

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

Academic Year 2008-2009

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The ALA Office for Human Resource Development (HRDR) publishes this directory annually and provides the opportunity for granting bodies to update their entries when information changes. To submit changes, please contact:

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INTRODUCTION

Financial Assistance for Library and Information Studies, maintained by the Office for Human Resources Development and Recruitment, is an annual directory of awards from state library agencies, national and state library associations, local libraries, and academic institutions offering undergraduate or graduate education programs in library and information studies. Other national associations, foundations, and agencies known to grant financial assistance for library education and information studies are also listed.

Note that deadlines for applications usually occur well in advance of the academic year for which the assistance is awarded. There may be other awards available for which no notice was provided to the American Library Association. Local groups such as Friends of Library groups, service clubs, and unions will sometimes provide assistance. Names and addresses of library and information studies programs; state, regional and national library agencies and associations can be found in the latest edition of *The American Library Directory* and *The Bowker Annual: Library and Book Trade Almanac*, available in most local libraries.

Other possibilities for assistance include general scholarships that are not intended primarily for library and information studies but may sometimes be used for this purpose. Check the local college or public library for general directories of scholarship and grant assistance. Ask the reference librarian for help. Many bookstores also carry general scholarship directories, or you might wish to consult the 'scholarship' section in *Books in Print*, a reference tool found in libraries or bookstores.

Students should also consider general loan programs available through university financial aid offices, the state postsecondary financial aid office and federal government programs. Write or call the U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid Information Center at 800-433-3243. You may also want to visit the federal student aid website at <http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/index.jsp>.

States offer loan programs for state residents. Most graduate library and information studies programs will also provide information about part-time jobs and work-study programs in the areas surrounding the schools. In addition to providing income, work-study programs are excellent ways to gain experience that will be of value in later job-seeking efforts.

Contact should be maintained with library and information studies education programs to which students have applied, in the event additional assistance becomes available after this publication is compiled. For example, in the past, the U.S. Dept. of Education has awarded fellowships for library and information studies under the Higher Education Act Title II-B program, but these are not usually announced until the summer just prior to the academic year in which they are to be used. Some of these are especially targeted for minorities, or other special groups, or persons with interest in certain library specializations, such as children's services, school library media centers, or science reference. Although the funding for continuing these fellowships is uncertain, there may be other federal programs that are developed.

Since the basic educational qualification for librarians is a Master's degree in librarianship, most of the funds listed in *Financial Assistance for Library and Information Studies* are intended for graduate study in librarianship. However, the column entitled "Program Level" gives information as to whether the assistance is for library technical assistant, bachelor's degree, master's degree, sixth year certificate, doctoral, or continuing education programs. The column entitled "Academic and Other Requirements" will indicate assistance for which foreign students are eligible to apply, as well as funds that are primarily intended for students from specific ethnic groups.

Although many of the scholarships listed under a particular state in Section I are available only to state residents, there are others sources that are open on a nationwide basis even if offered by a state agency, association, or institution. Any scholarship donor who has been omitted from this publication is invited to submit information for future editions. It is hoped that additional sources of assistance for continuing education opportunities can be identified in addition to basic educational assistance.

Note: Asterisks (*) used in front of institutions listed in the directory indicate the school has a program leading to a master's degree in librarianship accredited by the American Library Association. An updated list is available from the ALA Accreditation Office each year.