

**California State Library, Library Development Services
Cooperative System Report, September 10, 2021**

***Digital Learning Platforms for All California Public Libraries.** Here is the message from Greg Lucas:

Attention Library Directors:

In response to your input, the State Library is providing access for all local libraries to six digital platforms designed to help Californians and their communities recover from the pandemic.

There is no charge for the first year but these online resources are being paid for with one-time federal pandemic relief funds and, as a consequence, will require other sources of revenue to continue beyond the one year the State Library is paying for. If we do a good job in getting Californians to take advantage of what's being offered, it's more likely there'll be investments made to continue the platforms.

Nevertheless, making online tools like Coursera, GetSetUp, Learning Express, LinkedIn Learning, Northstar, and Skillshare universally available to Californians **NOW** will speed recovery from the pandemic by offering quick help in returning those unemployed or underemployed hit hardest by the pandemic to the workforce.

We know these unemployed or underemployed Californians are disproportionately women, people of color, young people (under age 25), and people with less than a bachelor's degree. The choice of platforms took this and other workforce development needs into account and was informed by the responses to the workforce survey sent to library directors in April.

Among other things, the platforms offer resources for workforce development and recovery, test prep, career change, small business startup, digital skill building, soft skills, certifications, and more.

A list of the platforms with more specifics about each is attached.

[Here is a registration form](#) to let us know which of these platforms you want, as well as which of them you may already have. Please register using the link by end of day, Sunday, September 19, 2021.

If you already subscribe to one or more of these platforms, and you choose to participate through this America Rescue Plan funded program, there will be credit or refund coming to you from the vendor, which will work with you directly.

Join us (or send someone) for introductions to the platforms on Wednesday and Thursday, September 15 and 16 at 9:00am.

This is the registration link for Wednesday 9/15 at 9am (Coursera, Learning Express, LinkedIn)
>> https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rsug-mKPTL-9Czd_j3hclA

This is the registration link for Thursday 9/16 at 9am (GetSetUp, Northstar, Skillshare)
>> https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RTKBFX68SNSgwgGl4cPDtg

An important aspect of this effort is getting Californians to know their libraries are providing these resources. The State Library will work with local libraries in expanding public awareness of these services and in conducting outreach to Californians particularly hard hit by the pandemic.

Thanks –
Greg Lucas, State Librarian

***Infrastructure Funding for California Libraries**

The budget signed by Gov. Newsom for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 contains the single largest investment California has ever made in local libraries. Chief among the investments is \$439 million in one-time funds to create an equity-focused grant program administered by the State Library to support life-safety and critical maintenance and facilities projects.

The Infrastructure Grant Program shall:

- Prioritize project requests submitted by local libraries located in high-poverty areas of the state. No grant amount shall exceed \$10 million.
- Prioritize grants for life-safety and other critical maintenance and infrastructure projects. The State Library may support more significant modernization and construction capital projects, other infrastructure projects, and device purchases only if funding remains after supporting life-safety and other critical projects.
- Require a local library jurisdiction to match state funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The State Library may reduce the required match if the requesting local library jurisdiction can demonstrate it's financially unable to provide the necessary matching funds. Upon receipt and assessment of these requests, the California State Library may lower the matching requirement, as follows:
 - For each library with local operating income per capita (LIPC) of more than \$40, no reduction in local match is allowed.
 - For each library with an LIPC between \$40 and \$15.01, the local match may be reduced by half.
 - For each library with an LIPC of \$15 or less, the local match may be eliminated.
 - (Visit our statistics page to **find the LIPC for California library jurisdictions.**)
- Spend available funds before June 30, 2024.
 - This means that funds can be awarded through June 30, 2024.
 - Funds will need to be expended by awardees prior to June 30, 2026, due to data collection and reporting requirements.

The State Library is in the process of designing funding guidelines and eligibility criteria and is developing an application process. The goal is to open the application period and provide funds to libraries as soon as possible.

