

# ▶ Polycom® Grant Assistance Program and the Polycom 7-Step Grant Assistance Process™

## Improving Literacy through School Libraries Program



“We have worked through the Polycom Grant Assistance Program and the Polycom 7 Step Grant Assistance Process™ on several grants. I can’t say enough positive things about the Polycom Grant Assistance Program. Without their high level of expertise, we might never have been funded. Now we have the capability of providing model distance learning programs for all our students.”

Kay Highbarger  
Executive Director  
South Central Kansas Regional Service Center

### CFDA No. 84.364A

U.S. Department of Education

### Purpose

Improving Literacy through School Libraries Program funds help improve student reading skills and academic achievement by providing students with increased access to up-to-date school library materials; well-equipped, technologically advanced school library media centers; and well-trained, professionally certified school library media specialists.

LSL funds can be used to support or develop programs that address the following objectives:

1. Acquire up-to-date school library media resources, including books
2. Acquire and use advanced technology, incorporated into the curricula of the school, to develop and enhance the information literacy, information retrieval, and critical thinking skills of students
3. Facilitate Internet links and other resource-sharing networks among schools and school library media centers, and public and academic libraries
4. Provide professional development for school library media specialists of students in grades PreK-3, and activities that foster increased collaboration between school library media specialists, teachers and administrators of students in grades K-12
5. Provide students with access to school libraries during nonschool hours, including the hours before and after school, during weekends and during summer vacation periods

### Who Can Apply

Eligible entities include local education agencies (LEAs) in which at least 20 percent of the students served by the LEA are from families with incomes below the poverty line. U.S. census data for family poverty rates can be found at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/lsf/eligibility.html>.

### Application Deadline

March 28, 2011

### Estimated Range of Awards:

Award range is \$30,000 – \$500,000 with average award size of \$350,000

### Cost Share / Matching Requirements

There is no cost share or matching requirement for this grant.

## Funding Preferences

Five additional points will be awarded to applicants that propose to serve at least one school designated by the state as a "persistently lowest-achieving school". A list of each state's "persistently lowest-achieving schools" can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/sif/summary/index.html>.

## How Does Video Fit In?

The grant allows for library and distance learning equipment, including video, which can increase access to advanced, unique, and previously unavailable curriculum and content, literary collections, expert media specialists, and outside teaching resources.

The benefits of Polycom solutions include:

- Enhancing and sharing expertise from the U.S. and around the world
- Extending course offerings and realizing educational equity for rural and underserved populations
- Increasing immediacy and productive interaction, and improving learner outcomes
- Improving course design by providing a blended learning approach to promote increased learning

## What Polycom Can Do

Polycom cares about your project outcomes. That's why we utilize the fully customizable Polycom® 7-Step Grant Assistance Process™ to help ensure that you are "grant-ready" and positioned for success.

Polycom can help you by:

- Working with a team of expert researchers, grant writers, and technology experts to provide you with customized assistance based on your organization's specific needs
- Providing training and assistance on grant resources and requirements
- Being your trusted advisor on grants, and engaging you throughout the entire process

## Learn More

To learn more about how we can help you apply for this or any other grant, contact your advisor:

E-mail: [grants@polycom.com](mailto:grants@polycom.com).

To enroll in the Polycom Grant Assistance Program, go to: [www.polycom.com/grants](http://www.polycom.com/grants).

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