

GATHERING IDEAS 2009
09-GI-003

Project Name Targeted-Competitive Innovative Technology Grants

Library, group, or person submitting proposal Gary C. Bortel

Library Name, if different Washington State Library, Library Development

1. Briefly describe your idea for the use of LSTA funding (limit your response to approximately ½ page):

The Washington State Library will offer targeted competitive grants for the development of innovative technology projects of potentially statewide impact. Grant awards will not exceed \$10,000, with a required 25% match from participating libraries. In addition, a means for the dissemination of “lessons learned” will be a required component for successful competition. It is envisioned that LSTA funding for this grant cycle not exceed \$100,000.

Successful grant proposals will include the use of innovative technologies, methods and strategies in meeting the direct needs of patrons. Projects should target:

- Increasing access to quality information for the people of Washington;
- Educating, empowering and elevating people, communities, and democratic society by providing free and equitable access to all types of information;
- Serving underserved, unserved, and culturally diverse communities and populations;

2. Briefly describe why funding of this idea is important to the Washington library community (limit your response to approximately ½ page):

In a time of shrinking budgets, rising costs and expanding patron expectations from their information sources, it is imperative that libraries be provided a means to explore new modes and methodologies of service delivery, while limiting the impact to their existing budgets. The Library 2.0 movement continually suggests new technologies for addressing patron needs, yet many libraries lack the financial resources to explore the application of these models in local, real-world settings. Funding this grant cycle will allow the development of innovative programs based on emerging technologies that will potentially impact the delivery of services to patrons statewide.

3. Briefly describe the outcome that is expected should the idea be funded. In other words, how will we know if the project has been successful and has achieved its goals? (limit your response to approximately ½ page):

- A minimum of ten grant proposals representing a mix of library types will be funded and successfully completed;
- Successful proposals will demonstrate a wide variety of innovative technologies to meet the evolving informational needs of patrons and communities;
- Results of these projects will be broadly disseminated by participants and made available to the Washington library constituency.

General Information

Which library types are intended as the primary beneficiaries of this project? (check all that apply)

Academic (private and public two-year and four-year academic institutions)

Public (libraries organized under RCW 27.12)

School (private and public K-12 schools)

Special (business and industry, law, medical, other government, tribal, other)

If other, specify: _____

The intended beneficiaries of the project? (check the primary beneficiary)

Library staff

Library users or potential library users

A specific group of staff or users, or a potential user group. Name the target beneficiaries(s): _____

(e.g., children, adults, disadvantaged, remote access library users, unserved community members, reference staff, IT staff, students)

The activities needed to implement this project are envisioned to include (check all that apply):

User training

Staff training

Grants

Development of best practices

Demonstration of emerging technology or practices

Other, please explain: _____

Considering the outcome desired, how long should the project continue? _____
(Note that most projects are from one year to four years in length.)

Which Library Council priorities support the idea you are submitting (check all that apply)

Increase information access for the people of Washington

Advance literacy in the state of Washington

Demonstrate how libraries educate, empower and elevate people, communities, and democratic society by providing free and equitable access to all types of information.

Serve underserved, unserved, and culturally diverse communities and populations

Enhance the skills and knowledge of library staff

Preserve library collections

Library Council of Washington
Gathering Ideas for Future Statewide Projects
FY2009 Process