

2009 Legislative Platform

Leadership. Advocacy. Communication.

State Aid to Public Libraries

The Florida Library Association supports the Governor's recommendation for State Aid to Public Libraries Grants and no further cuts to this grant program.

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; individuals are helped with job searches and career information

Other Department of State Grants

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.

- Providing critical support to communities for new construction and renovation and expansion
- Making available conveniently located, adequately sized, and up-to-date public library facilities



A ranked list is separately available.

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
- provide educational services that develop the economic viability of rural communities

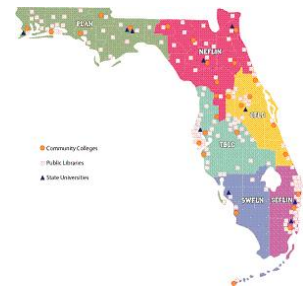


A list of approved applicants is separately available.

Library Cooperatives

The Florida Library Association supports working toward restoration of funding received in past years for Library Cooperative Grants which provide critical funding for Florida's six multi-type library cooperatives (MLCs). These funds are used to

- continuously upgrade the skills of library employees
- coordinate resource sharing so Floridians can use resources from other libraries in their area and around the state through
 - ground delivery service and
 - access to shared informational databases
- Provide *Ask A Librarian!* service – librarians answering Floridian's questions in a real-time, interactive, virtual environment



Early Voting

The Florida Library Association supports the expansion of early voting sites to public locations beyond libraries and other allowed locations.



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Education

State University Libraries

The Florida Library Association supports the funding request of the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA) for electronic informational databases.

Community College Libraries



The Florida Library Association supports continued funding and support of the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) and statewide online electronic library resources.

Public School Media Centers

The Florida Library Association endorses the Florida Association for Media in Education 2008 Legislative Platform.

The FLA recognizes the critical importance of high quality school media center programs administered by professional librarians.



State Agency Services

State Library & Archives of Florida

(Division of Library & Information Services of the Department of State)



The Florida Library Association supports the reenactment of the Department of State in particular the Division of Library and Information Services, and its programs in its current form.

Bureau of Braille & Talking Book Services



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.

Department of Correction Library Services

The Florida Library Association supports continued funding for State Correctional Institution Libraries.