FY15 Per Capita, Equalization Aid Grant requirements

Following are requirements for fiscal year 2015 Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid grants. For more information, please contact Mary Downing at mdowling@ilsos.net or Jeanne Urbanek at jurbanek@ilsos.net, 800-665-5576, opt. 2.

• Standards Chapter Review
  The library staff and board must review and report on progress in
  completing Chapter 7, “Collection Management and Resource
  Sharing,” of Serving Our Public 3.0: Standards for Illinois

• Education and Training
  At least one member of the library staff must attend one
  instructional course from one of the library systems or the Illinois
  State Library.

• Technology
  1) At least one member of the library staff and at least one
     board member must attend an informational webinar or in-
     person session about The Edge Initiative. Information is
     forthcoming about webinars, in-person sessions and other
     tools.
  2) The library staff must claim the library’s account at

3) The library staff must print and review The Edge Assessment
   Workbook at <http://www.libraryedge.org/sites/default/
   files/EdgeAssessmentWorkbook.pdf>.

4) Although not an FY15 requirement, the library staff and
   board may complete The Edge Initiative assessment in
   FY2015.

• Trustees
  All members of the library board must analyze the library’s cur-
  rent budget to determine whether revenues and expenditures
  are sufficient. Based on information from the analysis and the
  library’s FY14 Environmental Scan, describe the library’s fiscal
  climate and needs for serving the community.

• Additional requirements for libraries that did not apply for a
  Per Capita and Equalization Grant in FY14

  The library board and staff must complete an Environmental
  Scan of the community. Additional information on an
  Environmental Scan is available at <http://www.cyberdriveilli-
  nois.com/departments/library/grants/plpc_equalization.html>.

• Time Frame
  These requirements must be completed before the due date of
  the next application.

eRead Illinois

A grant provided by the Secretary of State/Illinois State Library will
allow TBBS users access to eRead Illinois, a digital collection of
library editions of books. echangis features new releases and popular
titles in adult, young adult and juvenile fiction and nonfiction that
may not be available in the library’s regular collection, including
some in Spanish. Although not compatible with the NLS digital
player, these books may be downloaded to a patron’s mobile de-
vice, eBook tablet or Windows computer.

Every stage of eRead Illinois — from finding books, checking them
out and reading them — is designed to be accessible for everyone,
including those with visual disabilities. Test tools on eBooks allow
the user to highlight words and adjust the font size and color
scheme and may include text-to-speech or audio narration. The
digital media and delivery software platforms are fully ADA-com-
pliant and were developed in cooperation with the National
Federation of the Blind to work with the leading screen-reader
technologies and transportable braille displays.

Secretary of State and State Librarian

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White continues to travel through-
out Illinois to distribute Public Library Construction Act Grant awards. The
matching grants assist public libraries with major construction projects.
Awards to date have included 15 projects for newly constructed buildings,
four projects to remodel existing library buildings and two disaster-relief
projects.

“Public libraries are the cornerstones of our communities,” said Secretary
White. “The Public Library Construction Act Grant Program allows my office to
allocate as much as $50 million to libraries throughout Illinois. Together
with funds generated locally, we are ensuring that these public libraries contin-
uo to fulfill the informational needs of their patrons. I commend the recipients
on their efforts to obtain a grant through this important public library construc-
tion program.”

The Public Library Construction Act Grant Program is part of a $31 billion
capital construction program approved in 2009 by the Governor and the General
Assembly. A total of $50 million was appropriated for permanent capital im-
provements to public libraries in FY13.

State Library staff news

Patricia Norris, associate director at the State Library, has been
named the thirty-second Illinois Library Luminary. Luminary
comprising the Illinois Library Association’s roll of honor are
individuals who have made a significant contribution to Illinois li-
braries and have been recognized by their peers.

Kyle Peebles has joined the Illinois State Library staff as the new
Communication manager.

Amy Joseph has joined the TBBS circulation operation.

