

Summary of Proposed Changes to Grant Rules

The Division of Library and Information Services is starting the process to revise the program guidelines, application packets and grant agreements for the **Library Services and Technology Act Grant Program**, the **State Aid to Libraries Grant Program**, the **Library Construction Grant Program**, the **Library Cooperative Grant Program** and the **Community Libraries in Caring Grant Program**.

This revision will also repeal the **Florida Library Literacy Grant Program** and the **Community and Library Technology Access Partnership Grant Program** sections in the *Florida Administrative Code* as these programs are no longer in effect.

The first step in the process was to announce our intention to revise the rule. The “Notice of Rule Development” was published on October 14, 2011, for the Library Services and Technology Act Grant Program, the State Aid to Libraries Grant Program, the Library Construction Grant Program, the Community Libraries in Caring Grant Program, the Florida Library Literacy Grant Program and the Community and Library Technology Access Partnership Grant Program. On October 28, 2011, the notice was published for the Library Cooperative Grant program in the *Florida Administrative Weekly*.

The second step in the process was to announce the changes to the rule and to start the rulemaking process. This announcement, the “Notice of Proposed Rule,” was published in the *Florida Administrative Weekly* on January 27, 2012.

As part of this process, we have prepared drafts of the proposed changes to the grant rule text, grant packets and related documents. The changes are located online at <http://info.florida.gov/bld/grants/AdminRuleChanges.html>.

A summary of the changes follows:

State Aid to Libraries Grant Program

- The State Aid to Libraries Grant Program guidelines will be updated to require reporting by grant recipients on subsequent years’ expenditure of grant funds, allow for the carryover of the balance of any State Aid grant funds until expended, and to incorporate the Department of State's grant noncompliance policy. The noncompliance policy will 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.
- The grant agreement will be updated to reflect current requirements. A draft of the revised agreement is located online at <http://info.florida.gov/bld/grants/AdminRuleChanges.html>.

Library Cooperative Grant Program

- The Library Cooperative Grant Program guidelines will be updated to reflect a change in the funding formula and allocation of counties and to incorporate the Department of State's grant noncompliance policy. The noncompliance policy will 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.
- The grant agreement will be updated to reflect current requirements. A draft of the revised agreement is located online at <http://info.florida.gov/bld/grants/AdminRuleChanges.html>.

Public Library Construction Grant Program

- The Department of State's grant noncompliance policy will be incorporated 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.
- The grant agreement will be updated to reflect current requirements. A draft of the revised agreement is located online at <http://info.florida.gov/bld/grants/AdminRuleChanges.html>.

Community Libraries in Caring Grant Program

- The Department of State's grant noncompliance policy will be incorporated 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.
- The grant agreement will be updated to reflect current requirements. A draft of the revised agreement is located online at <http://info.florida.gov/bld/grants/AdminRuleChanges.html>.

Library Services and Technology Act Grant Program

- The Library Services and Technology Act Grant Program guidelines will be updated to require submission of applications and reports in the electronic Florida Libraries and Grants system, describe the types of grant projects funded by the program, describe the updated application components, detail the revised application evaluation criteria, and provide updated grant administration information.
- The grant agreement will be updated to reflect current requirements. A draft of the revised agreement is located online at <http://info.florida.gov/bld/grants/AdminRuleChanges.html>.

Florida Library Literacy Grant Program

- The grant rules for this program will be repealed. The program has received no funding since FY2003.

Community and Library Technology Access Partnership Grant Program

- The grant rules for this program will be repealed. The program has received no funding since FY2001.

If you have any comments or suggestions on these proposed changes, please send them to Marian Deeney, Library Program Administrator, at Marian.Deeney@dos.myflorida.com, or fax them to 850.245.6643. She is also available via telephone at 850.245.6620. Proposed changes or comments should be submitted no later than February 20, 2012.