

LSTA ELIGIBILITY

Under the Library Services and Technology Act, the State Library has discretion over the eligibility of applicants, the qualification of projects and the award of funds. The general guidelines are outlined below:

1. The term “library” includes:
 - A public library;
 - An elementary or secondary school library;
 - An academic library;
 - A research library, which for the purposes of this subtitle means a library that makes publicly available library services and materials suitable for scholarly research and not otherwise available to the public; and is not an integral part of an institution of higher education.

2. A library should meet the following eligibility standards:
 - A written explicit mission statement and service objectives.
 - A fixed location in California.
 - Established hours of service.
 - An organized collection of information and materials accessible for use by its primary clientele.
 - Designated, onsite, paid staff for library services. At least one staff person shall have a master’s degree in library or information science or a California library media teacher credential issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. (Equivalent graduate education or demonstrated professional experience may be substituted for this requirement.)
 - An established funding base. (The local board of governance or the appropriate administrative authority shall agree for each academic library, public library, school library and special library, not to reduce funding for library services as a result of receiving a grant.)

The term “library consortium” means any local, statewide, regional, interstate or international cooperative association of library entities which provides for the systematic and effective coordination of the resources of school, public, academic and special libraries and information centers, for improved services for the clientele of such library entities.