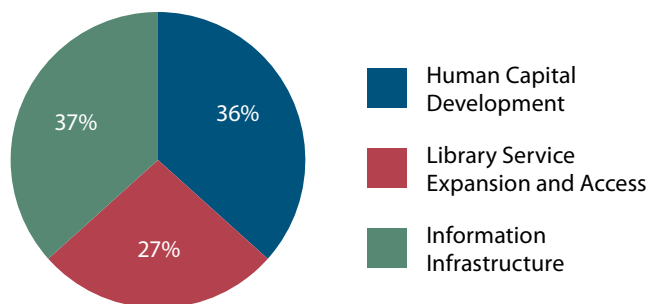


LSTA GRANTS TO STATES PROFILE: LOUISIANA



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

Agency name	State Library of Louisiana
Agency governance	Under the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, under the Lt. Governor
Population served in 2006	4,243,634
FY 2006 total expenditures	\$10,031,953
Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006	\$9,856,263
Chief Officer	Rebecca L. Hamilton, State Librarian
Web site	www.state.lib.la.us

Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Rebecca L. Hamilton

Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

“The greatest impact of LSTA in the last five years has been in building a strong network—Internet and connectivity. We’re the first state to have connectivity at every public library in the state. The state is economically poor. If we didn’t do things at the state level, it wouldn’t happen. Not everybody has a computer at home. After the storms everybody went to the public library; they think of the library as safe.”

Delivery of Library Services:

“Louisiana has parish- (county) wide library service with a few municipal libraries. All are independent of the State Library. We use all of the LSTA funds for statewide projects. The money affects all equally. The LSTA funds don’t have to go through local governments.”

Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

Louisiana	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
Total allotment	\$2,191,708	\$2,505,725	\$2,554,689	\$2,604,141	\$9,856,263
Number of projects reported	8	8	6	7	29
Largest project amount	\$860,672	\$526,409	\$1,351,520	\$1,155,050	
Median project amount	\$163,256	\$172,618	\$279,290	\$85,628	

Challenges in the Coming Five Years:

1. Massive retirements in the library world. Five to fifteen library directors in Louisiana will retire in the next five years; librarians are not well paid in the state. We're addressing that with leadership training.
2. Keeping up with technology and broadband is an ongoing challenge.
3. Deteriorating facilities—they're outdated and may not have been built as libraries to begin with.

Program Goals for 2008–2012

- Increase the number of Louisiana children reading at or above grade level as measured on fourth-grade standardized tests by taking a leadership role in providing statewide results-based literacy programs, reading programs, and opportunities to develop a love of reading.
- Foster the ongoing professional development of library staff throughout the state, enabling them to be well-informed and competent to provide superior services to their constituencies. Improve public library service so that 10 percent more public libraries reach or exceed the "Essential" Louisiana standard in terms of circulation, number of public access computers, and collection size by 2012.
- Provide additional services to current special-needs users and the underserved, increasing overall participation by current nonusers.
- Make current and relevant information readily available to and convenient for users by expanding access to information through statewide database subscriptions; an effective interlibrary loan system and van delivery service; technology and Internet support; a coordinated approach to reference services; and making library collections more visible on the Web.

Exemplary Project: State Library of Louisiana

Project title	Summer Reading Programs
Library	State Library of Louisiana
LSTA Funds Expended FY06	\$83,671
Total Cost FY06	\$126,774
Program Category	Human Capital Development

"Book A Trip," the 2007 statewide children's summer reading program (pre-K through grade 6) and "Library Quest" the 2007 statewide teen reading program (grades 7–12), are part of Louisiana's summer reading program, one of the largest and most successful initiatives undertaken by the State Library of Louisiana. It is designed to encourage children to read and utilize the public library during the summer. Sixty-four of the sixty-seven public library systems in the state actively participated by using the statewide slogan, displaying and distributing the statewide promotional materials, and designing their summer programs to reflect the theme as outlined in the *State Library Summer Reading Manual*. Children registered with Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped are encouraged to participate as well. Promotional materials, clip art, book lists, Web links, story time ideas, crafts, activity sheets, decorations, reading incentive techniques, and evaluation tools are provided to all libraries. A performing artist directory is maintained on the State Library Web site. The program also provides evaluation tools.