

LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT (LSTA) - Finances

As we approach the end of the federal fiscal year, we have a larger balance than usual in FY2008 LSTA funds. Two contributing factors are that we received fewer competitive grant requests than expected, and we over-estimated the amount needed to cover LiLI Unlimited cataloging costs (more libraries than we expected joined to help defray the costs). If Idaho does not expend these funds, they revert to the Institute of Museum and Library Services for proportional distribution to the other states.

Currently, funding for LiLI Unlimited is split among local, state, and a small amount of federal funds. I have proposed to staff that we use FY2008 LSTA funds to pay up to 34% of this year's (SFY2010) LiLI Unlimited state and local portions. 25% would total \$202,300, and 34% would total \$273,100 in LSTA funds. This would give all participating libraries a 1-time savings in their cataloging costs at a time many are experiencing budget cuts. It would also free up a little more in our FY2010 state operating budget while keeping the majority of the LiLI U resource sharing support in the state general fund.

LiLI Unlimited is already part of our LSTA state plan, and we have sufficient spending authority in the federal operating expenditure category to make this payment.

Toward the end of any federal fiscal year when we have an unexpended balance, we typically move smaller amounts of LSTA funds among projects and/or add projects from a waiting list without Board approval. I'm bringing the current situation to your attention now for two reasons:

- The amount of money involved is larger than usual, and
- If we implement the above proposal, we must get revised billing information to the vendor by July 17.