



## **LSTA Funds in Michigan Serving All Michigan Residents**

**Federal FY 2016 (10/1/2015 – 9/30/2017)**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) provides funds through the Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) to the states. In Michigan, the Library of Michigan receives the funds to improve library services to state residents. The Library of Michigan funds projects based on how well they match the goals of the LSTA legislation and the goals of Michigan's IMLS approved five-year plan. The LSTA legislation and the current Five-Year Plan are at [www.michigan.gov/lsta](http://www.michigan.gov/lsta).

### **How are LSTA funds used?**

Currently, Michigan uses LSTA funds primarily for statewide resources programs that benefit school, public, academic and special libraries users and Michigan residents directly. The federal FY 2016 allotment was \$4,390,6280. The premier program is the Michigan eLibrary (MeL), a virtual library available at [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org), anytime, anywhere to all Michigan residents.

### **Michigan eLibrary (MeL)**

- **Databases** – Hundreds of thousands of subscription magazine and newspaper articles, reference book articles, art images, eBooks, historical documents and images, and other full-text materials. Content ranges from PreK-12 levels to professional and research levels in science, medicine, education, technology, humanities, arts, social sciences, law and genealogy. Spanish language materials are available for PreK-12 students. State funds also support significant business and early literacy resources.
- **MeLCat** – The statewide library catalog and resource-sharing network. Users can search the catalog from [www.MeL.org/melcat](http://www.MeL.org/melcat) or directly from their participating local library catalog. Michigan residents are using MeLCat to easily identify and request convenient, quick and free delivery of materials from other participating Michigan libraries to their own library for pick up.
- **Michigana** – Digitized local historical resources from Michigan libraries, including family papers, photographs, diaries, obituaries, newspapers, maps, archives and other local documents and commercial history resources. These materials illustrate Michigan's place in American history especially in topics such as the Civil War and the automotive, shipping and lumbering industries.
- **eBooks** – A collection of thousands of non-fiction and reference electronic books for academics and professionals. Topics include science, computers, business, education and humanities among others.

- **Tests, Tutorials & Workforce Development** – A comprehensive, interactive site with occupational, licensing and academic practice tests and tutorials for K-16 and job seekers, from the GED to the GRE.

### **Other Major Statewide Programs**

- **Early Literacy** – High-quality, resource-filled summer reading manuals from the Collaborative Summer Library Program are provided to public libraries, saving the libraries both staff time and money. Support for the Ready to Read early literacy program also helped provide quality early literacy programming and training to children’s librarians as they work with families in their communities.
- **Ploud** – Michigan participates in this nation-wide collaborative to provide high quality, easy to use web sites for public libraries, giving their communities online access to statewide resources. At the end of state FY 2017 the project served 98 small and rural communities.
- **Continuing Education for Librarians** – LSTA funds sponsored Library of Michigan and partner organization conferences, workshops, webinars and online continuing education resources for librarians and trustees throughout the state, giving library staff the opportunity to learn new techniques and methods to reach underserved residents.
- **Grants** – LSTA funds small summer programming grants for public libraries in the areas of technology, children & teen programs, and various forms of literacy. LSTA also funds collaborative community projects for public, academic and school libraries that focus on the IMLS priorities.

### **How does Michigan receive LSTA funds?**

Congress funds the Library Services & Technology Act annually through an appropriation to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. IMLS then allocates the funds through a formula with a base amount per state plus a per capita amount. To receive LSTA funds, the State of Michigan must both match the federal funds and maintain a level of effort through state or private funds.

Matching funds may be state or private and must equal approximately 50% of the federal allotment. States must meet the matching requirement to receive the allotment.

Maintenance of effort is determined by a three-year average of state funds. These funds must be spent on libraries in a way that supports the purpose of the LSTA Act. In Michigan, that funding is primarily state aid to public libraries. If the three-year average of state aid to public libraries falls, the LSTA allotment amount falls by the same percentage.

## **What is the impact on library users in Michigan?**

LSTA funding has a profound impact on improving outcomes in Michigan for students, professionals and lifelong learners as the comments the Library of Michigan receives attest to.

"Your service is such a lifesaver! I am a single mom who just started grad school. I make too much to qualify for grants and can't afford to pay cash for everything. I have saved several hundred dollars just in my first semester by borrowing my textbooks through MeLCat. Thank you, thank you, thank you!"

"the staff helped me so much during my college nursing program. They made great efforts to help get the very important extra resources and books to help me study. I am now an official RN and know that without their help and their ability to receive books from outside sources, I would have had an almost impossible time obtaining my High Honors GPA and passing my state NCLEX. Thank you staff for all your support and work!"

"I hate to envision a world without MeL..... you are the cornerstone of our research here at BHS"

"Just wanted to say how awesome this is! It is a great tool for parents, teachers, and media specialists, and serves as a great training tool for public libraries. Thanks so much for all you and your team do to make our lives easier!"