




Education	State Agency Services
<p style="text-align: center;">State University and College Libraries</p> <p>The Florida Library Association supports increased funding for university and college libraries to pay for recent legislative mandates and for statewide electronic library resources.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Task Force on the Future of Academic Libraries</p> <p>The Florida Library Association supports the task force as it plans for the replacement of the current organizations providing universities and colleges with library automation and electronic resources. FLA urges the Governor and Legislature to make implementation of the Task Force's plan a priority and to adequately fund a phased approach to the new organization and services.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Library & Archives of Florida (Department of State, Division of Library & Information Services)</p>  <p>The Florida Library Association supports the continuation of the Department of State, in particular the Division of Library and Information Services, and its programs in their current form.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Public School Media Centers</p> <p>The Florida Library Association endorses the 2012 Legislative Platform of the Florida Association for Media in Education.</p> <p>FLA recognizes the critical importance of high quality school media center programs administered by professional librarians.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Bureau of Braille & Talking Book Services</p>  <p>The Florida Library Association supports continued funding for the Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library Services to provide quality services to all eligible residents of Florida.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Department of Correction Library Services</p> <p>The Florida Library Association supports continued funding for State Correctional Institution Libraries.</p>

Privatization of Library Services

The Florida Library Association opposes the management of publicly supported libraries by for-profit organizations.

State Aid to Public Libraries

The Florida Library Association supports working toward the restoration of State Aid to Public Libraries from the current \$21,300,000 to the \$33,400,000 appropriated in 2000-2001. If funding is reduced further, vitally needed federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds received by Florida will be reduced. Florida received LSTA funding of \$8.1 million in 2011.

State aid provides critical funding that enables libraries to provide services such as

- *Access to government services, especially e-government* – public libraries are the “go to” place when Floridians need to use a computer and access the Internet to get government services
- *Education and reading* – libraries are the safety net that ensures that students of all ages succeed in school. Florida’s public libraries offer almost 40 million items for learning and reading
- *Local economic development* – libraries provide vital services to small businesses and job seekers

Support for Local Libraries

The Florida Library Association strongly supports quality library services and adequate library funding at the local, state, and federal levels. Adequate local funding is essential for libraries to provide services to the people in the communities they serve.

The Florida Library Association strongly supports those libraries that are organized as special districts and commends local officials who are accountable to the public for their administration and oversight. Twenty-one of 82 Florida public library administrative units are organized as special districts.

Other State Programs for Libraries

Public Library Construction

The Florida Library Association supports funding of all Department of State approved Public Library Construction Grant applications* of up to \$500,000 each. This program

- Provides jobs by matching local funds set aside by counties and cities
- Provides critical support to communities for new construction, renovation and expansion
- Makes available conveniently located, adequately sized, and up-to-date public facilities

** A ranked list is available separately.*

Community Libraries in Caring



The Florida Library Association supports funding of \$200,000 in Community Libraries in Caring (CLIC) Grants that provide essential funding for Florida’s small, rural public libraries. CLIC Grant funds are used to

- Teach adults and children to read and write
- Purchase new books and audio visual items

A list of applicants is available separately.

Library Cooperatives

The Florida Library Association supports working toward restoration of Library Cooperative Grant funding from the current \$1 million to the \$2 million appropriated in 2007-08. These funds are critical for Florida’s five multi-type library cooperatives (MLCs). These funds are used to

- Maintain the Florida database of library records that makes interlibrary loan among libraries possible
- Coordinate resource sharing so Floridians can use resources from other libraries using statewide delivery and reciprocal borrowing services
- Continuously upgrade the skills of library employees

