



# Jesse White

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## SECRETARY OF STATE

# NEWS

**For Immediate Release:**  
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### **Jesse White Awards More Than \$5 Million In Adult Literacy Grants**

SPRINGFIELD—Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White has awarded nearly \$5.7 million in FY12 Adult Literacy Grants to help students develop and enhance their reading, math, writing and language skills.

“The state of Illinois has some of the finest literacy programs in the nation, and I am pleased to once again provide nearly 200 local literacy providers with funding that will allow adult students to achieve their utmost potential,” White said. “I will continue to do all I can to ensure that every citizen of this state has access to quality literacy programs.”

Nearly 22,000 students are served by adult literacy programs around the state. More than 8,500 volunteer tutors generously offer their time to provide training for students to obtain skills that put them on the path to lifelong learning.

The Adult Literacy Program is administered by the Secretary of State’s Illinois State Library Literacy Office and awards grants in three categories:

- Adult Volunteer Literacy Grants provide training for volunteers who tutor adults over the age of 16 in basic reading, math, writing or language skills. Participating literacy providers may include libraries, volunteer tutoring organizations, community based organizations, community colleges, regional offices of education, schools (individual & public), pre-school programs, school districts, domestic violence shelters, and correctional facilities.

- Family Literacy Grants provide educational services to parents and children to enhance their basic reading, math, writing or language skills together and separately. Projects must partner with an adult literacy provider, child-at-risk agency and a library.

- The Workplace Skills Enhancement Project provides on-site instructional services to the employees of Illinois businesses to enable the employees to increase their basic reading, math, writing or language skills, keep their jobs and increase their chances for promotion. Eligible employees read at or below the 9th grade level. Grantees must match the grant award and may also provide instructional services to prospective employees. The fiscal agent and submitting agency may be either the educational partner or the business partner.

Secretary White urges people interested in becoming volunteer tutors to contact the Illinois Adult Learning Hotline at 1-800-321-9511.

[\(A list of grant recipients is enclosed.\)](#)

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