California Public Libraries Survey

The FY2020-2021 California Public Libraries Survey is now open, and the deadline for submission is November 5, 2021. You can [login to LibPAS](#) and begin to enter your statistics using the same username and password as you used last year, and supporting documents are located on the [California State Library's statistics page](#). Contact [Meg DePriest](#) with any questions.

2021 Summer Participation Survey

The link to the annual Summer Participation survey is now available on the [State Library's statistics page](#). NEW this year — the survey includes both the 2021 summer reading participation survey and the 2021 Library Meal Program/Lunch at the Library participation survey. The data is used in state and federal reporting, and helps communicate the value and impact of California's summer library programs. Please have one person complete the survey on behalf of all libraries in your jurisdiction by **Thursday, September 30th, 2021**. Thank you in advance for collecting your summer programs data and completing the survey.

*Funding opportunities through the California State Library

A funding timetable and new funding opportunities from the California State Library is available on the website, [here](#). We have two open competitive grants, one for workforce development with a partnership with the Local Workforce Development Board and the second grant supports libraries in developing a community resource navigator program, called Community Connections. Those, and other opportunities, are listed on the [grants page](#) of the California State Library website.

*Community Connections

The California State Library is pleased to offer [Community Connections](#), a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding opportunity for up to ten public libraries to provide resource navigation services to patrons. The purpose of this project is to eliminate barriers that prevent people from accessing vital community resources, particularly in the areas of housing, health, nutrition, employment, and education.

This program will help libraries build staff skills and knowledge about social care resources, as well as create or join a hub of local social service organizations. Collaborations with existing service providers will be an essential element of each successful project. By expanding their capacity to provide effective social service assistance, successful awardees will build resilience and improve the health and wellbeing of their communities.

All participating libraries will:

- Receive funds up to \$60,000
- Partner with at least two California-based organizations providing social services
- Receive training from the California State Library
- Engage with a cohort of library staff focused on developing skills, tools, and knowledge to best implement the project. The cohort will convene monthly to create a community of practice.

*Library Workforce Partnership

[Library Workforce Partnership Initiative \(LWPI\)](#) is a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding opportunity for ten public libraries to partner with their local or regional workforce agency. By extending and enhancing their ability to support employment, libraries can establish a leadership role in their communities as California fights to recover from the effects of the pandemic.

Working with a cohort of ten libraries and their Local Workforce Development Boards (Local Boards), successful awardees will build staff skills and knowledge about workforce development and enhance workforce development in their communities. Local Boards in California will work with public libraries, and together they will promote employment, career development, and skill building for job seekers. The California State Library will help libraries connect with local workforce agencies to initiate partnerships.

All participating libraries will:

- Receive \$15,000
- Partner with a Local Board
- Receive training from the California State Library
- Engage with a cohort of library staff and workforce staff focused on developing skills related to workforce development. The cohort will convene monthly to collaborate and create a community of practice.

***Career Online High School**

From now until September 10, 2021, the matching requirement for COHS scholarships will be reduced. Libraries joining the Career Online High School program for the first time will be offered four no-cost scholarships for each scholarship they purchase. Libraries that already participate in COHS will receive three no-cost scholarships for each seat they purchase. For more information and links, visit <https://www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/career-online-high-school/>. For more information, contact beverly.schwartzberg@library.ca.gov.

***California Library Literacy Services**

Annual final reporting for CLLS programs opened in late August and is due October 8, 2021. Although the application is not yet available for the new \$15 million in ESL services through CLLS programs, the State Library has released a document that provides a roadmap to help programs in preparing to develop an application. We encourage programs to begin working on these tasks as soon as possible. The document, webinar recording, and webinar slides are now available. Please contact Bev Schwartzberg at beverly.schwartzberg@library.ca.gov for copies or more information.

***Statewide Library Branch Map**

The State Library has developed a [statewide library branch map](#) that provides contact information, opening status, and services available for every library branch building in California. Please [contact Meg DePriest](#) if you have not had a chance to update your library; she will provide you a link to the update form.

