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Date: February 2, 2015

To: California Public Library Directors
California County Law Library Directors

From: Greg Lucas, State Librarian

RE: Library Services and Technology Act Grants - Public Library Staff Education Program, Fiscal Year 2015-2016

We're pleased to announce the 2015-2016 Public Library Staff Education Program is now open to new applicants. This tuition reimbursement program was developed by a team of public library directors and California State Library staff to encourage existing staff members to pursue their Masters in Library and Information Science or a Library Support Staff Certification through the American Library Association.

Library employees who have successfully worked in a California public library or county law library for at least one year and will be or are currently enrolled in a masters or support staff certification program are eligible to apply. The program guidelines and application are available on our website at http://www.library.ca.gov/grants/lsta/apply.html. Deadline for application submission is **March 23, 2015**.

There is a competitive review process for all applications. Public Library Staff Education Program funds will be awarded to successful applicants for one academic year. Additional funding is possible in subsequent years. Please review the guidelines for limitations. Priority is given to past grant recipients who are continuing in their studies toward their master's degree or support staff certification. Applications for continuing students in the Public Library Staff Education Program can also be found at the website above. Cooperative Library Systems will continue to manage the reimbursement and reporting processes.

Thanks for your support of this program -- and your assistance in recruiting students who will be our future library leaders and innovators. Please direct questions about this program or the application process to Lena Pham at (916) 651-0376 or lena.pham@library.ca.gov.

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