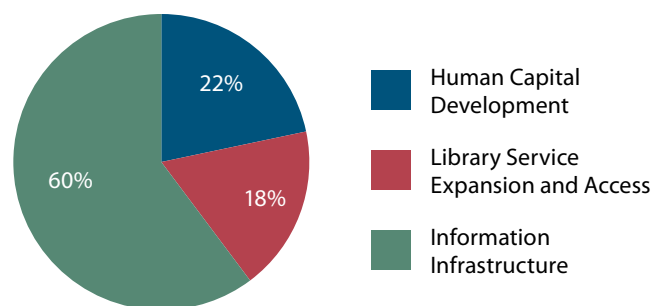


LSTA GRANTS TO STATES PROFILE: OKLAHOMA



Oklahoma

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	Oklahoma Department of Libraries
Agency governance	An independent agency with a governing board appointed by the Governor
Population served in 2006	3,568,132
FY 2006 total expenditures	\$9,515,000
Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006	\$8,254,357
Chief Officer	Susan McVey, State Librarian
Web site	www.odl.state.ok.us

Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Susan McVey

Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

1. We've used a combination of funding sources—state dollars, Gates, and LSTA funds synergistically; we leverage LSTA with other funds to do things that are missing in the other sources. For example, we've done training in computer labs with LSTA because Gates didn't cover this.
2. We have used LSTA for salaries for staff to work with libraries in the state. We haven't done lots of competitive grants, but tend to do more statewide grants. That has been a good way to spend the LSTA dollars to reach citizens, e.g., with statewide databases. It's more economical if we purchase things on the statewide level rather than at the local library or school level.

Delivery of Library Services:

"Ninety-six percent of the libraries provide wireless access.

Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

Oklahoma	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
Total allotment	\$1,920,127	\$2,058,454	\$2,112,874	\$2,162,902	\$8,254,357
Number of projects reported	26	18	17	16	77
Largest project amount	\$518,791	\$796,508	\$1,172,561	\$1,102,193	
Median project amount	\$17,775	\$24,288	\$28,500	\$29,817	

The OITP (Office for Information Technology Policy) survey put us in the top 10 states in providing access. Oklahoma has state universal E-Rate, so all libraries have broadband. We used Gates and LSTA funds to upgrade the routers, etc. And, we do a lot of follow-up on federal E-Rate and on outreach to be sure librarians know how and have the equipment they need. Now the project is to get all libraries to have a Web site.

There are no other independent, outside library organizations in Oklahoma, no regional systems, etc. That gives us a direct connection to local public libraries in the state; it's a strong connection and we get regular feedback; libraries feel close to us."

Challenges in the Coming Five Years:

1. For both the State Library and public libraries, funding is the biggest challenge because of decisions to reduce state income taxes. As a result most agencies received a standstill budget. Pass through funds going for state aid weren't touched, so that has given local libraries more, but local communities are struggling. There's not much growth in funding.
2. Staying technologically current is a challenge. A number of libraries haven't replaced the Gates computers and are significantly behind. Strong state support is needed to do this.
3. Continuing to be or becoming significant to the community with programming is a challenge. We coordinate programming for adults and children. One Book/One State was successful. The biggest impact was in rural areas that had never had an author speak before. LSTA let them leverage their ability to build connections with other groups in the community.

Program Goals for 2008–2012

- In order to participate globally, Oklahoma citizens must have access to vital and cost-effective resources available through the library. Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL) will assist communities attain these resources.
- ODL will assist Oklahoma librarians attain increased

competencies to enable them to meet the information needs of their patrons.

- Oklahomans at risk due to educational, economic, physical, and social conditions will be provided resources and opportunities to acquire basic information skills.
- Assist libraries to identify and to adopt innovative technology and to incorporate these services into library operations.
- The Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Oklahoma's public libraries, as well as library-based and community-based literacy programs will strengthen and broaden their base of support.

Exemplary Project: Oklahoma Department of Libraries

Project title	Library Technology Year 1-General
Library	Oklahoma Department of Libraries
LSTA Funds Expended FY06	:\$48,650
Total Cost FY06	:\$48,650
Program Category	Human Capital Development

The Oklahoma Summer Reading Program for FY 2006 was designed with two goals: number one was to celebrate Oklahoma's Centennial year. The program was designed to teach children and young adults about the history of Oklahoma. The second goal was the ongoing encouragement of reading for pleasure and introducing new patrons of all ages to the library. The Summer Reading Program was produced by the Youth Services Consultant, in collaboration with the Public Information Office. The talents of native Oklahomans and nationally known artists were procured to produce artwork for the posters and clip art. The Oklahoma Department of Libraries partnered with Oklahoma-based Sonic Corporation, which provided book bags, including the children's artwork and coupons. Library patrons of all ages enjoyed the colorful posters and postcards depicting historical Oklahomans in a vibrant and relatable format.