

## NYS Adult Literacy Library Services Grant Program 2016-2019

### Project

The NYS Adult Literacy Library Services Grant Program helps library systems work with libraries and other partners to develop and expand adult literacy programs which will enhance workforce development services in public libraries.

The project theme is “Workforce Development at New York Libraries through Public Library Systems” with the purpose of increasing participation of adults<sup>i</sup> in library literacy programs which will improve their career and educational opportunities.

\$9,000<sup>ii</sup> will be allocated to MHLS each year for 3 years for this initiative to help libraries offer services that will improve adult literacy on the job and in the home.

Funds will be sub-granted to member libraries through an annual application process, scored against a standardized rubric, that have:

- ✓ Strong new or existing partnerships with local public schools, colleges or other organizations that are operating adult literacy programs, which is designed to initiate, enhance or extend services to adults to increase their literacy skills  
AND
- ✓ A related infrastructure component (such as a public computing center in the library; a literacy office in the library; the library is in a designated Literacy Zone).

Preference will be given to applications:

- ✓ With new partners
- ✓ From libraries that meet the MHLS economically disadvantaged community definition<sup>iii</sup>.

### Budget

- Code 40 – Purchased Services: \$9,000 will be divided among up to 9 eligible member libraries.

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<sup>i</sup> Adults are defined as persons over the age of 16 who are not enrolled in school.

<sup>ii</sup> This is the amount allocated by formula, but will be lower based on the actual appropriation provided in the annual State budget.

<sup>iii</sup> Following the definition in the State Aid for Public Library Construction Program board document, a library would need to fall within one of the following three definitions to be given preference:

- 1) a political subdivision within which **15 percent** or more of the population is living in poverty as shown on the latest federal census.
- 2) a public school district within which the percentage of student enrollment that is eligible for free and reduced lunch under the national school lunch program is **40 percent** or more for at least one month during the twelve months prior to the date of filing of the grant application.
- 3) a political subdivision as described in #1 within which **10 percent** or more of the population is living in poverty and a public school district as described in #2 within which the percentage of student enrollment that is eligible for free and reduced lunch under the national school lunch program is **30 percent** or more.