NYS Construction Grant Program - 2018

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State Aid for Public Library Construction

- **$24 million** program bonded through Dormitory Authority of New York State (DASNY) - Governor proposing $14 million, we’re asking for $30 million

- Administered by the NYS Division of Library Development (DLD) through the 23 public library systems

- PLS allotment: TBD given the recent increase

- **Minimum grant award**: $2,500 (total project cost must be at least $5,000)
Grant Program Period

- July 1, 2018 → June 30, 2021
- Only expenditures made after July 1, 2018 are eligible for reimbursement under this program.
- Expenditures made between January 1 - June 30, 2018, may count as part of the total project cost and serve as matching funds.
- No expenditures made prior to January 1, 2018 may be included in the grant.
Eligible Costs

- New construction
- Reconstruction, restoration, rehabilitation, remodeling
- Broadband installation (standards)
- Site acquisition (land with or without* existing structure)
- Equipment and furnishings, including computer equipment (within the context of an eligible construction project)
Eligible Costs...continued

- Electrical generators
- Permanent signage
- Security systems
- Assistive listening devices and systems
- Supervision/management of the project(s)
- Non-speculative architectural and engineering plans for approved projects
State Priorities

Priority is given to projects that

- Increase energy conservation,
- Provide accommodation for computer equipment and new technologies,
- Bring libraries into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act,
- Increase the safety and security of library staff and patrons,
- Address service needs of communities which are geographically isolated, economically disadvantaged or located beyond the reasonable service capabilities of other libraries.
Ineligible Costs

- Maintenance and repair activities
- New carpet, flooring, painting unless required by construction or code
- Mold abatement as a stand-alone project
- Equipment with a useful life of < six years
- Landscaping unless required by construction
- Asbestos survey only
- Books, other library materials
- Speculative architectural and engineering plans, building consultant feasibility studies
Matching Funds Available

- Up to 50% of total project approved costs

or

- Up to 75% if your library meets the PLS criteria for serving and “economically disadvantaged community”
Economically Disadvantaged Community

(1) **POVERTY LEVEL**: Greater than or equal to the median percentage of individuals living in poverty for Pioneer communities as determined from the most recent US Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

(2) **SCHOOL LUNCH ELIGIBILITY**: Greater than or equal to the median percentage for Pioneer school districts of student enrollment eligible for free and reduced lunch under the National School Lunch program from the data Pioneer compiles for the annual e-rate application.
Matching Funds

1) Regardless of the recommended award amount (which is could be less than 50% of your total project cost) you will need to match the remainder of the project cost.

2) If successful, you will be given the opportunity to decide whether or not to proceed once you learn the recommended award amount.
Timeline

- March 6, 2018: Conference call for libraries intending on applying for a 2018 Construction Grant
- May 25, 2018: Intent to Apply Form due to PLS
- June 1, 2018: Online Portal Opens
- June 7, 2018: Facilities committee meeting to approve Intent to Apply Forms for full application
- June 8, 2018: Libraries will be notified to begin work on their full Construction Grant Application
- August 31, 2018: Full Construction Grant Application due to PLS
- September 12, 2018: PLS Board Meeting, Construction Grant Committee to recommend project approval
- September 13, 2018: Libraries will receive approved recommendation notification from the PLS board
- October 3, 2018: Approximate deadline for PLS to submit final construction grant application due to DLD
- January 1, 2019: Approximate deadline for state to submit grants to DASNY
- June 2019: Libraries will be notified that their applications have been approved by DLD and DASNY
- July/August 2019: Libraries will receive the first initial payment of Construction Grant Funds.
Timeline Cont.

- **December**: 180 Notice
- **Spring 2020**: Progress report due
- **Summer 2020**: Extensions granted
- **June 30, 2021**: Projects must be closed

Note: Projects may close anytime prior to June 30, 2021.
Keep Timing in Mind

- **Project Bid / Quote Figures** (you may not use architect’s estimates)
- Is your building more than 50 years old? State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) approval: They have 30 days to respond to you.
- **NYSERDA Energy Assessment**
- Register for **NYS Directory Service Account**
- Don’t have a **NYS Vendor ID**? Get one.
- “Before” photos
Contact Me!

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http://pls-net.org/ConstructionGrant