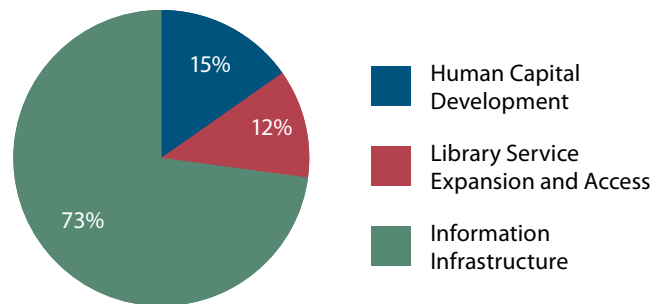


# LSTA GRANTS TO STATES PROFILE: IDAHO



## Projects by Strategy, FY 2003–2006



This fact sheet provides information about the State Library Administrative Agency, LSTA Grants to States programs by category, expenditures by fiscal year (2003–2006), interview highlights with the chief officer, and the program goals for 2008–2012.

## State Library Administrative Agency Information

<b>Agency name</b>	Idaho Commission for Libraries
<b>Agency governance</b>	Reports to the Board of Library Commissioners who is appointed by the Board of Education
<b>Population served in 2006</b>	1,461,183
<b>FY 2006 total expenditures</b>	\$4,240,000
<b>Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006</b>	\$4,397,480
<b>Chief Officer</b>	Ann Joslin, State Librarian
<b>Web site</b>	www.libraries.idaho.gov

## Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Ann Joslin

### Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

“Recently, LSTA funds in Idaho have had the greatest impact in support of statewide projects. Until five years ago we offered a lot of competitive grants. When we proposed limiting competitive grants in order to pool funds for statewide projects, many library leaders supported the concept. Examples are:

- The OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) group services contract started with LSTA funds. After a three-year phased implementation, we asked the legislature to cover part of the annual fee and participating libraries to pay for their cataloging fees. The legislature supported it! We couldn't have achieved that without LSTA funds for start-up.
- Now we're funding a two-year pilot for downloadable e-audiobooks for all libraries. If the pilot is successful, we may ask the state and libraries to take that over as well.
- Read to Me (emergent literacy) has run with a small

## Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

Idaho	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
<b>Total allotment</b>	\$946,563	\$1,084,890	\$1,150,464	\$1,215,563	\$4,397,480
<b>Number of projects reported</b>	13	13	14	15	55
<b>Largest project amount</b>	\$314,427	\$307,159	\$397,033	\$366,823	
<b>Median project amount</b>	\$41,039	\$35,040	\$17,570	\$18,160	

amount of LSTA funds for 10 years. For fiscal year 2009 we requested a two-year expansion of Read to Me with \$1.1 million in state dollars. The governor recommended and the legislature approved the first year expansion. That's a considerable percentage increase in our budget. Our documentation and statistics from the LSTA-funded program enabled us to make the case for expanding it.

“The point is that these are statewide projects and we've used LSTA to leverage state money. We have used LSTA dollars to publicize the availability of those projects and to do continuing education for librarians statewide. We've also funded a Futures Conference and one for services for Digital Natives. There has been a noticeable attitude change among librarians in the state, embracing change and looking for creative ways to reach their clientele.”

**Delivery of Library Services:**

“We have no systems of any type, no intermediate level library agencies. There's no state aid; LSTA is our development money, so it does impact what we can do. Thirteen to fourteen percent of the Idaho population is outside a public library taxing jurisdiction. Technology has helped address that, but it is still a problem. Because there are no systems, we have a relatively large library development staff with seven consultants. We have no official responsibility for school libraries although we are beginning to work with them.”

**Challenges in the Coming Five Years:**

1. How do we help libraries to plan and position themselves for the future when most are stretched providing services in the present?
2. The constantly changing landscape is a challenge. Many libraries are doing well in embracing change, but some are still in the 20th-century service mode. So, how do we help build their capacity?
3. Broadband is not adequately deployed in Idaho. The legislature is starting to see that, but it will take a while to get state government to take action. Some school and public libraries are not allowing down-

loadable audiobooks because that takes too much bandwidth.

4. We're reassessing how we provide continuing library education with LSTA funds. Continuing library education is key to building the capacity of library directors, staff, and governing bodies to offer better services.

**Program Goals for 2008–2012**

- Awareness and understanding of the disparate ways information is accessed and processed creates valued services.
- Libraries embrace and enhance digital natives' approach to information.
- Libraries flourish as a central place in a learning society.
- The citizens of Idaho identify their libraries as vital.
- Libraries thrive in an environment that encourages innovation, risk, and change.
- Libraries' infrastructures empower service development and delivery.
- Libraries reach out to all segments of Idaho's population.

**Exemplary Project:  
Idaho Commission for Libraries**

<b>Project title</b>	Literacy
<b>Library</b>	Idaho Commission for Libraries
<b>LSTA Funds Expended FY06</b>	\$362,320
<b>Total Cost FY06</b>	\$362,320
<b>Program Category</b>	Human Capital Development

This literacy program increases the skills and knowledge of librarians across Idaho, provides professional staff to facilitate the programs, and provides librarians the best training and program materials to achieve this. The program strives to instill in librarians, parents, and teachers the importance of reading to children of all ages starting in infancy, and to provide the tools necessary to create quality literacy programs in their libraries.