

FACT SHEET

Academic Library Incentive Grant

BACKGROUND

Libraries of all types are relying on grant opportunities more than ever to bring new services and resources to their constituents. This grant program is offered especially for the over 125 academic Massachusetts Library System members to encourage these valued participants in the multi-type Massachusetts Library System to take advantage of this benefit of regional membership. Join your colleagues who have already completed or are about to complete grant projects to meet a variety of needs including but not limited to writing across the curriculum, information ethics and plagiarism, building and showcasing collections and services to address new institutional missions, course and degree programs, redesigning information literacy based on the needs of a changing student body using tools such as “iSkill”s and “LibQual,” and assessing and rethinking services, resources and facilities based on student and faculty input.

MASSACHUSETTS LONG RANGE PLAN

A library may focus on either of the following goals of the Massachusetts LSTA Long Range Plan 2008-2012:

Goal 2: Library users will have access to effective library and information services provided by well-trained and supported library staff.

Goal 3: All Massachusetts residents will be better prepared to meet life’s challenges at school, in the workplace, and in their daily lives through access to programs and training that foster their development of information literacy skills and communication technology skills.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Funding under this grant is provided to help academic libraries carry out goals and objectives from their MBLC approved long-range plans. The project must include a significant program component to assure that the specific target population will be directly served by the grant. The grants may address the unique challenges that academic libraries face such as scholarly communication, collaboration within library and departments, as well as across campus and with the outside community, research, teaching and learning initiatives, as well as collections and access, among others. A project may include measurement and assessment tools that address service quality, electronic resource usage, and outcomes assessment. Libraries may wish to examine their institution’s strategic plan and websites of the Association of College & Research Libraries) www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/index.cfm and the Association of Research Libraries (www.ala.org) for inspiration.

Grants for \$5,000 will be funded under this competitive grant program.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Data, rationale and budget supporting use of grant funds are required.

- Applications require:
 - a significant program component to assure that the specific target population will be directly served,
 - measurable, outcome-based goals and objectives

ELIGIBILITY

An academic that meets standard eligibility requirements for Direct Grant programs is eligible to apply.

For libraries that received an MBLC LibQual+ grant in FY06-FY08, they may apply for an Academic Library Incentive Grant, but grant funds may not be used for an additional LibQual+ survey. Previous Academic Library Incentive Grant Awardees may not apply for this category.

INTERESTED?

Applicants must submit a **Letter of Intent** with the “Academic Library Incentive Grant” option checked off under **TYPE**. For additional information about this program, please contact Marlene Heroux at the MBLC at 800-952-7403, ext. 250 or by e-mail at marlene.heroux@state.ma.us