

# *Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners* 2009 STATE GRANT PROGRAM

## Resource Sharing Program

### FACT SHEET

#### Background

The Resource Sharing program provides an incentive for libraries that are members of the nine automated resource sharing networks to list their titles and holdings in a publicly accessible database, and to lend materials to users of other libraries. Resource Sharing was implemented statewide in 1998 with new Strategic Plan funding in account 7000-9506. Originally known as the “Virtual Catalog” program, its name was modified to avoid confusion after the actual Massachusetts Virtual Catalog system was deployed.

Resource Sharing, along with its companion Telecommunications for Resource Sharing grant, are the primary methods for providing ongoing state support to the automated resource sharing networks.

#### Purpose of this Grant Offering

The Resource Sharing Program provides an opportunity for the state to help offset the costs of libraries that share their materials with other libraries, both within their network, and beyond. The annual assessments that network member libraries pay are reduced with the help of these funds. Libraries, in turn, can show their funding authorities that there is a direct monetary benefit for their sharing materials, as well as the opportunity for their own users to have access to a much larger pool of resources. The program recognizes that libraries add their titles and holdings to a shared database, and that materials are loaned via the highly efficient means of technologies provided through their networks.

The grant program also completely offsets each network’s annual maintenance cost for participation in the Massachusetts Statewide Virtual Catalog System.

#### Scope of this Offering

##### **Procedures**

Each network will generate system reports showing the total bibliographic records (titles) and holdings records as of June 30, 2008. Each network will also document the previous year’s ILL lending activity.

- Titles - A title is an individual bibliographic record in the network database regardless of the format of the item. Authority control records and community I&R records are excluded from the count. Title records to which no holdings are attached may be counted. In FY08, networks reported 10.6 million titles.
- Holdings –Any holdings record is counted, regardless of format. Includes records that reflect periodical holdings. In FY08, 35 million holdings were reported.
- Electronically Facilitated ILL’s - Loans of material from one network member library to another where the loan is processed via the network’s systems. In FY08, 5.3 million items were loaned in this manner.

Within the ILL component, there are three types of transactions:

- Network Transfers - Loan of materials on request between member libraries in a single network. Include materials loaned to dial access or online affiliate libraries if the request is made through a hold, E-mail, or equivalent method on your system, as well as material loaned by member libraries of your network to libraries in other Massachusetts networks if the request is made through a hold, E-mail or equivalent method on your system. Transfers within a municipal public library system (i.e., from branch to branch, branch to main or main to branch) are not counted
- Virtual Catalog Loans - Loan of materials requested on the Statewide Virtual Catalog system.
- Point to Point Loans - Loan of materials amongst automated networks via email templates or similar mechanism, with the transaction taking place directly between the borrowing and lending libraries with no intermediary, and not facilitated by the Virtual Catalog.

The numbers provided are verified.

A base award is assigned to each network and the Virtual Catalog annual maintenance offset is added. Remaining funds are calculated according to a standard formula. In FY09, as in FY08, 50% of remaining funds will be applied to title counts, 20% to holdings, and 30% to ILL's.

### Eligible Applicants

The nine automated resource sharing networks are eligible to apply: CLAMS, C/W MARS, FLO, MBLN, Minuteman Library Network, MVLC, NOBLE, OCLN and SAILS.

### Application Process

Forms/memoranda sent to Networks and Eligible Regions	July 11, 2008
Applications due	August 25, 2008
Meet with Networks to discuss preliminary figures	Mid-September, 2008
Board votes grant awards	October 2008 Board Meeting

### Anticipated Funding

The amount of Resource Sharing funds available for FY08 is expected to be at least \$889,000.

This is a formula-driven grant program. If the total amount of funds available should change, the formula will be applied to derive the recommended award amounts to each grant recipient.

### To Apply

Complete the reporting forms for this program and submit to Rachel Devin at the MBLC offices, 98 North Washington St., Suite 401, Boston, MA 02114 by **4:00 PM on August 25, 2008**.

### Questions?

Questions about this grant program should be directed to Paul Kissman, Library Information Systems Specialist, at 617-725-1860 x238 or 800-952-7403.