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Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant Program Federal Fiscal Year 2012

4207- 4261 3000 E373C166 E370671

TO: Eligible Minnesota Academic, Public School Media Centers, Public and Special Libraries.

FROM: Nancy Walton, State Librarian and State Library Services Director

DATE: April 18, 2012

SUBJECT: Grant Application process for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Competitive Grant program.

The Minnesota Department of Education, State Library Services Division, is pleased to announce the 2012 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Competitive Grant Opportunity. State Library Services is soliciting applications from academic, public and special libraries and public school media centers that meet the eligibility guideline requirements.

Due to time constraints the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Competitive Grant Program for 2012 will be a one-part application process. Interested **eligible libraries** must submit a complete and detailed competitive grant application. Application requirements for 2012 federal LSTA funds have been revised with a federally mandated emphasis on project evaluation and end user outcomes.

An estimated allocation of $450,000 is available to fund eligible library/school media center project(s) from funds made available through Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). The proposed award period is anticipated to be October 1, 2012, through September 30, 2013. Due to the tight grant award end date no extensions will be allowed. All projects must end on September 30, 2013.

This notification of the availability of grant funds is made for the purpose of: accepting competitive grant applications to apply for grant funds in two categories as designated in the ***State of Minnesota LSTA Five-Year Plan; 2008-2012***.

1- Targeted areas of underserved populations and barrier-free access to library services and programs, and

2- Upgrades, improvements and enhancements to library automation and technology issues.

Applicant Requirements: Applicant must read ***The State of Minnesota LSTA Five-Year Plan: 2008-2012*** and ***Eligible Applicant Requirements*** to establish applicant eligibility and grant requirements. Both documents are located on the Minnesota Department of Education, State Library Services Division Website:
http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/Lib/StateLibServ/LSTA/index.html

Application documents are located on the Minnesota Department of Education, State Library Services Division Website:
http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/Lib/StateLibServ/LSTA/index.html

Electronic copies of the applications must be received by MDE-State Library Services Division by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 15, 2012 and original signed paper copies postmarked Friday, June 15, 2012.