Reference assistant Frances (Frances) LaCamera retired in March
following nearly 40 years of outstanding service with the State
Library.

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Secretary White awards more construction
grant applications

Illinois receives MOE waiver

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has granted the
Illinois State Library a waiver from the Maintenance of Effort (MOE)
requirement for federal fiscal year 2014. In Illinois, federal FY14
funding will be used in state FY15. The successful outcome of the
waiver request means that FY14 federal LSTA funding the State
Library receives to support libraries in Illinois will not see a reduc-
tion proportional to recent cuts to state funding for libraries.

Congress could still act to reduce federal funding to all libraries in
FY14, but the IMLS decision to grant the State Library’s request for the
MOE waiver means there will be no reduction targeted specifi-
cally at Illinois’ LSTA Grants to States Allotment.

This is the third consecutive year the State Library has requested and
received a waiver from the MOE requirement, and the State Library is very appreciative of these favorable decisions from IMLS.
LSTA funding supports State Library programs such as adult literacy
projects, services for the visually impaired and grant programs to
local libraries throughout the state. For more information, contact
Karen Egan at kegan@ilsos.net.

Joining Secretary White at a construction grant award ceremony at the Glen Ellyn Public Library were (left to right) library trustees Maryl Wesolowski, Gina Meyers and Bob McClow, state Rep. Sandra Pihos (R-Glen Ellyn), library Director Doren Bussen and library trustee Randolph Sailor. The library received a $157,470 grant to replace and repair portions of the library damaged by flooding last spring.

National Library Week
April 13-19

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Secretary White encourages poets to enter Illinois Emerging Writers Competition

Secretary of State Jesse White has announced that entry forms are available for the 10th annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition, Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Award.

“We created the Illinois Emerging Writers Competition to promote creative writing and provide an outlet for recognizing new literary talent,” said Secretary White. “Great poems have the ability to enrich and enhance our lives, and I am looking forward to discovering talented new poets with this year’s competition.”

The competition is named in honor of the late Pulitzer Prize-winning Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks, and is cosponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book and Kevin Stein, who succeeded Brooks as Illinois Poet Laureate.

The competition is open to Illinois residents 18 and over. Entries must be postmarked by June 30, 2014. The award for first place is $500, second place is $300 and third place is $100. Winning poems also will be submitted for possible publication in the North Letter, RHINO, and Techno-Whats Team.

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To access the report using the LibPAS portal, you will need to know your library’s Illinois State Library User Name and Password. If you need assistance, contact Becky Hunter at bhunter1@ilsos.net, 217-782-7849, or 800-665-5576, ext. 2. You also will need Adobe version 8.0 or higher for PDF printing.

The certification page and paper copies of any additional applicable documentation will continue to be collected by the State Library. For a complete list of the IPLAR paper submission components, please refer to the IPLAR Instructions.

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For questions regarding content/subject matter and edit checks, contact Robert Jones at rjones1@ilsos.net, 217-785-1164 or 800-665-5576, ext. 2. For questions about software and technology issues, contact the LibPAS Help Desk at 800-521-4930.

FY13-14 Illinois Public Library Annual Report released

The Illinois State Library has released the FY13-14 Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) data collection tool using the LibPAS software for data collection.

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The competition is open to Illinois residents age 18 and over. Entries must be postmarked by June 30, 2014. The award for first place is $500, second place is $300 and third place is $100. Winning poems also will be submitted for possible publication in the North Lawyer AWSO and Quad City magazine and Poetry License Press publications. Winners will read their poems and receive their prizes at a ceremony later this year at the State Library in Springfield.

Forms and other information are available at illinoiscenterforthebook.org. For more information, contact Illinois Center for the Book coordinator Bonnie Mathers at 217-518-2065 or bmathers@ilsos.net.

