

Public Library Construction and Technology Enhancement Grants to State Library Agencies (CFDA No. 84.154)

I. Legislation

Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA), Title II, as amended (20 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) (expires September 30, 1997).

II. Funding History ^{1/}

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
1965	\$30,000,000	1987	\$22,050,000
1970	7,807,250	1988	22,143,100
1975	0	1989	21,877,520
1980	0	1990	18,572,036
1981	0	1991	18,833,395
1982	0	1992	16,383,640
1983	50,000,000	1993	16,252,571
1984	0	1994	17,436,160
1985	24,500,000	1995	17,436,160
1986	21,102,000	1996	16,041,620

^{1/} There is no time limit for the expenditure of these funds.

III. Analysis of Program Performance

A. Goals and Objectives

Title II (Public Library Construction and Technology Enhancement) of the Library Services and Construction Act provides formula grants to the states to help public libraries construct and remodel public library buildings and provide other technology enhancements.

B. Strategies to Achieve the Goals

Services Supported

The state library administrative agencies annually provide support for 300 construction and technology projects through subgrants to public libraries. The program serves all communities that match the federal funds on at least a one-to-one basis and have a state-approved application.

Projects included the following:

- Constructing of new library buildings;
- Acquiring, expanding, remodeling, and altering existing buildings;
- Remodeling to ensure safe working environments and to conserve energy;
- Meeting the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act;

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- Purchasing historic buildings for conversion to public libraries; and
- Acquiring, installing, maintaining, or replacing equipment necessary to provide access to information and communication technologies.

Strategic Initiatives

The major initiatives undertaken in FY 1995 were to streamline administrative processes and provide enhanced support services to state library administrative agencies, and to encourage subgrants for the building of public library facilities in areas where none exist.

Initiatives included:

- Implement improvements in the administration of the LSCA Title I by state agencies by simplifying reporting procedures for subgrant awards to local libraries serving targeted populations.
- Provide improved technical assistance to state library administrative agencies by developing a database of information on subgrant projects that are intended to meet the needs of targeted populations.
- Analyze and report on the evaluation of subgrant projects that successfully encourage reading and learning for targeted populations.

In FY 1995 the Department continued to work with state library administrative agencies to:

- Improve evaluation through training institutes for state directors and LSCA state coordinators;
- Develop an automated information management system to collect data from the state annual reports; and
- Foster more thorough long-range planning for statewide public library development through reviews of the LSCA long-range plan and annual update documents.

C. Program Performance—Indicators of Impact and Effectiveness

Recent state library annual reports (V.1.) show that the Title II funds were expended at the local level as following:

- 64 percent--Remodel public libraries to conserve energy, to improve access for the disabled, and to accommodate the use of new technologies;
- 23 percent--Build public library additions and pay for acquisition costs, land purchases, and architectural fees; and
- 13 percent--Construct new public library buildings .

The federal project funds were matched by state and local sources at a level of eight to one in FY 1994. A match at the same level was expected in FY 1995 and FY 1996.

IV. Planned Studies

None.

V. Sources of Information

1. State annual performance reports.
2. Program files.

VI. Contacts for Further Information

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