

Changes to the Library Services and Technology Act Grant Rules

Revised 2-23-2010

The Division of Library and Information Services is continuing the process to revise the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant program guidelines and application packet in response to the changes to Section 257.12(3), Florida Statutes. The revisions will update the grant program to implement Section 257.12(3), Florida Statutes, regarding the adoption of an Internet safety education program by public libraries:

“All public libraries are encouraged to adopt an Internet safety education program, including the implementation of a computer-based educational program, which has been endorsed by a government-sanctioned law enforcement agency or other reputable public safety advocacy organization and is designed for children and adults. The purpose of the Internet safety education program is to promote the use of prudent online department and broaden awareness of online predators.”

Notices regarding the rule revision process were published in the *Florida Administrative Weekly* on October 23, 2009, and December 24, 2009.

A Notice of Change announcing additional changes to the LSTA grant program guidelines and application was published on February 12, 2010, and republished on March 12, 2010, in the *Florida Administrative Weekly*. The changes incorporate the Department of State's grant noncompliance policy and associated penalties that may be imposed if a grant recipient and/or its governing body fails to comply with contractual grant requirements for any grant from any Division of the Department of State. Changes have also been made to the grant agreement to allow either the grant recipient or the Department to hold copyrights to materials that are created with grant funds and to award licenses within the discretion of the Division. No additional changes have been made to the Internet safety education components of the grant guidelines.

A draft of the proposed changes to the grant guidelines, application, and grant agreement are located at <http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/bld/grants/Lsta/LSTA.html>.

The additional changes have been made to the grant guidelines, application, and grant agreement as follows:

- **Page 8, Guidelines and Application Packet:**
Information has been added to describe the grant payment process.

Information has been added concerning noncompliance status with the Department of State. If a grant recipient (e.g., Board of County Commissioners, City Council, University) is in noncompliance status with **any** Division of the Department (Division of Library and Information Services, Division of Cultural Affairs, or Division of Historical Resources), grant payments will be withheld until

the grant recipient has come into compliance with the Department. A grant recipient can come into noncompliance status due to late, missing, or incomplete documents or reports, or for administrative reasons.

- **Page 6, Grant Agreement:**

Changes have been made to the grant agreement to allow either the grant recipient or the Department to hold copyrights to materials that are created with grant funds and to award licenses within the discretion of the Division. In all cases and in accordance with federal regulations, the federal awarding agency maintains certain licenses regarding copyrighted materials created with grant funds.

- **Page 7, Grant Agreement:**

A clause has been added to the grant agreement to incorporate the Department of State's grant noncompliance policy and to provide notice of the penalty that may be imposed if a grant recipient and/or its governing body fails to comply with contractual grant requirements for any grant from any Division of the Department of State. If a grant recipient or its governing body is in noncompliance status, grant payments will be withheld until the grant recipient or its governing body has come into compliance with the Department.