



Jesse White

SECRETARY OF STATE

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Jesse White Announces Sixty-Five Illinois Public Libraries To Receive Technology Packages to Help Local Businesses and Entrepreneurs

SPRINGFIELD—Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White has announced that sixty-five Illinois public libraries have each been chosen to receive almost \$4,000 worth of equipment, hardware and software to help businesses and entrepreneurs in their communities create new economic growth opportunities. White also thanked U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) for obtaining the \$300,000 grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) that will finance the technology packages.

“Our public libraries are cornerstones of our communities, and partnerships such as this between libraries, businesses and entrepreneurs can hopefully result in new jobs and increased economic development,” said White. “These technology packages represent new tools that our public libraries can use to assist the citizens in our state. I applaud Senator Durbin for securing these funds for this important project.”

“Small businesses are key to our economic recovery,” said Durbin. “The equipment purchased as a result of the SBA grant will allow public libraries to offer information and technical assistance to small business owners in communities across the state. With these new resources and continued support from local public libraries, businesses throughout Illinois will sharpen their skill set without having to invest their own capital.”

The “Business and Libraries: Working Together” technology packages include a laptop computer with Microsoft Office Suite; projector; screen; DVD player; camcorder with tripod; 2 audio headsets with microphones; DVDs for OSHA required training in both English and Spanish; Business Plan Pro, Sales and Marketing Pro, and Adobe Acrobat software; Acrobat training materials; jump drives; and books on starting and growing business. Libraries have the choice of loaning the equipment to local businesses or making the equipment available for use at the library.

Participants were selected on the basis of the local unemployment rate, poverty level, proximity to a Small Business Development Center (SBDC), SCORE or other business organization, and statewide geographic distribution.

The sixty-five libraries receiving technology packages are:

- Acorn Public Library District, Oak Forest
- Alpha Park Public Library, Bartonvile
- Bellwood Public Library
- Bensenville Community Public Library District
- Berwyn Public Library
- Bloomington Public Library
- Bradley Public Library District
- Brookfield Public Library
- Cahokia Public Library District
- Cairo Public Library
- Charleston Carnegie Public Library
- Chatsworth Township Library
- Cherry Valley Public Library District
- Chicago Public Library-West Englewood Branch
- Cortland Community Library

- Crystal Lake Public Library
- Decatur Public Library
- Du Quoin Public Library
- Earlville Library District
- Eldorado Memorial Public Library
- Elmwood Park Public Library
- Evans Public Library, Vandalia
- Evergreen Park Public Library
- Farmington Area Library District
- Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District, Rochelle
- Fondulac District Library, East Peoria
- Frank Bertetti Benld Public Library
- Gail Borden Public Library District, Elgin
- Galesburg Public Library
- Gilman-Danforth District Library
- Grande Prairie Public Library, Hazel Crest
- Greater West Central PLD-Augusta Branch
- Harold Washington Library Center, Chicago Public Library
- Harrisburg Public Library District
- Harvard Diggins Public Library
- Hillsboro Public Library
- Joliet Public Library
- LaSalle Public Library
- Lillie M. Evans Library District, Princeville
- Manteno Public Library District

- Marion Carnegie Library
- Marshall Public Library
- Mascoutah Public Library
- Maywood Public Library District
- Moline Public Library
- Morton Public Library District
- Mount Carroll Township Public Library
- Newman Regional Library District
- Niles Public Library District
- North Suburban Library District, Loves Park
- Paris Carnegie Public Library
- Paxton Carnegie Library
- Peoria Public Library
- Reddick Public Library District
- Sallie Logan Public Library, Murphysboro
- Schaumburg Township District Library
- St. Charles Public Library District
- Sulzer Regional Library, Chicago
- Sycamore Public Library
- Talcott Free Library, Rockton
- Towanda District Library
- West Chicago Public Library District
- West Frankfort Public Library
- Westville Public Library District
- Wilmington Public Library District

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