposes and outcomes. The LSTA Advisory Committee sets criteria for each EZ Grant program as part of the Annual Program. State Library staff reviews applications and determines funding decisions based on those criteria. EZ Grants do not require a Letter of Intent, and applicants have the opportunity to appeal funding decisions to the LSTA Advisory Committee.

There are two subcategories of EZ Grants:

- EZ Grants: applications for this grant category use simpler forms that require little information other than a basic description of project plans. Libraries are expected to describe plans that are consistent with grant guidelines in order to qualify for funding.
- EZ Expanded Grants: applications for this grant category require more extensive information about local needs and plans for using the funds.

Below is a summary of EZ grants for 2006-2007. Full information on these grant programs will be released on December 20, 2005, and applications will be due on February 22, 2006.

GRANT PROGRAM BY TOPIC	ELIGIBLE LIBRARIES	MAXIMUM GRANT REQUEST	MATCH REQUIREMENT
Services / Programs			
<i>School Library Collection Development Grants</i> Grants to provide assistance to public school library media centers in building strong curriculum-related print book collections that are accurate, current, and attractive.	Public school libraries that have not received this grant in a prior year (2000-01 through 2005-06).	\$10,000	50% of grant amount requested (\$1 for \$2)
Planning			
<i>LSTA Project Planning Grants</i> Grants to assist libraries in carrying out needs assessments and collaborative planning as phase one of an LSTA Project grant. (See Project grants on next page.)	Public & academic libraries, including public, private & community college; public school libraries. Libraries must qualify for the full grant program for which they would plan.	\$15,000	None

Project Grants -- Letter of Intent Required

Awarded for more complex projects, grant programs in the Project Grants category have locally defined outcomes that meet the grant program criteria. Generally, Project Grants award funding at a higher level than EZ Grants. (Information about EZ Grants appears on page 1.)

The LSTA Annual Program sets criteria for Project Grants, and the State Library invites applicants to submit Letters of Intent (LOI). The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the Letters of Intent and makes recommendations based on those criteria following preliminary review by State Library staff. If a library's LOI is approved, then it is invited to submit a full application. State Library staff as well as peer reviewers evaluate full grant applications. The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the applications and the reviewers' ratings and makes its funding recommendations to the State Librarian.

Below is a summary of the Project Grants for 2006-2007. These Project Grant programs require a Letter of Intent (LOI) application. LOI applications are due November 21, 2005. Full applications from approved libraries are due February 22, 2006.

GRANT PROGRAM BY TOPIC	ELIGIBLE LIBRARIES	MAXIMUM GRANT REQUEST	MATCH REQUIREMENT
Innovation Grants *** NEW***			
<p><i>Innovation Grants</i> Innovation projects are designed to test a concept or to demonstrate new approaches or new services. An Innovation Grant must have a solid evaluation component that is integrated into every step of the project. Projects must result in formal reports that are shared with North Carolina's library community. Concepts must be discussed with State Library staff prior to submitting a Letter of Intent. Single year, or Multiyear projects allowable.</p>	<p>Libraries or library organizations or associations that are eligible to receive LSTA funds according to <i>Library Services & Technology Act Plan for Implementation in North Carolina 2003-2007</i>, Section III-2,3,4.</p>	\$100,000	10% of grant amount requested
Services / Programs			
<p><i>Library Outreach Services Grants</i> [previously: Community-Centered Outreach Services Grants] Grants to support library services and programs for targeted audiences that are unserved or underserved. Services must be based on local needs assessments. Single year, or Multiyear projects allowable.</p>	<p>Public & academic libraries, including public, private & community college. Public school libraries.</p>	\$50,000 annually (\$100,000 annually for multi-library collaborative projects)	Percent of grant amount requested: Year 1 - 10% Year 2 - 25% Year 3 - 50%

Complete Information and Guidelines for LSTA grant programs may be found at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm>>.