

Assistive Technology 2008 Grants

The purpose of this grant cycle is to assist with the acquisition of technology to enable library users with special needs to access library resources and services. Support for this grant cycle is from IMLS LSCA Title II funding.

Grants ranging from \$500–\$5,000 will be made to public library systems to purchase assistive technology, such as text enlarging workstations, voice activated information retrieval, synthetic speech access and telecommunication devices, for persons with visual and hearing impairments.

Grant: 08-AT-001 **Award:** \$1,050.00
Organization: San Juan Island Library
Title: Audio Players for Low Vision Patrons

Abstract: This proposal is to purchase audio playback machines for persons with low vision or blindness. These items would allow persons with vision disabilities to navigate audio books more easily due to features such as large buttons and the ability to bookmark where they left off reading.

Grant: 08-AT-002 **Award:** \$5,000.00
Organization: The Seattle Public Library
Title: Enhanced Vision: CCTV Access for Visually Impaired Library Patrons

Abstract: The Library Equal Access Program (LEAP) at The Seattle Public Library's Central Library provides services and assistive technology for library patrons with disabilities and special needs. This grant will replace LEAP's two technically-failing Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) text-magnification systems with new equipment, allowing LEAP to continue to serve the information and practical life needs of Seattle's growing visually impaired population.

Grant: 08-AT-003 **Award:** \$5,000.00
Organization: Whatcom County Library System
Title: Assistive Listening Devices

Abstract: The Whatcom County Library System (WCLS) lacks assistive listening devices for the hearing impaired. Patrons who have any hearing impairment are at a disadvantage when attending programs offered by WCLS. Assistive listening devices will help alleviate and accommodate some of those disadvantages and disabilities.

Grant: 08-AT-004 **Award:** \$4,856.00
Organization: Sumner Library, Pierce County Library System
Title: Sumner Library Assistive Technology Equipment Acquisition

Abstract: With a higher than normal percentage of senior and disabled populations in its service area, the Sumner Pierce County Library will enhance its customer service to these populations by acquiring magnification equipment to specifically aid customers with low vision or sight impairments in their use of the library and its resources.