

LSTA GRANTS TO STATES PROFILE: DELAWARE

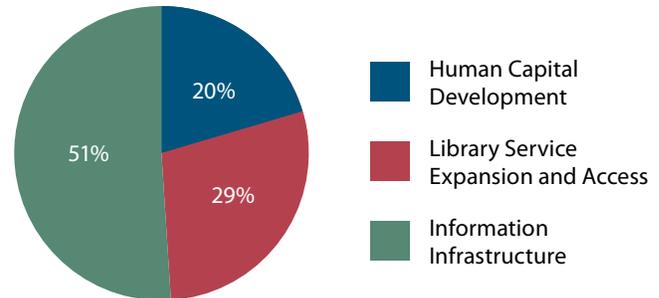
Delaware

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	Delaware Division of Libraries
Agency governance	Under the Delaware Department of State
Population served in 2006	850,366
FY 2006 total expenditures	\$9,251,000
Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006	\$3,417,287
Chief Officer	Annie Norman, State Librarian and Division of Libraries Director
Web site	www.state.lib.de.us

Projects by Strategy, FY 2003–2006



Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Annie Norman

Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

“LSTA has enabled us to take a comprehensive approach to planning. The extensive planning helped us to identify capacity gaps as well as common goals, and has been effective in providing the evidence needed to obtain increased support and to implement improvements. Being a small state, we concentrate on projects that have state-wide impact.”

Delivery of Library Services:

“Delaware has three counties and thirty-three public libraries. We’re fortunate in that we’re able to interact with all of the public libraries (as well as the academic libraries and some of the school libraries) directly.”

Challenges in the Coming Five Years:

1. While it’s outside the realm of LSTA funding, Delaware has an ongoing need for larger library buildings.

Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

Delaware	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
Total Allotment	\$704,320	\$843,489	\$904,235	\$965,243	\$3,417,287
Number of projects reported	10	10	10	8	38
Largest project amount	\$409,190	\$538,610	\$479,282	\$562,869	
Median Project Amount	\$40,650	\$37,000	\$50,000	\$34,669	

2. Technological evolution...technology is a moving target and there are always new challenges.
3. Staff/professional development is a critical need. For example, funds spent on new technologies are less effective if people don't know how to use the technology well.

Program Goals for 2008–2012

- The people of Delaware will be served by libraries that promote literacy, lifelong learning, and the joy of reading.
- The people of Delaware have equitable access to information and ideas through high-quality libraries, outreach services, and/or electronic/virtual library services.

Exemplary Project: Delaware State Library/Division of Libraries

Project title	The Delaware Book Festival
Library	Delaware State Library/Division of Libraries
LSTA Funds Expended FY06	\$40,916
Total Cost FY06	\$40,916
Program Category	Human Capital Development

The Delaware Book Festival, an annual event open to all, promotes books, reading, libraries, and literacy. Objectives: To organize public programs about books, writing, emerging library technologies, and related subjects for readers of all ages; to encourage use of the resources provided by libraries; to foster reading and the discussion of books; to promote literacy and lifelong learning through reading; to develop partnerships to advance the mission of the Delaware Book Festival; to cultivate the habits of families reading together. Special activities this year covered an array of topics. Participants of all ages were invited to:

- Create a comic strip
- Be a book collector
- Learn to repair and appraise books
- Meet favorite literary characters
- Explore Shakespeare and haiku poetry
- Meet a favorite author and get a book signed
- Join a new statewide program sponsored by the Delaware Division of Libraries—Learning Journeys
- Track your reading in the learning journal