

# **2013-2014 Elementary School Library Access to Books Grant Package**

## **Grant Summary**

State funding has been allocated through the legislative process through the Idaho Commission for Libraries' (ICfL) Read to Me program to help increase access to print for Idaho's youngest students. The amount of reading done in homes is the single most important factor in developing children's literacy skills. Research shows that if children are not reading on grade level by the end of first grade, there's only a one in eight chance they will ever catch up without costly direct intervention. Providing access to hundreds of age-appropriate quality books through school library lending programs is one of the most cost-effective strategies used to increase literacy skills. Funds from this program can be used to purchase books to help ensure that access to materials starts from the beginning of children's schooling. This grant program has three primary goals:

- 1) Increase the amount of reading done in homes of children in developmental preschool programs, kindergarten, and first grade.
- 2) Increase access to age-appropriate quality nonfiction and fiction titles in elementary school libraries.
- 3) Increase the number of children reading on grade level.

## **Grant Eligibility**

Applications will be ranked by the number of students eligible for free and reduced lunches and IRI scores. Schools that have children enrolled in district special education developmental preschool programs on school grounds and agree to check out books to these children to take home will be ranked highest. We would like to see school libraries funded throughout the state so geographical distribution will be taken into consideration while ranking applications. School districts can have more than one elementary school apply. Schools that received mini-grant funds from ICfL last year are not eligible to apply again for at least five years.

## **Grant Deadlines**

Applications are due June 3, 2013. Funds will be awarded by September 13, 2013 and need to be spent by March 15, 2014.

## **Grant Application Instructions**

Applications, with original signatures, must be mailed to Stephanie Bailey-White at the Idaho Commission for Libraries, 325 W. State St. Boise ID 83702, and received by June 3, 2013. Applicants will be notified as to their status by email by June 28, 2013.

## Elementary School Library Access to Books Mini-Grant Application

### A. Applicant Information

Name of Applying Elementary School: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person/Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone (if we need to get in touch with you over the summer): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

School email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home email: \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Needs Statement

1. Please describe your school and indicate what grades your school serves, total number of students, and anything else you'd like to note about your school's or library's needs:

Grades Served: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Students Enrolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Other info about your school:

2. Percentage of students in your school who are eligible for free and reduced lunches (Stats by school name can be found at the following web address: [www.sde.idaho.gov/site/cnp/statisticsFinance/](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/cnp/statisticsFinance/). Select the district document first, then scroll down to your school name):

Free Lunch: \_\_\_\_\_% Reduced Lunch \_\_\_\_\_%

3. Please complete the following table regarding IRI scores at your school. (Stats by school name can be found at the following web address: <https://apps.sde.idaho.gov/IRI/PublicReports/PublicReport.aspx>. Select the 2012-2013 Fall IRI Scores in the report menu.)

**Table 1: Your School's Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI) Scores for Fall 2012:**

<b>KINDERGARTEN:</b>	# Students	%	<b>FIRST GRADE:</b>	# Students	%
Benchmark	_____	_____	Benchmark	_____	_____
Strategic	_____	_____	Strategic	_____	_____
Intensive	_____	_____	Intensive	_____	_____
<b>SECOND GRADE:</b>	# Students	%	<b>THIRD GRADE:</b>	# Students	%
Benchmark	_____	_____	Benchmark	_____	_____
Strategic	_____	_____	Strategic	_____	_____
Intensive	_____	_____	Intensive	_____	_____

Note: If your school is very small, actual numbers may not be listed on the IRI website. Please indicate percentages or other indicators here:

4. How many books per week were kindergarteners allowed to check out from your library to take home during the 2012-2013 school year?

Fall 2012 semester \_\_\_\_\_ Spring 2013 semester \_\_\_\_\_

5. How many books per week were first graders allowed to check out from your library to take home during the 2012-2013 school year?

Fall 2012 semester \_\_\_\_\_ Spring 2013 semester \_\_\_\_\_

6. Does your school have a special education developmental preschool program on school grounds?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes                      \_\_\_\_\_ No

7. If so, are those students allowed to check out school library books to take home?

**C. School Budget Information**

8. What was the total dollar amount of your book budget from your school district during the 2012-2013 school year? \$\_\_\_\_\_

9. What funds from other sources did you have for library books during the 2012-2013 school year? Please include source and amount of funds in the table below:

Table 2: Your School's Funding Source/s for Library Books

Source:	Amount:
1.	
2.	
3.	

10. Total book budget for 2012-2013 school year: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

11. Grant Amount Requested: (select the amount best suited to your school's needs):

\_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000      \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,000      \_\_\_\_\_ \$3,000      \_\_\_\_\_ \$4,000      \_\_\_\_\_ \$5,000

#### D. Grant Requirements

**If your school is awarded grant funds, the following requirements will need to be met by your school by the end of the grant period (September 13, 2013 to March 15, 2014). Please check and initial each requirement.**

\_\_\_\_\_ All kindergarten students will be allowed to check out more than one book per week starting in their first semester of school.

\_\_\_\_\_ If your school has a developmental preschool program on school grounds, all children enrolled in that program will be allowed to check out more than one book a week starting in their first semester of school.

\_\_\_\_\_ Students in all grades will be allowed to check out nonfiction books.

\_\_\_\_\_ All grant funds will be spent on age-appropriate books for pre-K, Kindergarten or 1<sup>st</sup> grade students. Funds can be spent on fiction or nonfiction books, but at least 40 percent of the funds must be spent on nonfiction books. Age-appropriate titles for these grade levels needs to take into account the interest level for young children and include primarily good quality, read-aloud titles for family members to read to students in these grades, not necessarily reading levels of K-1 students.

\_\_\_\_\_ Accelerated Reader tests are not an allowable purchase with these grant funds.

\_\_\_\_\_ School library representative will participate in an introductory one-hour webinar in September and a mid-way, check-in meeting via conference call or webinar in December.

\_\_\_\_\_ Grantee will complete both an interim grant report (due in December) and a final grant report (due by April 19, 2014).

\_\_\_\_\_ Grantee will be well-prepared for both grant reports by tracking grant information throughout the grant period. Interim and final reports will ask for a list of fiction and nonfiction titles and costs purchased with grant funds, circulation statistics by grade level (when possible), and feedback on changes in circulation practices.

\_\_\_\_\_ ICfL staff members anticipate conducting a site visit at each grant recipient school during the year. Grantees will work with ICfL staff to plan a site visit as needed.

**Original Signatures of School Authorizing Officials:**

In signing this application, we agree to follow the grant requirements listed above.

Signature of Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Please print name of principal \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_

Please print name of superintendent \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of School Library Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Please print name of school library rep \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Developmental Preschool Teacher or Coordinator:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please print name \_\_\_\_\_