

THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY
January 2020

Jesse White, Secretary of State and State Librarian
Greg McCormick, Director

FY2021 Adult Literacy Grant Applications Due February 3

The FY2021 Adult Literacy Grant Program applications are being offered in advance of the provision of the state budget. The Illinois State Library makes these grant applications available so that award notification may be released when legislative and gubernatorial approval of an FY2021 appropriation is made. All grant applicants are encouraged to listen to the appropriate online presentation(s); Literacy Office staff will go over the FY2021 application and programming requirements. .

The grant information session webinars were recorded and are available at the following links:

- Adult Volunteer Literacy Grant Information Webinar - https://webjunctionillinois.adobeconnect.com/_a1011975131/pp6lgttyr2m6/
- Penny Severns Family Literacy Grant Information Webinar - https://webjunctionillinois.adobeconnect.com/_a1011975131/p4i3y7u774x8/
- Workplace Skills Enhancement Grant Information Webinar - https://webjunctionillinois.adobeconnect.com/_a1011975131/pmekd8avi9la/

For optimum viewing, utilize Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge or Apple Safari web browsers.

If you have questions about this grant offering, contact the Literacy Office at 217-785-6921.

Project Next Generation Grant Applications Available

The Illinois State Library is currently accepting applications for [FY21 Project Next Generation \(PNG\)](#) grants. PNG programs encourage personal growth and the educational development of at risk, middle to high school students through the use of mentors, technology and library based group projects. Public libraries that have completed the 2020 [Annual Certification](#) and are recognized by the State Library as a full member in good standing of an Illinois library system are eligible to apply. The deadline to submit is March 15, 2020. If you have questions about this grant offering, contact [Rita Stephens](#) at 217-782-5506.

IPLAR Survey Now Available

The FY19/20 Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) survey is now open. Each public library is required to submit the IPLAR 60 days after the library's fiscal year end. The instructions and worksheet are available on the [IPLAR Login Screen](#). The 2020 Survey is similar to 2019, but the Capital Needs Assessment is not required this year. For more information about the IPLAR survey, please visit the State Library [IPLAR Web page](#).

Public Libraries Survey Search and Compare Tool Now Available

Each year, the public library annual report data for Illinois is imported into the [Public Libraries Survey](#) (PLS). The PLS is part of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). FY2017/18 data is now available through the [Search and Compare Tool](#). You can use the Tool to compile trend and comparison analyses of other libraries in Illinois and other states. Statistics include library visits, circulation and size of collections, public services hours and staffing, electronic resources, operating revenue and expenditures and number of service outlets.

Public Library Construction Act Grant (PLCAG) Program applications being accepted

The State Library will be accepting applications for the PLCAG Program for fiscal year 2020, with those applications due on or before April 15. The State Library has been accepting applications for this program every year since the program's inception in fiscal year 2012. To be considered for funding, applications must be submitted electronically to construct-grant@ilsos.gov and include all of the applicable required supporting documentation. Information on the required supporting documentation as well as an overview of the program to include program rules and regulations can be found at https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/publib_construction.html.

Annual Online Library System Certification Underway

The Annual Online Certification process began Jan. 2, 2020. Certification is required of all library system members in order to qualify for continuing system services and grants programs from the State Library. The window for certification will close March 31, 2020. Libraries are also required to complete the [ILLINET Interlibrary Loan & Reciprocal Borrowing Statistical Survey](#) before completing certification. The ILLINET Interlibrary Loan & Reciprocal Borrowing Statistical Survey can be completed any time prior to the certification deadline, **March 31, 2020**.

More information about certification is available at the State Library's Annual [Library Certification webpage](#).

Census 2020

The 2020 Census will have a major impact on the State of Illinois' congressional representation and federal funding for the ensuing decade, including funding for libraries. Since the census is being conducted primarily online, public libraries are a vital linchpin in the 2020 census. In fact, the Census 2020 [Hard to Count Map](#) has an overlay which plots the location of every public library in the nation. The United States Census Bureau is actively promoting public libraries as trusted institutions where individuals go to and enter their census information on public access terminals. Further information about the census can be found on the website for the [Illinois Complete Count Commission](#). The website contains resources for community groups to use to promote census participation.

IHLS Board Seat Interest Survey

The Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) Nominating Committee is preparing for the 2020 election cycle and has opened the nomination process to join their Board of Directors. If your library is part of the IHLS service area and you are interested in appearing on the election ballot, complete the [nomination survey](#) by **5 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 11.**

WebJunction Webinar on Civil Legal Justice: The Crucial Role of Libraries

WebJunction will hold a free webinar on Feb. 11, 2020, entitled [Civil Legal Justice: The Crucial Role of Libraries](#). Participants will learn about the status of civil legal justice in our system and the vital role public libraries can play in reducing the justice gap. The webinar will provide information on the live, multi-week course to be offered in April, which takes a deeper look at helping people navigate the complexities of the legal system. [Register here](#) for the free webinar.

This webinar is part of [Improving Access to Civil Legal Justice through Public Libraries](#), a national training initiative for public library staff offered by WebJunction and the nonprofit organization [Legal Services Corporation](#) to help strengthen access to civil legal justice.

FirstSearch/WorldCat Discovery Webinar

View a recorded 60-minute webinar to refresh your knowledge of the WorldCat searching, through your library's FirstSearch and WorldCat Discovery subscription, that gives you a view into the collections of thousands of libraries worldwide

There are separate webinars for [public](#) and [academic](#) libraries.

Literacy Spotlight

This month's Literacy Spotlight highlights the Project READ program at **Spoon River College** in Canton. An immigrant from the Democratic Republic of the Congo was paired with several tutors and met for several hours each week. His thirst for knowledge was contagious and often inspired other students to dream bigger than their present circumstances. He often picked students up in the winter and brought them to the school. He has shown immense leadership qualities among his fellow students. His personality changed from being shy and insecure to confident and outgoing as his English language proficiency improved. He longs to be a Hollywood director and wrote a science fiction screenplay which he is currently promoting. His tutors can picture him as a successful director to whom they can say they knew him when he was still learning English.

Salute to Veterans

In this issue of E-News, we are saluting Robert E. Suddeth. Mr. Suddeth served in the U.S. Marine Corp during World War II as part of the occupation of Japan and during the Korean War. Mr. Suddeth shares his account of serving during these conflicts. His Illinois Veterans History Project oral history interview is available at <https://youtu.be/sNLEIVgVzMs>.

State Library's comprehensive online calendar

To view the State Library's calendar of events and deadlines, visit

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/calendar/home.html>.

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E-News is the best way to find out what's happening at the State Library, including grant offerings, continuing education opportunities and other news. Nearly 5,000 subscribers receive E-News each month. To subscribe to E-News, contact [Kyle Peebles](#) at 217-558-4029.