



Jesse White

SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS

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White Awards \$13.3 Million in Public Library Grants

SPRINGFIELD — Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White announced today that he has awarded more than 650 Illinois public libraries a total of \$13.3 million in Fiscal Year 2002 per capita and equalization aid grants.

Per capita grants provide up to \$1.17 per person based upon the population served by eligible public libraries, allowing the libraries to improve and increase essential services. Equalization aid grants assist public libraries in districts with a low tax base, and help ensure a minimum level of funding for library services. Both per capita and equalization aid grants may be used for any purpose except construction needs.

White said 631 public libraries will receive FY2002 per capita grants, and 20 public libraries will receive equalization aid grants. He said libraries should receive lump sum payments within six to eight weeks.

"These grants, which are appropriated each year by the General Assembly, allow libraries both large and small to add to their adult and children's collections, hire personnel, enhance their technology and provide a wider array of services to library patrons," White said. "Many public libraries depend on this assistance to meet essential needs. Each year the Illinois library community reaches out to more and more patrons and provides more creative and innovative programs.

"Our public libraries are cornerstones of our communities," said White. "Libraries provide educational and recreational opportunities that enrich and enlighten the lives of all citizens. I am committed to doing all I can as State Librarian to keep our public libraries strong in the coming years."

[LIST OF GRANTS BEING AWARDED](#) - PDF