

Services to Libraries: Statewide Impact

The Washington State Library (WSL) is the only agency in Washington that is specifically designated by law to assist libraries and to ensure that residents of the entire state have access to library and information services. WSL achieves these goals using federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, offering projects, consulting services, grants, subsidies and training to improve libraries.

Examples of services include support for digital literacy programming, Microsoft Office training and industry-recognized certification, early literacy programming, professional grants, specialized training for library administration, circulating STEM kits, group cost-sharing for online databases, and 24/7 online reference support for college students and the general public.

Awards & Subsidies

230
Libraries awarded



-  Library grants
-  Databases
-  Digital services

Training Opportunities

2,302
individuals trained

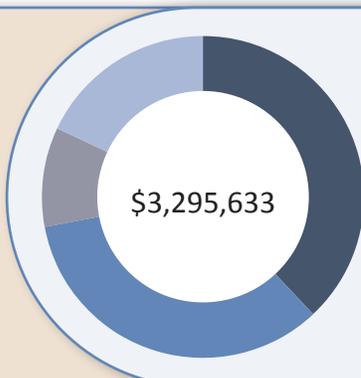
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Total Federal Funding



-  Statewide Projects
-  Awards & Subsidies
-  Washington Talking Book & Braille Library
-  Prison & Hospital Libraries



Approximately \$1.37 of federal LSTA funding is received to support libraries for each dollar of state funding.

Data from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016

Visit www.sos.wa.gov/library for more information



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Impact of LSTA Library Funding

Pierce County Library System (PCLS) used a Washington State Library Digital Literacy Grant to create an “Open Lab.” The lab prepares transitioning soldiers for success in civilian life by improving their technology skills, and finding new careers in a digital and evolving world. By offering technology training, network and database classes, and free Microsoft Technology Associate certification to prepare soldiers for civilian jobs, PCLS positioned itself as a leader in learning for soldiers, and has built new and deeper partnerships between the library and Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). Open Labs allowed PCLS and JBLM to partner in new and even more ways. PCLS is now an on-base presence at Stone Education Center, Hawks Transition Center, the VA, Camp Murray, JBLM libraries, and at countywide veterans events. Enrollment is over 1,400 and a total of 513 Microsoft Imagine Academy certifications have been earned.

In Bellingham, the library is seeking to increase its role as a community information resource for literacy and early learning trends. The State Library provided a Professional Development grant that allowed a Bellingham public librarian to attend the Thrive Symposium. Using the information learned at the Symposium, she adapted the state’s kindergarten readiness document to be more family friendly. The library added two new weekly storytime sessions that utilize the six domains of school readiness as outlined in the WA KIDS kindergarten guidelines. Librarian Julie Mauermann stated, “We know that not all families are comfortable in a formal school setting, so the library can serve as an additional avenue for families to access information about school. We will continue this work looking at how to make this information most available, including translation to other languages.”

In Kennewick, Legacy High School received a ‘Refreshing School Libraries’ grant for \$1,000 to purchase non-fiction books for their library. The students are loving the “cool new books” and are choosing them for research projects, book reports, and even their free reading time. Some of the books chosen were High Interest Publication (HIP) Books, which are designed for struggling readers. These books are very popular with the special services students.



The entrance to the Anacortes Public Library children’s area decorated to fit with the theme of the Collaborative Summer Library Program, Dig Into Reading (2013)