

Washington State LSTA Five-Year Plan 1998–2002

This plan was developed in response to the planning requirement contained within the 1996 Library Services and Technology Act. It establishes goals and priorities for libraries in Washington state consistent with the purposes of the LSTA, and describes how federal funds will be used to advance library services. LSTA represented a significant departure from previous federal library programs, in that it concentrated on access to information by individuals at all types of libraries and emphasized the use of information technology to improve that access.

The development of the Statewide Plan for Libraries discussed in the previous section formed the basis for the LSTA Plan. The activities identified during the statewide forums were prioritized by WSACL and WSL staff and became the objectives supporting the LSTA plan's goals.

The vision outlined within the LSTA Five-Year Plan is the same as that incorporated within the Statewide Plan. The goals stated in the LSTA Plan relate directly to these visions, and in turn, these goals relate to the purposes of the LSTA. The goals within the LSTA Plan are:

- Goal 1: The people of Washington, whatever their age, ability, culture, ethnic background, language, level of literacy, economic situation or geographic location, will have effective library service that meets their needs.
- Goal 2: The people of Washington will have access to and the ability to use the wealth of electronic resources available through libraries.
- Goal 3: The people of Washington will have equitable, transparent access to all resources available through libraries.

A new LSTA Five-Year Plan is currently under development and will cover the federal fiscal years 2003–2007.