

Washington State Library

Maintenance of Effort for Federal Funds

The Washington State Library (WSL) receives an annual federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) award of approximately \$3,582,700 to support library services to unserved, underserved and vulnerable populations, as well as for the support and development of libraries of all types in Washington.

To receive these funds, WSL must meet Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements. MOE is based specifically on the expenditure of state funds by the State Library in areas that meet LSTA priorities. If WSL does not meet the MOE requirement, federal funds will be reduced in proportion to state funds. MOE varies slightly each year but is approximately \$1,845,000 annually.

Continued cuts in state funds for the State Library have lowered the program expenditures traditionally used for MOE to approximately \$741,000, a 60% reduction. State Library staff have scrambled to identify other activities eligible for MOE. Some of these may be questionable such as program administration. At the moment, we believe that MOE for FY10 is covered. What is left are areas that do not qualify as MOE.

Further reductions in funding for the State Library will impact the receipt of federal funding. The consequence is that library services to vulnerable and underserved residents throughout the state will be reduced as federal funds are cut.

For every \$1.00 of Washington State Library funding required for Maintenance of Effort, Washington State receives approximately \$1.94 of federal LSTA funding in return.