



April 3, 2014

TO: California Public Library Directors
FROM: Gerry Maginnity, Acting State Librarian
RE: Books4U 2014 – Common Core

We are excited to announce that LSTA funds will once again be made available this year for California's public libraries to purchase new print materials. Following the success of last year's Books4U program, we remain keenly aware that collections need to be bolstered throughout the State. The focus of this year's program is to support the Common Core curriculum by strengthening your fiction and non-fiction collections for students, educators and parents.

We will again be partnering with CALIFA, who as the grant recipient will handle the payment of invoices commencing with the release of this memo. This year \$5,000 allocations are being provide for each public library jurisdiction. Based on last year's experiences and in an effort to expedite the process we are limiting purchases to a select list of vendors.

For your convenience, we are attaching here a suggested book list of more than 400 fiction and nonfiction titles that have been recommended by one or more librarians and/or educators who are experts on the Common Core. The list includes publisher, publication date, general subject, reading levels, and lexile level, which is a number that attempts to match a student's reading ability to the difficulty of a text. You are not required to select materials specifically from this list and also included are selection criteria to assist your collection development decisions.

Please see the attached the forms that are required for CALIFA to process invoices for your awarded allocation. In an effort to reduce paperwork like last year only a one page report is required for you to explain the benefit these materials will make for your library community. No invoices will be processed until the attached report is submitted to CALIFA.

PLEASE NOTE: The **deadline** for placing orders with vendors is **June 30, 2014** and the **deadline to submit the final report** to CALIFA is **July 15, 2014**. Your purchases **may be ineligible** under Books4U if you **do not** meet these deadlines.

For questions on order procedures & report forms, please contact Wayne Walker, wwalker@califa.org, (650) 356-2125

For questions on Common Core, please contact Cindy Mediavilla, Cindy.Mediavilla@library.ca.gov, (310) 915-8588

For questions on the overall program, please contact Darla Gunning, Darla.Gunning@library.ca.gov, (916) 651-0985

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