

LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT  
STATE LIBRARY OF NORTH CAROLINA

## OVERVIEW OF GRANT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR 2008-2009

Important Dates for 2008-2009 LSTA Grant Programs	
November 15, 2007	Letters of Intent (LOI) due for Project Grants [LOI is not required for EZ category grants]
December 19, 2007	Approval of Letters of Intent announced; application forms provided to approved libraries
December 19, 2007	EZ Grants - Guidelines and applications available
February 21, 2008	ALL PROPOSALS DUE – Project Grants and EZ Grants
June 12, 2008	Grant awards announced at <a href="http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm">http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm</a>

The 2008-2009 grant programs outlined in this Overview are aligned with the State Library of North Carolina's new *Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan 2008-2012*. The three goals of the new plan are listed on page 4 of this Overview. The entire plan is available at <http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/plan2008-12.pdf>.

### Project Grants -- Letter of Intent (LOI) Required

Project Grants have a two-step process, requiring a preliminary Letter of Intent (LOI). These grants are for more complex projects that address locally defined needs and priorities, and are generally funded at a higher level than EZ Grants. (Information about EZ Grants appears on pages 3 & 4.) The LSTA Advisory Committee sets criteria for each Project Grant as part of the annual program for LSTA in North Carolina. The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the Letters of Intent and makes recommendations based on those criteria following preliminary review by State Library staff and, in some instances, peer reviewers. 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 full applications and reviewers' ratings and makes its funding recommendations to the State Librarian.

Below is a summary of the three Project Grants for 2008-2009. These grants require a Letter of Intent (an actual application form), which is due November 15, 2007. Complete information & guidelines and the Letter of Intent application form are available at <http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/2008-2009Grants.htm>. Full applications from approved libraries are due February 21, 2008.

PROJECT GRANT PROGRAMS BY TOPIC	ELIGIBLE LIBRARIES	MAXIMUM / MINIMUM GRANT REQUEST	MATCH REQUIREMENT
<b>Programs and Services</b>			
<b><i>Library Outreach Services Grants</i></b> Grants to support library services and programs for targeted audiences that are unserved or underserved. Services must be based on an analysis and assessment of local needs.  Single year or multiyear projects allowable.	Public & academic libraries, including public, private & community college libraries. Public school libraries, and public school district media services departments.	Maximum: \$50,000 annually for a single library system; \$100,000 annually for a collaborative project of multiple library systems  Minimum: \$5,000 annually	Percent of grant amount requested: Year 1 – 10% Year 2 – 25% Year 3 – 50%

## Project Grants -- Letter of Intent (LOI) Required (continued)

PROJECT GRANT PROGRAMS BY TOPIC	ELIGIBLE LIBRARIES	MAXIMUM / MINIMUM GRANT REQUEST	MATCH REQUIREMENT
<p><b>Information Resources and Collections</b></p> <p><b>NC ECHO Digitization Grants</b>            Grants to increase access and use of North Carolina's unique cultural holdings by helping libraries (and partners – other libraries and/or non-library cultural institutions, if appropriate) create online content and contextual information; prepare online finding aids; and incorporate Web cataloging or metadata into digitization projects.</p> <p>Single year or multiyear projects allowable.</p>	<p>Public &amp; academic libraries, including public, private &amp; community college libraries. State agency libraries. Qualified special libraries.</p>	<p>Maximum:            \$75,000 annually for a single library system;            \$150,000 annually for a collaborative project of multiple institutions or systems</p> <p>Minimum:            \$2,500 annually</p>	<p>No match for requests less than \$10,000</p> <p>10% of grant amount for grant requests of \$10,000 and above</p>
<p><b>Technology</b></p> <p><b>Technology Grants</b>            Grants to support technology-based projects to improve library services for users and/or enhance user access to electronic resources. Proposals in this category will consist primarily of technology expenditures (hardware, software, infrastructure, etc.) but must focus on library users and their needs rather than on technology alone. Applicants must demonstrate how their proposals support the goals of the State Library's LSTA Plan and their library's mission and goals.</p> <p>Single year projects expected in most instances; multiyear projects will be considered.</p>	<p>Public &amp; academic libraries, including public, private &amp; community college libraries. State agency libraries. Qualified special libraries.</p>	<p>Maximum:            \$100,000 for a single library system;            \$150,000 for a collaborative project of multiple library systems</p> <p>Minimum:            None</p>	<p>25% of grant amount requested</p>

## 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 as part of the annual program for LSTA in North Carolina. State Library staff review EZ applications and determine funding decisions based on those criteria. Applicants have the opportunity to appeal funding decisions to the LSTA Advisory Committee. EZ Grants do not require a Letter of Intent.