ILEAD U teams, mentors, instructors selected

Seven teams of Illinois library employees have been selected for ILEAD U — Illinois Libraries Explore. Apply and Discover: The 21st Century Technology Tools Institute along with mentors and instructors who will facilitate the program. The primary goal of ILEAD U is to help library staff understand and respond to user needs through the application of participatory technology tools. This year, funding for ILEAD U is provided through the Secretary of State/Illinois State Library using federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

- Chicago Public Library 5.2 Team
  - Kimberly Hagen
  - Sarah Holtcamp
  - Anthony E. Powers
  - William Sumner
  - Lynn White

- FATE Team
  - Laura Antonil
  - Evanston Public Library
  - Triba Connolly
  - Washington Elementary School

- Tracy Hubbard, Dr. Bessie Rhodes School of Global Studies
  - Renee Neumaver, Evanston Public Library
  - Katrina Philips, Nichols Middle School

- Hard Core Organizers for the Common Educator Team
  - Marcia Brandt, Hinscher CUSD 82
  - Rachele Isola, St. Patrick High School

- Library Board of Directors
  - Dr. Jack Seifert, Wheaton College
  - Josh Mike, Beebe Elementary
  - Brian Pichman, Evolve Project
  - Sarah Sagmoen, U of I Springfield

- ILEAD U Instructors
  - David Ackerman, Waterloo Community
  - Terry Huttlock, Wheaton College
  - Josh Mike, Beebe Elementary

- Lynne Priest, Arlington Heights Memorial

- Lyric Poetry
  - Steve Packman, Lyric Poetry

- Sheryl Siedert, Chenoa Public Library
  - Salvador Vergara, Instituto Cervantes
  - Shauna Maures, Skokie Public Library

- Tablet Team
  - Rachael Dabkey, LaGrange Public

- Lyrme Priest, Arlington Heights Memorial

- Sheryl Siedert, Chenoa Public Library
  - Salvador Vergara, Instituto Cervantes
  - Shauna Maures, Skokie Public Library

- ILEAD U Mentors
  - Richard Darga, Chicago State University
  - Daniel Hughes, Glen Carbon Centennial
  - Terry Huttlock, Wheaton College
  - John White, Illinois State Library

- Carrie Donovan, University of Wisconsin

- Sarah Holtcamp

- Michael Sumner

- Lynn White

For more information, please contact Debra Aggertt at daggertt@ilsos.net

ILinois Edge Initiative Resource webpage

The State Library has announced a new webpage as a one-stop location for all the resources and answers to your questions regarding the new Edge Initiative: Learn about the Edge Initiative, how public libraries will benefit, the Edge benchmarks, toolkit and workbook, and view a listing of the 26 soft launch libraries in Illinois. The Edge Resource page at www.findillinois.org/edge/Resource-Page.htm provides resources to help you comply with FY14 Public Library Per Capita Grant technology requirements:

- At least one library staff member and at least one board member must attend an informational webinar or in-person session about the Edge Initiative. Information is forthcoming about webinars, in-person sessions and other tools.
- The library staff must claim the library’s account at www.libraryedge.org.
- The library staff must print and review The Edge Assessment Workbook at www.libraryedge.org/sites/default/files/Edge_Assessment_Workbook.pdf.
- Although not an FY14 requirement, the library staff and board may complete The Edge Initiative assessment in FY15.

For more information, please contact Debra Aggertt at daggertt@ilsos.net

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- **Standards Chapter Review**

- **Education and Training**
  At least one member of the library staff must attend one instructional course from one of the library systems or the Illinois State Library.

- **Technology**
  1) At least one member of the library staff and at least one board member must attend an informational webinar or in-person session about The Edge Initiative. Information is forthcoming about webinars, in-person sessions and other tools.
  2) The library staff must claim the library's account at <http://www.libraryedge.org>.

### Illinois receives MOE waiver

The Institute of Museums and Library Services has granted the Illinois State Library a waiver from the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirement for federal fiscal year 2014. In Illinois, federal FY14 funding will be used in state FY15. The successful outcome of the waiver request means that FY14 federal LSTA funding must be reallocated to support libraries in Illinois that will not see a reduction proportional to recent cuts to state funding for libraries.

