

2019 STATE GRANT PROGRAM

Small Libraries in Networks

FACT SHEET

Purpose of this Grant Offering

The Small Libraries in Networks grant round allows the MBLC to help approximately 150 libraries in municipalities with a population of less than 10,000 to participate as full members of an automated resource sharing network. Grant funds received by the network are directly applied to offset the library's annual membership fee.

This grant opportunity also provides an administrative fee to the C/W MARS network for coordinating Internet access and manages payment reimbursements for the approximately 10 small public libraries receiving Internet funding support through the Telecommunications for Resource Sharing program.

FY19 Restores Library Offsets Cut from FY16 – FY18

In FY2019, a range between \$308,635 and \$350,000 is anticipated for the Small Libraries in Networks program. An award of \$335,000 would allow MBLC to restore the \$300 per library which had been cut from each library's offset for the last three fiscal years.

With the prospect of higher funding in 7000-9506, MBLC will also be able to plan for the full integration of libraries funded under the original Small Libraries program (a flat \$2,500 per library per year) to the formula implemented in FY15 for libraries newly entering the program.

Eligible Applicants

Automated resource sharing networks with public libraries in eligible municipalities may apply.

There are three categories of public libraries recognized in this grant opportunity:

- 1) Libraries that have participated in the classic Small Libraries in Networks program, and are full members of the network (FY2002-2014).
- 2) Full network member libraries that were added under the "New Participants" grant in FY15, or joined a network in FY16, FY17 and FY18.
- 3) Small non-networked libraries receiving basic Internet support via the Telecommunications for Resource Sharing program (C/W MARS).

Application Process

Networks will be the applicants. They will receive and administer the grant funds on behalf of the public libraries. Individual public libraries do not apply directly.

Forms/memoranda sent to Networks	July 6, 2018
Applications due	August 17, 2018
Meet with Networks to discuss preliminary figures	September 21, 2018
Board votes grant awards	October 2018 Board Meeting

To Apply

Complete the reporting and request forms for this program and submit to: amy.clayton@state.ma.us (Amy Clayton) at the MBLC offices, 98 North Washington St., Suite 401, Boston, MA 02114 by **4:00 PM on August 17, 2018.**

Questions?

Questions about this grant program should be directed to Paul Kissman, Library Information Systems Specialist, at 617-725-1860 x238 or 800-952-7403.