Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program: Early Career Development

In an effort to support the early career development of new faculty members who are likely to become leaders in library and information science, IMLS offers research funds to support innovative research (on any topic in library and information science) by untenured, tenure-track faculty in graduate schools of library and information science as well as tenure-track faculty in graduate school library media education programs.

Eligibility

A. By the deadline for submission of proposals, principal investigators must:

- hold a doctoral degree
- be untenured
- be employed in a tenure-track position as an assistant professor that has both educational and research responsibilities in a graduate school of library and information science or a graduate school library media education program

B. Projects must:

- have a single principal investigator with no co-investigators. Consultants and students may be included in the project.
- include a letter of departmental endorsement, including verification of principal investigator eligibility

Principal investigators may submit only one Early Career Development proposal per grant cycle.

FAQ

1. Am I eligible to apply if I am in a tenure-track position but my title is "associate professor?"

No. The Early Career Development funding is intended for faculty members who are at or near the beginning of their careers. If you are currently an assistant professor and your title were to change to "associate professor" after the deadline for submission of proposals, you would still be eligible to apply.

2. Am I eligible to apply if I have defended my thesis but have not been awarded the diploma?

No. You are not eligible unless you receive the official, dated diploma, by the deadline for submission of proposals.

3. Am I eligible if I hold an adjunct position at a graduate school of library and information science?

No. Adjunct positions are not eligible tenure-track positions.

4. Am I eligible if I hold a shared tenure-track position at a graduate school of library and information science?

Yes. You do not need to be in a full-time tenure-track position. However, you must meet all other eligibility criteria.

5. Am I eligible if I have received funds from the Federal Government to perform research?

Yes. You may submit an Early Career Development proposal as long the proposed research activities in your Early Career Development proposal do not duplicate those concurrently supported through another source.