

# LSTA

Library Services Technology Act

## At the Table: Culinary Literacy in your Community

**Grant Amount:**  
\$10,000

**Time Range:**  
1 year

**Eligibility:**  
Any

**Staff Contact:**  
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**Summary:**  
Promote culinary literacy



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This grant will provide the opportunity for libraries to promote culinary literacy in their community. Libraries should have a clear focus on who their target audience is and what need or issue they are trying to address through this grant. Projects should include a strong programming component with an emphasis on hands-on activities. Some funds may be used for books, circulating items like cookware, and in-house tools to support cooking programs.

The Free Library of Philadelphia's *Culinary Literacy: A Toolkit for Public Libraries* contains a wealth of information for inspiration. The Early Childhood Health Curriculum developed by EatPlayGrow is a great resource for those looking for ideas to reach young children.

Outreach should be an important part of all projects. Libraries should seek out partnerships with area supermarkets, hospitals, food banks, schools, restaurants, farms, and other relevant organizations.

## BACKGROUND

It is important for people to understand the role of food in their lives and cultures. Culinary literacy can help communicate the impact that food

has on one's health, environment, and community. Libraries can offer opportunities for people to learn how to cook and gain practical life skills as well as use cooking as a way to advance multiple types of literacy, such as reading, math, cultural, and health. Through the cooperative nature of cooking, libraries can have a unique platform with which they can build and sustain their community.

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