

ALCTS Online Course Award for Library Professionals from Developing Countries

Purpose

One free seat per online continuing educational course session is available to librarians and information professionals from developing countries.

The goal of this program is to help library professionals from developing countries stay current with the latest trends and developments in technical services areas and enhance their professional knowledge and skills in librarianship and information science.

Criteria of eligibility

Applicants must:

- Have a degree in library or information science (e.g. a 4-year undergraduate degree or a master's) or,
 - be enrolled in a library or information science program in a developing country or,
 - be working as a librarian or information professional in a developing country
- Be a legal national from a qualifying developing country (see lists of Qualifying Countries: [World Bank](#) | [United Nations](#)) living in this country
- Have working knowledge of English
- Have technical abilities to participate in an online course:
 - computer skills: be comfortable with Internet browsers such as Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, etc.; a word processing program, such as Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, etc., be able to send emails with attachments; copy and paste text; download and save a file, install a program or plug-in; quickly learn a new program using online tutorial or Help section;
 - regular unlimited access to a computer (at least a Pentium II-based PC or a G3 PowerMac machine);
 - a reliable high-speed Internet connection (Broadband or DSL, or at least 56k modem);
 - antivirus software installed and kept up-to-date on a computer.

*See [Are you ready for online learning?](#) for general information on online learning. Also look for technical requirements in course descriptions as they may vary from course to course. Send e-mail to jreese@ala.org if you have any questions.

- Financial need in assistance due to insufficient or lack of funding for professional development from your employer

Legal nationals from developing countries studying abroad are not eligible for this Award.

Program Promotion

The information about ALCTS online courses for librarians or information professionals from developing countries will be posted on the ALCTS [Awards & Grants](#) and [International Relations Committee](#) web sites. The courses will be also advertised on the [alaworld](#) discussion list.

A link to the [Online Course Schedules](#), the [Application Form](#) and a list of Qualifying Countries will be provided on the ALA divisional international relations committees' web sites and appropriate discussion lists.

Application Procedures

Registration. Registration for ALCTS Award will be open after the annual schedule of courses become available (typically, in November-December). The IRC Committee creates registration schedule and decides on the number of sessions opened for registration simultaneously. Registration will stay open for at least 30, but no more than 45 days.

Submission. Applicants must submit their applications and upload a recommendation (reference) letter from their supervisors on the interactive web form at: <http://alctsprogram.wufoo.com/forms/alcts-web-course-offering-application-form/> The form must be completed in English. The number of courses that one individual can receive is no more than **two free courses per year**.

Selection. The ALCTS International Relations Committee will review all applications according to eligibility and required criteria and select the winners. E-mail acceptance will be sent to a successful applicant as soon as the decision is made but not later than two weeks prior to the course starting date. If a winner does not respond to the Award letter and/or does not register on the Moodle System opened to the course participants a week before the course starting day, her/his seat will be offered to the next eligible applicant. A rejection message will be sent via e-mail prior to the beginning of the course offering to the applicants who were not accepted to the course and not placed to the waiting list.

Waiting list. The Committee may create a waiting list for eligible applicants if necessary. The applicants placed on a waiting list will be informed about the status of their application. They have the option to stay on the waiting list, or to withdraw their application. The waiting list will be kept for one year. If an applicant remains on a waiting list over a year, she/he is encouraged to resubmit applications for the next year's course offerings. Registration can be open for courses with no waiting list during the year as needed.