The Washington State Library (WSL) ensures that residents of the entire state have access to educational materials, research capabilities, and resources that change lives. WSL achieves these goals using federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, which are dependent on state matching funding, to offer consulting services, grants, subsidies, training, and other programs that improve libraries.

Awards & Subsidies
WSL provides funding to support local libraries through circulating STEM kits, professional development grants, digital literacy, early literacy programming, cost-sharing of online databases, and 24/7 online reference services.

$130,489

Training Opportunities
WSL provides training opportunities for the library staff and the public including Microsoft Office training and industry-recognized certification, professional development, and specialized training for library administration.

27 trainings
2,582 individuals trained

Training Programs & Partners

For every $1 of state funding, the state receives approximately $1.16 in additional federal LSTA funding to support libraries.

Data from October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2018, and Federal Fiscal Year 2018 budgets
Every year, WSL hosts a writing contest for students in grades 4-12 called Letters About Literature. This contest inspires reading and writing, and many teachers use it as a curriculum extension. In 2018, a student from this district won the Level 2 category, and three more were awarded honorable mention in the contest. This is a huge honor, culminating in an awards ceremony at the state capitol presided over by the Secretary of State. The event creates a lifelong memory for participating children. This year, the Level 2 winner went on to receive national recognition and will be honored at an awards ceremony at the Library of Congress.

The Washington State Library (WSL) is the only state agency specifically designated by law to assist local and regional libraries with library and information services. Below is just one example of how WSL has helped libraries in this district connect with communities and improve the quality of life for their patrons. This project and more, such as our new Lynda.com partnership, continue to drive our public libraries into the future.