



325 West State Street  
Boise, Idaho 83702

p. 208.334.2150 | 800.458.3271  
f. 208.334.4016

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release:** February 24, 2011

**Information Contacts:**

Shirley Biladeau, Idaho Commission for Libraries, 208-334-2150 or [shirley.biladeau@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:shirley.biladeau@libraries.idaho.gov)

Teresa Lipus, Idaho Commission for Libraries, 208-334-2150 or [teresa.lipus@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:teresa.lipus@libraries.idaho.gov)

### **Financial Assistance for Library Support Staff Certification**

BOISE, ID – Financial assistance will be granted to four Idaho library support staff members who wish to become candidates for the Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) program. The LSSC Program offers library employees the opportunity to enhance library service and increase their skills in areas such as technology and communication. This national certification will also provide a tool for library support staff members to document their experience and skills as they seek future employment, and will travel with them regardless of geographic location.

The LSSC Registration Assistance Awards are for \$175, which is one-half of the LSSC registration/application fee. Award recipients will be asked to pay the remainder of the registration fee with their own funds or funds obtained from other sources. Support staff members from all types of libraries are invited to apply. To be eligible to participate in LSSC, applicants must have a high school degree or its equivalent and have worked for the equivalent of one year (1820 hours) as a library staff member or volunteer within the last five years.

An application form to apply for the Registration Assistance Awards is available at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/lssc>. The deadline to submit the application is April 30, 2011. Recipients will be notified by May 15, 2011.

The LSSC program is funded by a grant to the American Library Association (ALA) from the Institute for Museum and Library Services and is managed by the ALA-Allied Professional Association. The LSSC Registration Assistance Awards will be offered through the Idaho Commission for Libraries this spring. “The Commission is pleased to offer this opportunity for professional development to Idaho library support staff,” said State Librarian Ann Joslin. “We are confident that this certification will benefit library support staff and the customers they serve.”

Detailed information on LSSC is available at <http://ala-apa.org/lssc/>.

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#### **ABOUT IDAHO COMMISSION FOR LIBRARIES**

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele. To learn more about ICfL, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/>.