***First Partner's Summer Book Club**

The First Partner's Summer Book Club, a 10-week initiative to promote children's literacy and participation in summer reading programs hosted by local libraries throughout the state, concluded on August 9th. Thank you to all public libraries for promoting this program in your communities. Visit the State Library's [First Partner's Summer Book Club page](#) to enjoy recorded storytimes with the First Partner and special guests.

In addition, a bookshelf of selected titles from the First Partner’s Summer Booklist is being sent to every California public library to add to their collections. The bookshelf includes a diverse set of children’s books, with a focus on social emotional learning, for preschoolers and elementary-aged children – selected in partnership with California public librarians.

California Libraries Learn (CALL)

California Libraries Learn is busier than ever. Start planning fall professional development by visiting www.callacademy.org and check the frequently updated [calendar](#) to explore the options. Free courses, weekly webinars, and cohort-based training for staff will help you build a culture of learning in your library. CALL will be offering support for the virtual Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services conference in October and the PLP Future of Libraries conference, as well as many other events.

CALL has its own newsletter, *CALL Letters*, and users can subscribe directly for up-to-date information on staff professional development needs. Please [subscribe today](#). Encourage your staff members to [create a login](#) to access the many online, self-paced learning opportunities available through [CALL Academy](#).

California Revealed

California Revealed previews an upcoming funding opportunities for work with historical records, images, and outreach. For more information, visit www.californiarevealed.org and <https://californiarevealed.org/content/news>.

[Cataloging California: Description Assistance](#)

Application due: Friday, December 3, 2021 <https://californiarevealed.org/describe>

[Our Collections, Our Communities: Outreach Assistance](#)

Application due: Friday, December 3, 2021 <https://californiarevealed.org/community-outreach>

Public Library Staff Education Program

The Public Library Staff Education Program is a tuition reimbursement program developed by the California State Library to assist California libraries with staff professional development. Funding for credentialed training is provided to enable library staff to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to support valuable programs and services in their communities. Information can be found at [Public Library Staff Education Program - California State Library](#). The cooperative system application to administer PLSEP funds to students is due **9/23/21 5pm**. For questions, please contact Lena.pham@library.ca.gov

Developing Leaders in California Libraries

In partnership with the California State Library, the California Library Association (CLA) presents exciting new Leadership Development opportunities for library staff in California. Be on the lookout for news through the calix listserv! In addition to leadership training, the Developing Leaders in California Libraries project offered a series of “My Leadership Journey” webinars open to all staff to attend. To view past webinars, please visit <https://claleadership.org/webinars/>

Networking Conversations

Networking conversations for California libraries continue, and we encourage you to register to attend. Directors' calls occur once a month in 2021 and invitation to participate is sent out on the directors listserv as dates are scheduled. The upcoming Directors' Networking conversation is on 9/15/21 3:30pm.

CopyCat Grants

[Copycat Grants](#) are intended to help libraries easily implement tried-and tested-programs and extend the impact of previously funded, successful LSTA projects. It is well suited to those with limited capacity for developing and testing new programming. 2020/21 report forms can be found at [Manage Your Current Grant - California State Library](#). For questions, contact lena.pham@library.ca.gov

California COVID Diaries

Californians can share the impact the COVID-19 pandemic on their lives through a community-based archive. The aim of [California COVID Diaries](#) is to collect, preserve and make available to the public materials created by Californians, documenting their personal experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. A [Spanish-language version](#) of the submission form is also available. Visit <https://covididiaries.library.ca.gov/> or e-mail covididiaries@library.ca.gov for more information.

California Chronicles

Like the COVID Diaries project, the California Chronicles project welcomes writing, art, and other submissions from Californians. California Chronicles is a diverse collection of stories that shine a light on the invaluable experiences and contributions of older Californians. Older Californians have built resilience and strength over their long lives through successes, failures, joys, and difficulties. More information is available at www.calchronicles.com. These legacies strengthen communities and spark connections between generations of all ages. We all have a story – share yours today! The project stems from the California Department on Aging, the California State Library, and UC/Berkeley.