North Carolina

Projects by Strategy, FY 2003–2006

- 31% Human Capital Development
- 4% Library Service Expansion and Access
- 65% Information Infrastructure
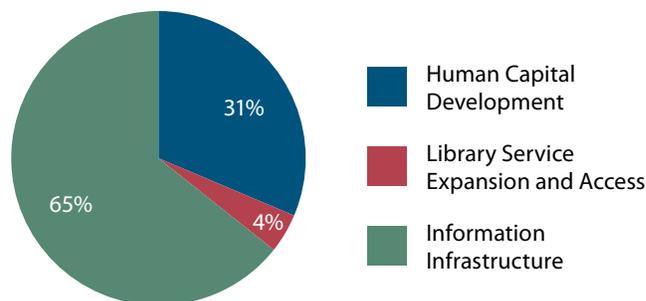
This fact sheet provides information about the State Library Administrative Agency, LSTA Grants to States programs by category, expenditures by fiscal year (2003–2006), interview highlights with the chief officer, and the program goals for 2008–2012.

State Library Administrative Agency Information

Agency name	State Library of North Carolina
Agency governance	A division of the Department of Cultural Resources within the executive branch
Population served in 2006	8,845,343
FY 2006 total expenditures	$26,836,000
Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006	$17,047,863
Chief Officer	Mary Boone, State Librarian
Web site	http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov

Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Mary Boone

Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

"Digitization has been our greatest impact; lots wouldn't be digitized if not for libraries. LSTA has enabled us to provide real leadership in creating digital access to unique North Carolina historical collections. Through NC ECHO (Exploring Cultural Heritage Online) we have surveyed 950 collections in the state and done 70 subgrants for digitization. All the digitization projects are encouraged to have a K–12 component. The digitization project focusing on state government publications was fully funded by LSTA in the beginning, but last year we got three state-funded positions to continue the work permanently. Over the last ten years there have also been lots of automation projects; in the first five years we ensured that all the community college, academic, and public libraries were automated. In the last five years we have sustained that. Most important for the schools have been print collection development grants."

Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

North Carolina	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
Total allotment	4,103,012	$4,241,339	$4,309,258	$4,394,254	17,047,863
Number of projects reported	158	162	148	118	586
Largest project amount	$547,972	$415,028	$193,932	$305,580	
Median project amount	$14,950	$11,690	$10,000	$13,200	

Delivery of Library Services:

"Our public libraries are organized as county, multi-county regional, and independent municipal library systems serving all North Carolinians. There are 77 public library systems, 17 UNC system libraries, 36 independent college libraries, and 58 community college libraries. We work with all of these independent communities of interest (COIs). There are some joint libraries in the state, but they aren't consortia.

"Our statewide database program, NC LIVE, has always been fully state funded for public libraries, public universities and community colleges. We sometimes use LSTA to supplement resources; e.g., we bought the PBS video series in part with LSTA funds, becoming the first state program to make these available. We continue to fund print collections in schools (also some in public and community college libraries). We have awarded 760 school library collection development grants to 698 schools (out of 2,452 total public and charter schools in North Carolina)."

Challenges in the Coming Five Years:

1. Funding!! Every state governmental agency in North Carolina took a small hit this year; we see more cuts coming in the counties and towns. Local superintendents control the school dollars and that has a potential impact on funding for school libraries.
2. Keeping up with technology: we want to be creative. We have established a digital information management program. We want to be on the leading edge, but it's hard when state government IT rules limit access to new and experimental applications.
3. Continuing education! We have several good programs. We have had a master trainer program since 1998, but we can't do that type of continuing education anymore unless it's state funded or tied directly to a grant. We've done trustee conferences that are very well received. We've moved all training to state funding, but we may not be able to do it all with budget cuts.
4. The lack of construction money is a problem. North Carolina is growing; big growth means new buildings are needed. We've got a lot of good things going, a real transition to a knowledge-based economy, but we also have have-nots in rural counties in various parts of the state.

Program Goals for 2008–2012

- Enrich the lives of North Carolinians through enhanced and targeted programs and services in our libraries that address the needs of specific audiences.
- Enhance information for lifelong learning for all North Carolinians by expanding the information resources in our state's libraries through strengthening, sharing, digitizing, and preserving our valuable and unique collections.
- Promote equal access to 21st-century library services for all North Carolinians by providing contemporary and evolving technologies to our state's libraries through programs designed to address infrastructure, resources, and services.

Exemplary Project: State Library of North Carolina

Project title	Statewide Leadership: NC Live Electronic Resources
Library	State Library of North Carolina
LSTA Funds Expended FY06	$201,600
Total Cost FY06	$201,600
Program Category	Library Service Expansion and Access, Information Infrastructure

Using an LSTA grant matched by state funds, the State Library of North Carolina has added valuable new resources to NC LIVE, North Carolina's statewide electronic collaborative (www.nclive.org), with the purchase of Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) videos. North Carolina was the first state to make these documentary and educational videos available to all its citizens through public and academic libraries, earning NC LIVE the 2008 Rethinking Resource Sharing Innovation Award. Subsequent LSTA funds expanded access to the PBS video collection to schools, making these videos available to North Carolina's classrooms.