



Five-Year Plans and IMLS Updates

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High-level timeline

- Five-Year Evaluations due **March 30, 2027**
 - IMLS has 90 days to review and request changes
- Five-Year Plans due **June 30, 2027**
 - IMLS has 90 days to review and request changes
- Submit both to stateprograms@imls.gov
- Plans become effective on Oct. 1, 2027
- We post your final Eval and Plan on the IMLS website

2028-32 Plan Guidelines

- Main purpose of the Plan is to establish goals
- The Evaluation informs it
- Must include a “crosswalk” with the SPR
- See [Official Guidelines](#) on the IMLS website



FIVE-YEAR STATE PLAN GUIDELINES FOR STATE LIBRARY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES 2028-2032

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Submit to stateprograms@imls.gov by June 30, 2027

What is IMLS?
The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. Our mission is to advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development. Our vision is a nation where individuals and communities have access to museums and libraries to learn from and be inspired by the trusted information, ideas, and stories they contain about our diverse natural and cultural heritage.

What is the Grants to States Program?
The Grants to States program is the largest source of federal funding support for library services in the U.S. Through this program, IMLS provides financial assistance to develop library services throughout the States, U.S. Territories, and the Freely Associated States. IMLS funds support projects that, among other purposes, promote literacy and education; enhance and expand the services and resources provided by all types of libraries; enhance the skills of the current and future library workforce and leadership; develop public-private partnerships with other agencies and community-based organizations; and target library services to individuals with diverse geographic, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds, individuals with disabilities, and individuals from other underserved communities. The program recognizes the importance of information technology by emphasizing programs that teach digital literacy skills; develop library services that provide all users with access to information through local, State, regional, national, and international collaborations and networks; and establish or enhance electronic and other linkages among and between libraries and other entities.

Each State is responsible for leveraging non-Federal, State, and local funds to match the Federal funds it receives. 20 U.S.C. § 9133(b). In addition, each State must sustain a "Maintenance of Effort" level of State spending on libraries and library programs to ensure that Federal funds do not replace State funds in supporting State-based programs. 20 U.S.C. § 9133(c).

Who is Eligible?
The fifty-nine established State Library Administrative Agencies ("SLAAs") may apply for Grants to States funds.

OMB Control Number: 3137-0029, Expiration Date: 3/31/2027
You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.



What's in the Plan?

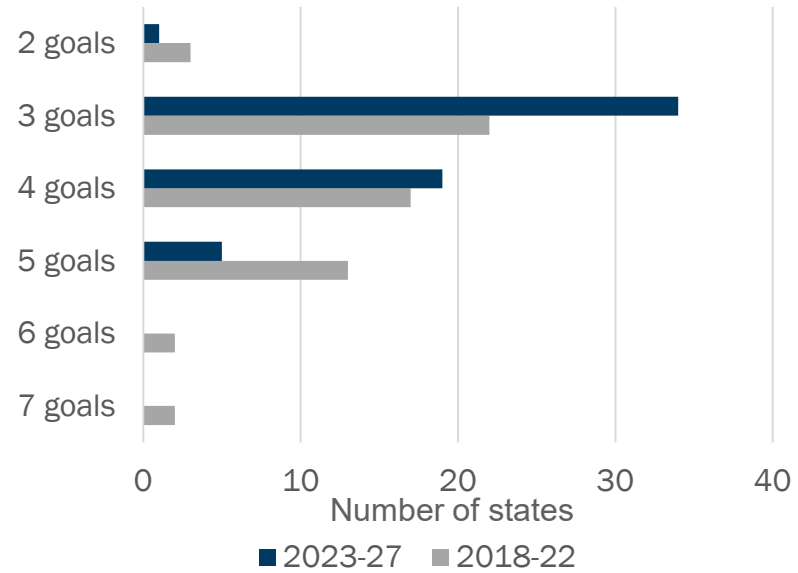
- Preliminary material:
 - Mission Statement
 - Needs Assessment
- GOALS that:
 - Align with needs
 - Align with IMLS focal areas
 - Align with LSTA purposes/priorities
 - Include indicators of success
 - Include associated projects (in either the crosswalk or narrative)
- Additional statutory requirements:
 - Coordination Efforts
 - Evaluation Plan
 - Involving Libraries and Library Users in the Plan
 - Public Availability
 - Monitoring
- Crosswalk (separate appendix, unless incorporated in narrative)
- Signed Certifications and Assurances



