

Interlibrary Cooperation And Resource Sharing-- Grants To State Library Agencies (CFDA No. 84.035)

I. Legislation

Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA), Title III, (20 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) (expires September 30, 1997).

II. Funding History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
1967	\$375,000	1987	\$17,640,000
1970	2,281,000	1988	18,295,620
1975	2,594,000	1989	18,719,960
1980	5,000,000	1990	19,159,980
1981	12,000,000	1991	19,509,586
1982	11,520,000	1992	19,509,840
1983	11,520,000	1993	19,353,761
1984	15,000,000	1994	19,354,020
1985	17,640,000	1995	23,226,000
1986	16,881,000	1996	17,640,000

III. Analysis of Program Performance

A. Goals and Objectives

Title III (Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing) of the Library Services and Construction Act provides formula grants to the states to assist libraries with cooperative library networks and to promote resource sharing among public, academic, school, and special libraries. States may also use funds to develop the technological capacity of libraries for resource sharing, to support programs for the preservation of endangered library materials, and to reimburse school libraries for making their resources available to the public after school hours.

B. Strategies to Achieve the Goals

Services Supported

The state library agencies annually provide partial support for about 480 regional, state, and local cooperative library projects through subgrants to various government entities.

Historically, libraries have approached the opportunities to share resources in a somewhat similar manner, by identifying the location of materials and compiling that information into a master holdings list of books (union catalogs) and periodicals (union lists of serials) and then developing ways in which other libraries could borrow the materials (interlibrary loan). But the paper copies of the lists of materials had to be produced and distributed, and the sharing of materials on loan had to be physical; hence, their delivery often took several days or weeks. As new technologies became available, data

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were transferred to microfiche, CD-ROM, and now to online databases. Fax machines and computers now can provide almost instantaneous transmission of such information. The grants and subgrants support these services.

The 1990 reauthorization of the LSCA placed increasing emphasis on the development of the technological capacity of libraries for interlibrary cooperation and resource sharing. While some states are still building their databases, others use Title III funds to develop increasingly sophisticated integrated online systems that will connect to the "information superhighway." A number of states are already able to access the Internet and many others have plans to do so in the near future.

Strategic Initiatives

In FY 1995 the Department continued to work with state library administrative agencies to:

- Improve evaluation through training institutes for state directors and LSCA State Coordinators;
- Develop an automated information management system to collect data from the state annual reports;
- Foster more thorough long-range planning for statewide public library development through reviews of the LSCA long-range plan and annual update documents;
- Encourage active interest in the benefits of networks for all types of libraries, particularly in small communities with inadequate collections; and
- Monitor the statewide resource-sharing plans to determine whether they address the following major areas:
 - Providing bibliographic access to computerized databases and other communication systems for information exchange;
 - Developing delivery systems for exchanging materials among libraries;
 - Projecting computer and other technological needs for resource sharing; and
 - Analyzing and evaluating the state's library resource-sharing ideas.

C. Program Performance—Indicators of Impact and Effectiveness

Performance indicators are being developed.

IV. Sources of Information

1. State annual performance reports.
2. Program files.

V. Planned Studies

None.

VI. Contacts for Further Information

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