

Continuing Education in Relation to the Use of LSTA Funding

This memo is based on guidance provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, October 9, 2007.

“Although the LSTA Grants-to-States program is administered at the state level, it is a federal program and the priorities represent the federal interest in library development within the states. The federal funds for this program and the SLAA’s (*State Library’s*) matching funds may be expended only on programs and services that address one or more of the six federal priorities. This program is not intended to, nor can it, meet all the needs of libraries in a state.”

The use of LSTA funds for training librarians is allowable only in so far as the training is integral to preparing librarians to develop, expand, deliver, or promote services and programs to library users and other targeted groups. The training must support the [six federal priorities](#) as outlined in LSTA (20 U.S.C. 9141).

The LSTA program is not directed at the generic training of library staff, trustees, or volunteers. The Institute of Museum and Library Services holds the position that in order to deliver the services explained in the six federal priorities, library staff, and (where relevant) other library-related individuals, may need to receive training so that they can develop and deliver those services.

The use of LSTA funds to train library staff, trustees, or volunteers in other areas of librarianship goes well beyond the intent of the LSTA program priorities and are not allowable. Other funding must be used to support these trainings.

IMPORTANT - Applicants seeking LSTA funds must associate the proposed training with at least one of the six federal priorities as listed within the CE application and provide an explanation of how the proposed training will support one or more of these priorities and develop, expand, deliver, or promote library services and programs to the users of the library or other targeted groups.