A Note on Goals

- Fewer, broader goals are recommended (the average is 3.5 goals)
- Long goals don't load well in the SPR
 - Consider a less wordy goal with a colon to further describe it
- Goals must have at least one corresponding IMLS focal area (there are 6)

Number of Goals: cycle comparison





A Note on Projects

- Projects associated with goals are just **EXAMPLES** and should include:
 - A project title or short description
 - Procedures used to carry out projects (e.g. subawards)
 - What benefit or outcome is expected
 - A timeline for activities over the five-year period
 - A corresponding IMLS Intent (there are 14)



A Note on Coordination Efforts

- How will you coordinate resources, programs, and activities with other State agencies?
- According to the Statute, you can focus on:
 - Elementary and secondary education
 - Early childhood education
 - Workforce development
 - Other activities, like economic and community development and health information
- “Efforts” do not mean commitments in stone



The “Crosswalk”

State Goal	IMLS Focal Area(s)	Associated Project	IMLS Intent
#1 Lifespan Learning	Lifelong Learning	STEM for All	Improve users’ general knowledge and skills
		Summer Reading	Improve users’ formal education
		Senior Encore	Improve users’ general knowledge and skills
#2 Community Connections	Human Services, Civic Engagement	Financial Literacy 101	Improve users’ ability to apply information that furthers their personal, family, or household finances
		One Book	Improve users’ ability to participate in community conversations around topics of concern
#3 Trained Workforce	Institutional Capacity	School Library Boot Camp	Improve the library workforce
		CE Pursuits	Improve the library workforce
		Accreditation	Improve the library workforce



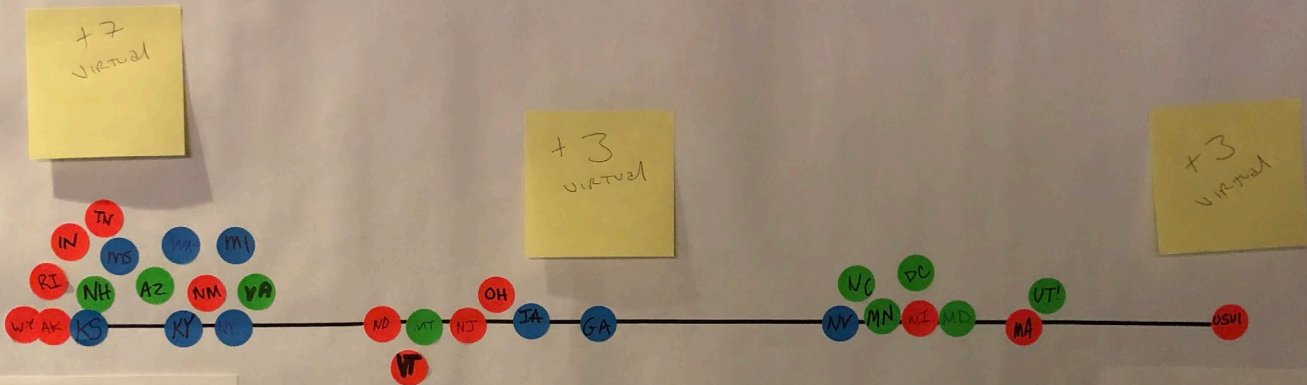
Signed Assurances

- All Authorized Certifying Officials (usually chief officers) need to resubmit signed assurances with the Plan
- One form needs the signature of your state's attorney general, so please start early!
- Required forms (on the IMLS website):
 - State Legal Officer's Certification of Authorized Certifying Official
 - Five-year Plan Assurances
 - Assurances of Non-Construction Programs
 - Internet Safety Certification (only required for SLAAs carrying out services as a public library)



Last cycle pulse poll

Five-Year Plan Comparison



New Plan will be virtually unchanged (in number and nature of goals)

New Plan will represent a total overhaul (in number and nature of goals)



Plan Questions?

IMLS Updates



Topics

- Budget
- IMLS Leadership and Personnel
- IMLS 30th Anniversary
- IMLS Office Move
- Freedom Trucks
- Library Convening 250: Telling America's Story
- 2026 National Book Festival
- 2 CFR 200 (Uniform Guidance) Updates



**Other Topics or
Questions?**