Below is a summary of the six EZ Grants for 2008-2009. Full information on these grant programs will be released on December 19, 2007, and available then at <http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/2008-2009Grants.htm> . Applications are due on February 21, 2008.

EZ GRANT PROGRAMS BY TOPIC	ELIGIBLE LIBRARIES	MAXIMUM / MINIMUM GRANT REQUEST	MATCH REQUIREMENT
<b>Information Resources and Collections</b>			
<b><i>School Library Collection Development Grants</i></b> 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 the last three years (2005-2006, 2006-2007, & 2007-2008).	\$10,000 / \$1,000	25% of grant amount requested (\$1 for \$4)
<b><i>Strengthening Public &amp; Academic Library Collections Grants</i></b> Grants to help public and academic libraries develop or strengthen subject areas in their print collections to meet user needs.	Public & academic libraries, including public, private & community college libraries that have not received this grant in the last three years (2005-2006, 2006-2007, & 2007-2008).	\$10,000 / \$1,000	25% of grant amount requested (\$1 for \$4)
<b>Technology</b>			
<b><i>Basic Equipment Grants</i></b> Grants for basic computer hardware/software to ensure adequate user access to the Internet and NC LIVE resources, including workstations that provide access for people with disabilities. Allows applications for funding to replace computers for user Internet access. [All other technology-based projects are funded under Technology Grants; see page 2.]	Public & academic libraries, including public, private & community college libraries. State agency libraries. Qualified special libraries.	\$25,000 / \$2,500	15% of grant amount requested
<b>Planning</b>			
<b><i>LSTA Project Planning Grants</i></b> Grants to assist libraries in carrying out needs assessments and collaborative planning as phase one of an LSTA Project Grant.	Public & academic libraries, including public, private & community college libraries. Public school libraries and public school district media services departments. State agency libraries. Qualified special libraries. Libraries must qualify for the full grant program for which they would plan.	\$15,000 / no minimum	None

## EZ Grants -- Letter of Intent Not Required (continued)

EZ GRANT PROGRAMS BY TOPIC	ELIGIBLE LIBRARIES	MAXIMUM / MINIMUM GRANT REQUEST	MATCH REQUIREMENT
<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>Planning Grants</b> Grants to support consulting assistance to help ensure effective planning for general programs/services, process analysis, and facilities.</p>	<p>Public &amp; academic libraries, including public, private &amp; community college libraries. Public school district media services departments. State agency libraries. Qualified special libraries.</p>	<p>\$15,000 / no minimum</p>	<p>None</p>
<p><b>Technology Planning Grants</b> Grants to support consulting assistance to help ensure effective planning for technology, including planning for integrated automated library systems.</p>	<p>Public &amp; academic libraries, including public, private &amp; community college libraries. State agency libraries. Qualified special libraries.</p>	<p>Maximum: \$20,000 for a single library system; \$35,000 for a collaborative project of multiple library systems</p> <p>Minimum: None</p>	<p>None</p>

## SUMMARY OF GOALS

The State Library of North Carolina's *Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan for 2008 – 2012*

(<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/plan2008-12.pdf>) consists of three goals. Each of these goals, listed below, is related to one or more of the six LSTA purposes, is based on identified need, and strives toward excellence and equity in North Carolina's libraries.

1. Enrich the lives of North Carolinians through enhanced and targeted programs and services in our libraries that address the needs of specific audiences.
2. Enhance information for lifelong learning for all North Carolinians by expanding the information resources in our state's libraries through strengthening, sharing, digitizing and preserving our valuable and unique collections.
3. Promote equal access to 21<sup>st</sup> century library services for all North Carolinians by providing contemporary and evolving technologies to our state's libraries through programs designed to address infrastructure, resources, and services.