[Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)](https://www.imls.gov/%22%20%5Co%20%22Institute%20of%20Museum%20and%20Library%20Services%20%28IMLS%29)

* The [mission](https://www.imls.gov/about-us) of IMLS is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. IMLS provides leadership through research, policy development, and grant making.
* New IMLS initiatives and successful projects are highlighted in the [UpNext Blog](http://blog.imls.gov/).
* All available grants can be found on the [Apply for a Grant](https://www.imls.gov/grants/apply-grant/available-grants) page. Key IMLS programs include National Leadership Grants for [Libraries](https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-libraries) and [Museums](https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-museums); Sparks! Ignition Grants for [Museums](https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/sparks-ignition-grants-museums)and [Libraries](https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/sparks-ignition-grants-libraries); [Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program](https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/laura-bush-21st-century-librarian-program); [Museums for America](https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-america); [Museum Grants for African American History and Culture](https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museum-grants-african-american-history-and-culture); and Native American/Native Hawaiian Library and Museum Services.
* IMLS funding [priorities](https://www.imls.gov/issues/national-issues) include early learning; developing 21st century skills; STEM learning; access to and preservation of content and collections; developing the National Digital Platform; development of museum and library professionals; building communities of practice for museum and library learning experiences; accessibility in museums and libraries; and community support and engagement.
* The IMLS [budget website](https://www.imls.gov/about-us/legislation-budget/imls-budget) provides a breakdown of [IMLS appropriations](https://www.imls.gov/sites/default/files/budgettable_14-17.pdf) over the last few fiscal years. In FY 16 $156 million was given as grants to states to support state library programs, while $27 million went toward IMLS library programs and $31 million went toward IMLS Museum programs.
* IMLS provides more than $150 million in [grants to states](https://www.imls.gov/grants/grants-states) every year through [State Library Administrative Agencies](http://www.imls.gov/programs/state_libraries.aspx), which spend the funds in accordance with mandated five year plans. Learn more about these plans in the IMLS [state profiles](https://www.imls.gov/grants/grants-state/state-profiles).
* IMLS is involved in a number of [national partnerships and initiatives](https://www.imls.gov/issues/national-initiatives).

Proposal Development Resources

* [IMLS Strategic Plan](https://www.imls.gov/about-us/strategic-plan)
* [Sample applications](https://www.imls.gov/grants/apply-grant/sample-applications) for all grant programs
* [Available grants](https://www.imls.gov/grants/apply-grant/available-grants)
* [Evaluation policy](https://www.imls.gov/grants/outcome-based-evaluations)
* [IMLS publications](https://www.imls.gov/publications)
* [IMLS press releases](https://www.imls.gov/news-events/press-releases)
* [IMLS events and webinars](https://www.imls.gov/news-events/events)
* [IMLS videos](https://www.imls.gov/publications/imls-videos)

Things to Consider

* Become a peer reviewer
* IMLS grants contacts are generally divided between Museum Services and Library Services. For individual contacts see the grant announcement or browse the [Staff Directory](http://www.imls.gov/about/staff.aspx).
* IMLS also provides grants to Museums to assess the strengths and weaknesses of their collections through the [Museum Assessment Program](https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museum-assessment-program-map).
* Learn how to submit an IMLS Freedom of Information Act request at the [IMLS FOIA website](http://www.aascu.org/GRC/FOIARequest)
* The IMLS [FOIA reading room](https://www.imls.gov/foia-electronic-reading-room)houses some of the agency’s most frequently requested information.