

*Creating a Nation of Learners*



INSTITUTE of  
**Museum and Library**  
SERVICES



## Program Solicitation for a Cooperative Agreement: Digital Inclusion Framework

# Remember --

- This is NOT a grant program.
- This program will NOT give out broadband grants.
- The solicitation is NOT for individuals.

# Goal of Today's Webinar

- Discuss slides
- Questions and answers throughout
- Use chat box for questions
  - Only audio for me (presenter)
  - Protects your privacy and confidentiality
  - Serves as an archive
- Q & A summary posted later on IMLS website

# IMLS Goal: National Broadband Plan

- Recommendation 9.3
- Develop guidelines for public access technology
  - based on populations served and organization size
- Assist libraries & community-based organizations
  - assess their needs
    - workstations, portable devices and bandwidth
  - develop guidelines
  - review annually to reflect changing technology and practices

# Challenges

- Meeting NBP's ambitious timeframe
- Understanding community needs
- Engaging a diverse range of participants
- Synthesizing domain expertise

# Ultimate Challenge

- Producing framework that can be extended into guidelines
  - basis for benchmarks
  - evaluation tools, or
  - performance measures
- **Adding value so libraries and community-based organizations can and will use the guidelines**

# Framework

- Principles, elements, or characteristics
  - balance abstract concepts with concrete realities
  - conduct asset mapping
- ALA
  - *Principles for the Networked World*
  - *The Library in the Networked World*
- Microsoft
  - *Power Up: The Campaign for Digital Inclusion*
  - *Innovating for Inclusion*

# Principles

- ALA
  - “The networked world must ensure effective access to information for all people from all sources...”
  - “Libraries should promote partnerships and collaborations among diverse communities...”
- Microsoft
  - Affordable access to technology
  - Digital empowerment awareness campaigns
  - Metrics for accountability

# Elements

- Organizational Infrastructure
  - Administration, Facility, Policies, Hours
- Physical Infrastructure
  - Workstations, Networking equipment, Connectivity
- Staffing
  - Coverage, Training, Expert knowledge, Diversity

# Audiences and Approaches

- Local
  - Regional cooperative
  - State
  - National
- 
- Customized and tiered
  - Flexible and adaptive
  - Granular and precise
  - Self-administered
  - Voluntary
  - NOT A MANDATE

# Framework and Assessment Models

- LEED Certification Rating System
  - U.S. Green Building Council
- Promising Practices Guide
  - Human Rights Campaign
- A Framework of Guidance for Building Good Digital Collections
  - NISO
- Foresight Maturity Model
  - Terry Grim

# Timeframe

- Deadline: August 30, 2010
  - 11:59 p.m. Eastern time
- Period of performance
  - Maximum of six months from date of award
- Estimated award date: October 15, 2010
- Start date of November 1, 2010
  - contingent on FY2011 funding

# Award

- Anticipated award amount: \$150,000
- IMLS may provide additional funding and extend the grant period
- No cost sharing required, but will be considered as an evaluation factor

# Application

- Register at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
- Funding Opportunity Number: FDI-2010
- Multi-step registration process – more than 1 day
- Grants.gov support available 24/7
  - 1-800-518-4726
  - [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)
  - [www.grants.gov/CustomerSupport](http://www.grants.gov/CustomerSupport)

# IMLS and Cooperator

- Highly collaborative relationship
- Work closely with IMLS
  - weekly status calls or other means as agreed upon
  - develop a joint product
- Only one (1) Cooperative Agreement
  - Cooperator could have multiple partners

# Cooperator Deliverables – Part 1

- Literature review
  - cross-disciplinary
  - national and international in scope
  - Part 1: existing assessment tools for communities
  - Part 2: informs development of framework
- Description of stakeholders & value propositions
  - policy makers, community leaders, state officials, state libraries, public library administrators, museum leaders, community-based organization leaders, city and county managers, community college administrators, community foundations

# Cooperator Deliverables – Part 2

- Project work plan
- Selection of expert individuals
  - representatives of intended audiences or users
- Facilitation of in-person meetings and intervening communications
  - initial face-to-face within two months of start date
  - monthly or bi-weekly tele-meetings
- Consolidation of advice, experiences, and information from individual experts

# Cooperator Deliverables – Part 3

- Identify and prioritize primary considerations for digital inclusion.
- Development of a draft framework
  - including a set of principles and elements for communities to use in evaluating their capacity for digital inclusion
- Solicit feedback from wide range of stakeholders
  - new technologies and conventional methods
  - Engaging with professional associations and other stakeholder organizations

# Cooperator Deliverables – Part 4

- Finalize the framework
- Submit a final report
  - literature review
  - description of stakeholders & value propositions
  - description of the development process
  - final framework
  - set of recommendations for next steps, and
  - recommendations for a communications plan
- Narrative and financial reports
- IMLS will produce the final framework

# Eligibility

- Library, agency, institution of higher education, or museum with knowledge of or experience in fostering digital literacy and inclusion.
  - “Agency” includes non-profit organizations, units of state and local government, and museum and library service organizations.
- IMLS welcomes proposals representing collaborations among eligible organizations.

# Partnerships

- IMLS welcomes proposals representing collaborations or partnerships among eligible organizations.

# Evaluation Criteria

- Project Design
  - Soundness of Approach
    - consistent with the stated goals and objectives
    - high likelihood of achieving a timely and acceptable performance
  - Completeness of Proposal
    - demonstrates understanding of SOW & requirements
    - sufficient size and resources to implement the project

# Evaluation Criteria

- Project Resources
  - Qualifications of offeror and personnel, including:
    - Demonstrated knowledge of and experience in conducting projects of similar scope and complexity.
    - Demonstrated resources adequate to complete the research within the required time frame, including any resources proposed as cost-share contributions.
    - Demonstrated familiarity with issues surrounding community public access technology.

# Evaluation Criteria

- Project Resources
  - Qualifications of offeror and personnel, including:
    - Demonstrated ability to adhere to time frames and cost projections.
    - Demonstrated ability to synthesize findings and to communicate findings to a lay audience.
    - Demonstrated working relationships with relevant stakeholders.

# For More Information

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[www.imls.gov/pdf/FDI-2010-RFP.pdf](http://www.imls.gov/pdf/FDI-2010-RFP.pdf)

