

IMLS Funding Opportunities

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Who are we?

- IMLS is an independent federal grant-making agency and the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums.
- The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) helps ensure that all Americans have access to museum, library, and information services.

What do we do?

 We advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development.





Library Funding Programs

Annually, September

- National Leadership Grants for Libraries
- Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program

Annually, Spring

- Native American Library Services
- Native Hawaiian Library Services



LEADING forum attendees, RE-246450-OLS-20, Photo courtesy of "Metadata Research Center, College of Computing and Informatics, Drexel University"



National Leadership Grants for Libraries (NLG)

National Leadership Grants for Libraries (NLG) support projects that address critical needs of the library and archives fields and have the potential to advance practice ... Projects are expected to generate results such as new models, new tools, research findings, services, practices, and/or alliances that can be widely used, adapted, scaled, or replicated to extend and leverage the benefits of federal investment.

Characteristics of successful proposals include: national impact, current significance, strategic collaborations, and demonstrated expertise.



Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program

The Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program (LB21) is designed to support the development of a diverse workforce of librarians and archivists in order to meet the information needs of their communities.

Characteristics of successful proposals include: broad impact; current significance; strategic collaborations; demonstrated expertise; and diversity, equity, and inclusion.



Funding Categories



Photo Courtesy of Stanford University, LG-35-19-0012-19, Lighting the Way Forum

Funding Category	NLG and LB21	Project Period
Planning	\$50,000 - \$150,000	1-2 years
Forum	\$50,000 - \$150,000	1-2 years
Implementation	\$50,000 - \$1,000,000	1-3 years
Applied Research	\$50,000 - \$750,000	1-3 years

Funding Categories

Funding Category	Sample Activities
Planning	Exploratory activities; analyzing needs and feasibility; solidifying partnerships; developing project work plans or early prototypes
Forum	Convening key stakeholders and experts
Implementation	Full-scale development or project implementation
Applied Research	Investigating key questions relevant to library and archival tools or services



Cost Share

1:1 cost share is required for both programs, EXCEPT:

- No cost share is required for Applied Research
- No cost share is required for applications requesting \$249,999 or less in federal funds
- LB21 applicants are not required to cost share funds budgeted for student support



Photo courtesy of University of Washington, LG-250050-0LS-21

LB21 Programs - Opportunities



About IRDL

Learn about the Institute for Research Design in Librarianship



Apply to IRDL

Prepare your materials and submit your application



IRDL Scholars

Read about previous attendees and their completed works



IMLS Grant

Learn about our IMLS grant





We teach foundational coding and data science skills to researchers worldwide.













Peer Review



Photo Courtesy of NCSU: Tangible Landscapes Coffee and Viz Event, October 29, 2019

https://www.imls.gov/grants/peer-review

Application Tips

- Look out for the details (teamwork helps)
 - Read the call for funding "NOFO" multiple times, and keep a highlighted copy
 - Pay attention for words like MUST, SHOULD, MAY
- Talk to a program officer in advance of the deadline.
- IMLS Awarded Grants Search includes PDFs of the narratives that have been successfully awarded
- If at first you don't succeed, try, try again (as long as you're open to revising and improving each time based on the reviewer comments).

Indiana University 2022

Indiana University (IUPUI University Library)

Log Number: RE-252353-OLS-22

Federal Funds: \$238,689

Indiana University Purdue University–Indianapolis, in collaboration with Grand Valley State and Belmont Universities, will develop and implement curricula and open educational resources to support teaching negotiation education within academic libraries. These educational resources will teach negotiation theory and strategy within the academic library context of negotiating third-party content provider agreements. Academic librarians and staff who engage with collections work to support institutional research, teaching, and learning goals will benefit through access to this open educational resource. The project will result in multiple resources published, such as asynchronous learning modules; synchronous teaching support group materials (lesson plans, discussion guides, exercises) to facilitate group learning; and a set of academic library-based case studies.

University Of Texas At Austin 2022

University Of Texas At Austin

Log Number: RE-252381-OLS-22

Federal Funds: \$623,501

The University of Texas at Austin School of Information will collaborate with librarians from Austin Public Library, Navarro High School Library, and the University of Texas Libraries to educate and mentor the next generation of Library and Information Science (LIS) faculty with expertise in artificial intelligence (AI) and data science. The Training Future Faculty in Library, AI, and Data Driven Education and Research (LADDER) program will apply a new Library Rotation Model to train doctoral student fellows to apply their AI and data science skills to conduct research in collaboration with librarians in distinct library settings. The project will increase the capacity of LIS programs to educate the librarians of tomorrow by preparing cohorts of outstanding future faculty who understand both cuttingedge IT and the unique service environment of libraries.

University of Washington 2023

University of Washington (The Information School)

Log Number: RE-253680-0LS-23

Federal Funds: \$149,832

The Information School at the University of Washington will manage a coalition of seven additional iSchools to ask the urgent question: "As Library and Information Science (LIS) evolves within the context of iSchools, how do we best position our programs to lead the field and the future of libraries?" The increasing range of expertise and interdisciplinary potential in iSchools opens exciting opportunities for library research and education. At the same time, iSchools must balance their commitments to multiple disciplines and academic programs. The purpose of this "LIS Forward" award is engagement and coalition building across iSchools and the library profession. A foundational position paper developed by a 14-member working group over the past year serves as the stimulus for conversation, debate, and deliberation. Broad input and perspectives from stakeholders will be generated through a series of in-person and virtual meetings and additional written response opportunities. The final output will be a second volume of the position paper that will serve as a catalyst and roadmap for iSchools to act on new directions in education and research in partnership with the library profession....



University of Kentucky 2023

University of Kentucky

Log Number: RE-254860-0LS-23

Federal Funds: \$149,535

The University of Kentucky, Virginia Tech University, and The International Network of Research Management Societies' Research Evaluation Group will plan and deliver a two-day, in-person forum that brings together a broad range of representatives to work toward better, fairer, and more meaningful research evaluation. In particular, it will convene librarians, researchers, bibliometricians, and research managers to provide formal training in making strategic research management decisions using responsible evaluation methods. The forum will be followed by four virtual sessions throughout the year for participants to share how they are piloting the responsible evaluation methods framework at their institutions and to ensure sustainability and a community of practice beyond the project period.

Yale 2022

Yale University Library

Log Number: LG-252288-OLS-22

Federal Funds: \$245,963

The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University, on behalf of the Accessioning, Acquisitions, and Appraisal working group of the Society of American Archivists (SAA), will develop the first set of best practices for archival accessioning in the United States to help archives across the country strengthen and standardize their own accessioning practices. Working group members will collaborate, incorporate public feedback, and finalize a draft of best practices. The group also will host a daylong public event and a webinar to share the final product, answer questions, and provide space for discussion. The best practices developed will help archives professionals work more efficiently and ethically, and the project events will help formally establish a community of practice where these professionals can support and learn from each other.



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Contact a Program Officer