

FACT SHEET

FY2010 Academic Library Incentive Grant

BACKGROUND

Libraries of all types are relying on grant opportunities more than ever to bring new services and resources to their constituents. This grant program is offered especially for the over 125 academic regional library members to encourage these valued participants in the multitype regional library systems to take advantage of this benefit of regional membership. Join your colleagues who have already completed or are about to complete grant projects to meet a variety of needs including but not limited to information ethics and plagiarism, building and showcasing collections and services to address new institutional missions, course and degree programs, redesigning information literacy based on the needs of a changing student body, and assessing and rethinking services, resources and facilities based on student and faculty input.

MASSACHUSETTS LONG RANGE PLAN

A library may focus on either of the following goals of the Massachusetts LSTA Long Range Plan 2008-2012:

Goal 2: Library users will have access to effective library and information services provided by well-trained and supported library staff.

Goal 3: All Massachusetts residents will be better prepared to meet life's challenges at school, in the workplace, and in their daily lives through access to programs and training that foster their development of information literacy skills and communication technology skills.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Funding under this grant is provided to help academic libraries carry out goals and objectives from their MBLC approved long-range plans. The project must include a significant program component to assure that the specific target population will be directly served by the grant. The grants may address the unique challenges that academic libraries face such as communication and collaboration within library departments, as well as across campus and with the outside community, instruction, collections and access, among others. A project may include measurement and assessment tools that address service quality, electronic resource usage, and outcomes assessment. A project may also address one or more of the following selection of "Top Ten Assumptions for the Future of Academic Libraries and Libraries" as well "emergent issues of concern" to the academic library community as described in the *ACRL Environmental Scan* (January 2008, http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/whitepapers/Environmental_Scan_2.pdf)

Assumptions:

- As part of the "business of higher education," students will increasingly view themselves as "customers" of the academic library and will demand high-quality facilities, resources, and services attuned to their needs and concerns.
- Debates about intellectual property will become increasingly common in higher education, and resources and educational programming related to intellectual property management will become an important part of library service to the academic community.
- Online learning will continue to expand as an option for students and faculty – both on campus and off – and libraries will gear resources and services for delivery to a distributed academic community.

Emerging Issues:

- Broader collaboration among academic, public, special and school librarians on topics of common concern.
- Library facilities and services growing increasingly integrated with research, teaching and learning programs across campus, including information technology and student services.
- Increasing collaboration between academic libraries and university publication programs as their roles become increasingly complementary.
- The shifting focus for academic libraries from the creation and management of large, on-site library collections to the design and delivery of library services.
- The tools and techniques of social computing providing new opportunities for the design and delivery of library resources and services but putting more of a burden on library staff and systems.
- The library's print materials will be moved from prime library space and relocated to off-site locations; space currently housing collections will be repurposed to support collaborative learning, new modes of research support, and interactive learning areas.
- Interdisciplinary studies, new models of undergraduate and graduate education, and newly developed areas of inquiry will stretch library resources and service models.

A total of three grants for \$5,000 will be funded under this competitive grant program.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Data, rationale and budget supporting use of grant funds are required.
- Applications require:
 - a significant program component to assure that the specific target population will be directly served,
 - measurable, outcome-based goals and objectives are important to a project's approval.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply for direct grants, an academic library must:

- Be a member of a regional library system;
- Have a long-range plan on file at the MBLC by October 1, 2008 that meets the requirements of the *Massachusetts Long-Range Plan, 2008-2012* and the *LSTA Policies and Procedures 2008-2012*. If a plan is already on file, an updated Action Plan for FY2010 must be postmarked to the MBLC by December 1, 2008;
- Attend a grant application workshop (January/February 2009) and, if awarded a grant, an awardees' training workshop in fall 2009;
- For libraries that received an MBLC LibQual+ grant in FY06-FY08, they may apply for an Academic Library Incentive Grant, but grant funds may not be used for an additional LibQual+ survey. Previous Academic Library Incentive Grant Awardees may not apply for this category.

INTERESTED?

Applicants must submit a **Letter of Intent** POSTMARKED by **December 1, 2008** with the "Academic Library Incentive Grant" option checked off under **TYPE**. An informational workshop to assist applicants in completing an application for this program will be held in January/February 2009. For additional information about this program, please contact Marlene Heroux at the MBLC at 800-952-7403, ext. 250 or by e-mail at marlene.heroux@state.ma.us