

TO: Parish and Public Library Administrators
FROM: Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian
RE: ARRA Stimulus
DATE: April 20, 2009

My executive team and I have thoroughly reviewed the current stimulus bill, as well as any grants that may be available for the public libraries. There is a lot of information and very little clear direction. We have identified those projects that appear to be within the scope of the intent of the stimulus package and are most likely to receive funding. We believe your best avenue will be to collaborate with your parish or with other parish libraries and a larger application. Emphasis is being placed on partnerships and a larger collaboration.

Below is a list of initiatives for which your parish/library may be eligible. Remember, eligibility may depend on the demographics of your parish.

- Broadband deployment – this could include hardware, software, inside wiring and building renovation; it is not clear but you should inventory your existing connectivity and current and future needs. The main focus of the broadband provision of the ARRA is to provide broadband to “underserved” areas and to improve the quality of access in those areas. See if your parish is writing an application for this.
- Community centers and computer labs – the emphasis is on the job seeker and continued training. This could include a computer lab or funding for an addition to your building in order to install a new computer lab. Perhaps partner with other public libraries in your area for a regional center or training lab or with your parish.
- Career Center – the emphasis should be on the job seeker and could include providing new and updated books and materials for the job-seeker through an actual center or an electronic center (workstation with electronic databases)
- Green buildings – If your library has a building program (remodel or new construction) consider making it LEED certified. Also, if you are renovating your existing structure, does your building program include asbestos removal? This could be eligible for funding.
- Literacy initiatives – consider partnerships within your parish for literacy initiatives in the form of programming or something like Tutor.com or Brainfuse.

Additionally, as a backup, the State Library will be pursuing funding for a statewide tutoring program, an electronic career center that would serve the whole state, and a statewide ILS system. These are things that we are eligible to apply for but we strongly encourage you to pursue all avenues locally.

I am also enclosing a list of websites that have information about stimulus funds, with a

description of each. This week we will post this information on our website and keep it updated for your one stop shop on stimulus information.

If we can provide any assistance, or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

- Mary Landrieu Press Release <http://landrieu.senate.gov/releases/09/2009218448.html>
- www.knowyourstimulus.org
- <http://www.thedailygreen.com/environmental-news/latest/government-energy-efficiency-grants-47032702> ... "The funding will **support energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements,**" according to the Department of Energy. "Other activities eligible for use of grant funds include transportation programs that conserve energy, projects to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, **renewable energy installations on government buildings,** energy efficient traffic signals and street lights, **deployment of Combined Heat and Power and district heating and cooling systems,** and others."
- Your grant search stops here Access all US Grant applications www.USAGrantApplications.com
- <http://www.stimulus.la.gov/>, Louisiana state government's website for tracking taxpayer dollars provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). State agencies are closely reviewing the act to gain a full understanding of what it means for our state. As additional information becomes available we will share it here. When state agencies begin to spend ARRA funds there will be detailed expenditure information to ensure the highest level of transparency and accountability. Includes timeline. ...
- <http://www.recovery.gov/> The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century. The Recovery and Reinvestment Act is an extraordinary response to a crisis unlike any since the Great Depression. With much at stake, the Act provides for unprecedented levels of transparency and accountability so that you will be able to know how, when, and where your tax dollars are being spent. Spearheaded by a new Recovery Board, this Act contains built-in measures to root out waste, inefficiency, and unnecessary spending. This website will be the main vehicle to provide each and every citizen with the ability to monitor the progress of the recovery. This **includes FAQs**.
- On February 17, 2009, the day after President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act into law, the Office of Management and Budget Director Peter Orszag sent a [detailed memo](#) to the **heads of all departments and agencies receiving funds from the act, offering guidance** for how to meet the President's high expectations for transparency and accountability.

Since then, **many agencies have already established their own web pages** and submitted initial [weekly reports](#). These reports contain information on funding, major actions taken so far, and those actions planned for the near-term. But keep in mind, many more pages will come online -- with much more information -- in the weeks and months ahead, so check back often for updates.

- On April 3, 2009, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published Implementing Guidance for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("Recovery Act"). This is the second installment of detailed government-wide guidance for carrying out programs and activities enacted in the Recovery Act. This updated guidance supplements, amends and clarifies the initial guidance issued by OMB on February 18, 2009 (Initial Implementing Guidance for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, M-09-10). Updates to the guidance are based on ongoing input received from the public, Congress, state and local government officials, grant and contract recipients and federal personnel. Read the April 3 [detailed guidance memorandum](#).
- <http://www.grants.gov/> Grants.gov is your source to **FIND and APPLY for federal government grants**. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is proud to be the managing partner for Grants.gov, an initiative that is having an unparalleled impact on the grant community ...Subscribe now and receive notifications of new grant opportunity postings and updates on Grants.gov. You do not need to be a registered user of Grants.gov to sign-up for this service.
 - [New! Grants.gov RSS Feed](#)
Stay informed about new and updated grant opportunities. Once you see all of the benefits of receiving the Grants.gov RSS feed, you may want to discontinue your email notification subscription.
 - [Grants.gov Updates](#)
Receive updated information about critical issues, new tips for users and other time sensitive updates as information is available. To unsubscribe from this update you will need to follow the instructions provided in the bottom of the email.
 - [All Grants Notices](#)
Receive daily notification of all new grant opportunities.
 - [Notices Based on Advanced Criteria](#)
Select notifications based on specific criteria such as funding instrument type, eligibility or sub-agency.
 - [Recovery Act Funding Opportunities](#)
Please note that there are 27 closings (15,000 downloads for NIH alone) scheduled for April 29 on Grants.gov. If you are planning to submit a proposal on that closing date, please be prepared to do so PRIOR to April 29 to avoid system delays (i.e. proposal creation, budget and routing signature approvals completed, etc.).

- From ALA website (I think you already have this.)
 - [What librarians should know about ARRA](#)
 - [ARRA Grants Information](#)
 - [Guidance from OMB](#)
 - [How to advocate for ARRA funding](#)
 - [State-by-state impact of the ARRA](#)
 - [ARRA News](#)
 - [Related Files](#)
 - [Related Links](#)
 - [District Dispatch Get the Latest News from the Washington Office Blog](#)
 - [Legislative Action Center \(LAC\)](#)
- Louisiana Commissioner of Administration Davis announced the launch of a new website ... <http://wwwprd.doa.louisiana.gov/LAeGrants/PublicPages/index.cfm> , this one-stop grants portal site allows citizens, non-profits, businesses, and faith-based organizations to identify grant opportunities offered by the state, as well as federal grants administered by state government.

After registering with LA eGrants, users will be able to search from over 147 grants. Users can search by granting agency, **grant category (e.g. education, economic development, etc), and eligibility (e.g. businesses, individuals, local governments)** as well as search by **keyword**. Once a grant has been selected, users can view a brief description as well as contact information and website where they can get additional information. LA eGrants will be updated on a quarterly basis.

- In addition, the state has launched a new website -- <http://www.stimulus.la.gov/> – for **tracking federal taxpayer dollars** provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment ACT (ARRA). The website provides information about **federal stimulus dollars pertaining to Louisiana**, and will be updated as more information becomes available. When state agencies begin to spend ARRA funds, the website will provide detailed expenditure information to ensure the highest level of transparency and accountability.