Congress could still act to reduce federal funding to all libraries in FY14, but the IMLS decision to grant the State Library's request for the MOE waiver means there will be no reduction targeted specifically at Illinois' LSTA Grants to States Allotment.

This is the third consecutive year the State Library has requested and received a waiver from the MOE requirement, and the State Library is very appreciative of these favorable decisions. LSTA funding supports State Library programs such as adult literacy projects, services for the visually impaired and grant programs to local libraries throughout the state. For more information, contact Karen Egan at kegan@ilsos.net.

### eRead Illinois

A grant provided by the Secretary of State/Illinois State Library will allow TBBS users access to eRead Illinois, a digital collection of electronic books. eRead Illinois features new releases and popular titles in adult, young adult and juvenile fiction and nonfiction that may not be available in the library's regular collection, including some in Spanish. Although not compatible with the NLS digital player, these books may be downloaded to a patron's mobile device, e-book tablet or Windows computer.

Every stage of eRead Illinois — from finding books, checking them out and reading them — is designed to be accessible for everyone, including those with visual disabilities. Text tools on eRead Illinois will make it easier for patrons to search for books, read books, and navigate books. The Illinois State Library is working with the National Federation of the Blind to work with the leading screen-reading technologies and refreshable braille displays.

### State Library staff news

Patricia Norris, associate director at the State Library, has been named the thirty-second Illinois Library Luminary. Luminary comprising the Illinois Library Association's roll of honor are individuals who have made a significant contribution to Illinois libraries, and have been recognized by their peers.

Kyle Peebles has joined the Illinois State Library staff as the new Communication manager.

Amy Joseph has joined the TBBS circulation operation.

Reference assistant Frances (Francie) LaCamera retired in March following nearly 40 years of outstanding service with the State Library.

### FY15 Per Capita, Equalization Aid Grant requirements


2) Although not a FY15 requirement, the library staff and board may complete The Edge Initiative assessment in FY2015.

3) Trustees

All members of the library board must analyze the library's current budget to determine whether revenues and expenditures are sufficient. Based on information from the analysis and the library's FY14 Environmental Scan, describe the library's fiscal climate and needs for serving the community.

4) Additional requirement for libraries that did not apply for a Per Capita and Equalization Grant in FY14

The library board and staff must complete an Environmental Scan of the community. Additional information on an Environmental Scan is available at <http://www.cyberdrivellinois.com/departments/library/grants/plpc_equalization.html>.

### Secretary White awards more construction grants

Secretary of State and Librarian Jesse White continues to travel throughout Illinois to distribute Public Library Construction Act Grant awards. The matching grants assist public libraries with major construction projects.

Awards to date have included 15 projects for newly constructed buildings, four projects to remodel existing library buildings and two disaster-relief projects.

“Public libraries are the cornerstones of our communities,” said Secretary White. “The Public Library Construction Act Grant Program allows my office to allocate as much as $50 million to libraries throughout Illinois. Together with funds generated locally, we are ensuring that these public libraries continue to fulfill the informational needs of their patrons. I commend the recipients on their efforts to obtain a grant through this important public library construction program.”

Glen Ellyn Public Library received a $157,000 grant to replace and repair portions of the library that were affected by flood damage last spring. The DeKalb Public Library (see page 2) received $11 million for remodeling the current library and building an addition. The Sandwich District (see page 2) was awarded $1.5 million for the construction of a new library.

The Public Library Construction Act Grant Program is part of a $31 billion capital construction program approved in 2009 by the Governor and the General Assembly. A total of $50 million was appropriated for permanent capital improvements to public libraries in FY13.

Joining Secretary White at a construction grant award ceremony at the Glen Ellyn Public Library were (left to right) library trustees Mary Woodworth, Gena Meyers and Bob McIvor; state Rep. Sandra Pihos (D-Glen Ellyn), library Director Donna Bussey and library trustee Randolph Sailor. The library received a $157,470 grant to replace and repair portions of the library damaged by flooding last spring.