

HOW IMLS AND LSTA FUNDING HELPS COLORADO LIBRARIES, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS



COLORADO
Department of Education

IMLS IS THE MAIN FUNDING SOURCE FOR MORE THAN 40 DIFFERENT LIBRARY SERVICES AND PROGRAMS IN COLORADO.

Colorado receives \$2.8 million from IMLS for LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act). This is roughly 2/3 of the State Library's operational total. State funds make up the other 1/3.

LSTA funding supports most State Library services for Colorado libraries including the Colorado Talking Book Library; the Library Research Service; early learning programs; professional development programs for school library staff; library leadership and trustee support; institutional libraries; digital collection and technology solutions; state publications.

Besides funding these ongoing projects that enhance library services statewide, LSTA has been used to support the creation of many familiar regional programs such as [AspenCat](#), the Marmot / Prospector catalog link, and other local projects to improve literacy, learning, collections, adult and teen services including the [Storyblocks.org](#) website and [Colorado Summer Learning Program](#).

LOSS OF IMLS ELIMINATES OR SEVERELY REDUCES THESE SERVICES

LITERACY PROGRAMS FOR LIBRARIES AND THE PUBLIC

- Check Out Colorado State Parks program
- Early literacy research, summer learning, and other programs
- Professional development for library staff
- One Book 4 Colorado: 75,000 books to 4-year olds statewide to encourage reading
- Summer reading programs: encourage children of all ages, teens, and adults to read and learn for fun and to prevent summer learning loss

PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY STAFF

- Career Online High School: HS diploma and career opportunity
- Highly Effective School Library Program
- K-12 training and resources
- Professional development, standards, consulting, research
- STEM support
- Workshops for library trustees, directors, staff, and help with legal issues

WHAT IS IMLS AND LSTA*?

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) manages the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), also called the Grants to States program. It is the largest source of federal funding support for library services in the U.S.

Using a population based formula, more than \$160 million is distributed to State Library Administrative Agencies (SLAAs, or state libraries) every year.

For more than 50 years the Library Services and Technology Act Grants to States program and its predecessor programs under the federal Museum and Library Services Act (20 U.S.C. 9101) have supported the delivery and improvement of library services in the U.S.

While the law has undergone numerous reauthorizations of time, the basic function of the program, which merges federal priorities with state-defined needs, continues to this day.

Approximately ten percent of Colorado grants to states funds in recent years have supported library services for the blind and physically handicapped. The program funds are also used to meet the needs of the current and future library workforce.

* www.ims.gov/grants/grants-states



LIBRARY LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Consulting and professional development for public library boards, directors, middle managers
- Creation and Learning website
- CSL in Session: web-based learning programs
- Facilitation of strategic planning, financial strategies, policy development and implementation
- Online and in-person learning: 400+ workshops, webinars, presentations, etc. (2017)
- Public and school library standards
- Regional and statewide training

LIBRARY RESEARCH SERVICE

- Data collection, analysis, and guidance in understanding data use in libraries
- Elimination of Library Research Service
- Library Jobline –free service connecting libraries and job seekers
- Research Institute for Public Libraries (RIPL)

COLORADO TALKING BOOK LIBRARY

- Free audio, braille, and large print books for people who cannot read standard print
- Reduction of 9% of budget and loss of 7 staff will severely compromise daily service
- Services to 6,500 active individual patrons and 536 organizations
- Turnaround of 759,078 physical items and 65,293 digital downloads in FY2017

DIGITAL COLLECTION & TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

- Colorado Historic Newspapers: 1M+ pages of free online historic newspapers
- Colorado Virtual Library: access to resources for library staff and the public and Book Club
- SWIFT: interlibrary loan platform for more than 300 libraries
- Website creation and hosting, *Plains to Peaks* DPLA hub

LIBRARIES IN STATE INSTITUTIONS

- Family literacy program for parents in state prisons to record books for their child(ren)
- Loss of 15,000 books, magazines to support education, literacy, and re-entry
- Loss of 8,000 donated books, magazines for students, veterans, patients, and prisoners
- Technical assistance and professional development to managers and 49 staff at 37 facilities

STATE PUBLICATIONS LIBRARY

- Free permanent public access to state government documents
- Collection of over 134,000 documents, circulating 196,147 print and digital items
- Digital repository and blog supporting 267,000 patron interactions annually
- Funding loss compromises government transparency and access to government information

Where can I learn more?

- State Library website: www.ColoradoStateLibrary.org
- State Library's Annual Report on LSTA use www.lrs.org/annual-report
- Colorado's LSTA five-year plan: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/lsta>