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NEWS RELEASE

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Financial Aid Available for Library Support Staff Certification

BOISE, ID –The Idaho Commission for Libraries is offering financial assistance to library support staff for the American Library Association’s (ALA) Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) Program. Support staff members from all types of libraries are invited to apply. The LSSC Program offers library employees a new career path in the library profession and the opportunity to achieve recognition for their experience, enhance library service, and increase skills and knowledge in areas such as the foundations of librarianship, technology, and communication.

The Commission will offer four Enrollment Assistance Awards (EAAs) this spring. The Awards are for \$175, one-half of the LSSC enrollment/application fee. Award recipients will be asked to pay the remainder of the enrollment fee with their own funds or funds obtained from other sources. To be eligible to participate in LSSC and receive an EAA, applicants must have a high school degree or its equivalent and have worked for the equivalent of one year (1,820 hours) as a library staff member or volunteer within the last five years.

Application deadline is March 15. An application form is available on the Commission’s website at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/lssc>. The recipients of the Award will be notified in early April 2013. Please contact Shirley Biladeau at the Commission with questions.

Detailed additional information on LSSC is available on the LSSC website: www.ala-apa.org/lssc. The LSSC Program is funded by a grant to ALA from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, and managed by the ALA-Allied Professional Association. ALA has offered EAAs in the past, but with the ending of the federal grant that supports them, these will be the last Awards offered under this grant.

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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/>.