

Support for Florida's Libraries

Florida libraries provide services in support of governmental initiatives, education and reading, and economic development.

1. State Aid to Public Libraries (FY 2011-2012)

Request support for an increase in State Aid to Public Libraries

State aid provides critical funding for public libraries to:

- * Support Education and Reading
- * Support Economic Development
- * Support Government Services

State aid is distributed throughout Florida via formula grants administered by the Florida Department of State. The program requires a local match, which stimulates local support for public libraries.

Funding History				Proposed
FY 2007/2008	FY 2008/2009	FY 2009/2010	FY 2010/2011	FY 2011/2012
\$30,719,264	\$23,384,001	\$21,253,978	\$21,253,978	\$21,300,000
	-\$7,335,263	-\$2,130,023	Steady Funding	+\$46,022
	-24%	-9%	Steady Funding	+.2%

2. Library Cooperative Grants (FY 2011-2012)

Support funding increase for Library Cooperative Grants. State grants provide critical funding for Florida's five Multitype Library Cooperatives (MLCs) to:

- * Provide Continuing Education and Training for Library Staff
 - MLCs train over 9,000 library staff each year; in turn, the population is served and assisted in areas such as computer use and filing for government benefits. Market Value: \$1.2 million!
- * Support Resource Sharing Between All Types of Libraries
 - MLCs help connect libraries through statewide interlibrary loan sharing more than 300,000 library items each year. Market Value: \$7.5 million!
 - MLCs coordinate Florida's statewide library delivery service moving over 450,000 library items annually. Market Savings over US Mail: \$790,000!
 - Floridians can find materials in all Florida Libraries because MLCs help libraries add their titles to the Florida catalog's 20 million items for Floridians to find and borrow.

The Southwest Florida Library Network (SWFLN) provides these services in Southwest Florida.



For more information, contact Luly Castro, Director

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