

RAILS Report

LLSAP Support Grants for FY2024

The FY2024 LLSAP Support Grant application is in the works and will be distributed to LLSAP directors before the end of July. There will be no significant changes to the application form, and the same formula will be used to distribute funding, which has been budgeted at the same level as previous fiscal years. Applications will be due on September 15, and awards will be announced in October.

ZILLANE Report Requirement for LLSAPs

Until recent years, the Illinois State Library required that all LLSAPs complete the ZILLANE statistical report as a component of the regional library systems' annual report on the use of System Area and Per Capita Grant funds. While the ISL no longer requires RAILS to submit this report, we still find the data to be useful, and will again require its completion. One notable example of its ongoing usefulness is that it provided the LLSAP Sustainability Working Group with critical insight into the overall cost of LLSAP operations and the differences among LLSAPs. This will be incorporated as a component of the LLSAP Support Grant application or reporting process, and an updated template will be provided to LLSAPs.

Catalog membership grants

The North Chicago Public Library was recently awarded \$14,342.26 to join PrairieCat.

RAILS has budgeted to continue this grant program in FY2023. While the application is routinely updated year to year, the FY2023 application will incorporate more significant changes to the process and requirements, as suggested by the LLSAP Sustainability Working Group. The updated application is currently in process, and LLSAP directors will be informed when it's posted on the RAILS website.

L2 enhancements

In August, we will roll out new functionality that will enhance libraries' ability to manage their own staff lists and affiliations in L2. Included is the ability for public library directors to create new accounts for staff or trustees affiliated with their library without requiring the email address verification step. More detailed information and documentation will be provided via RAILS e-news and the L2 site when the features are fully live.