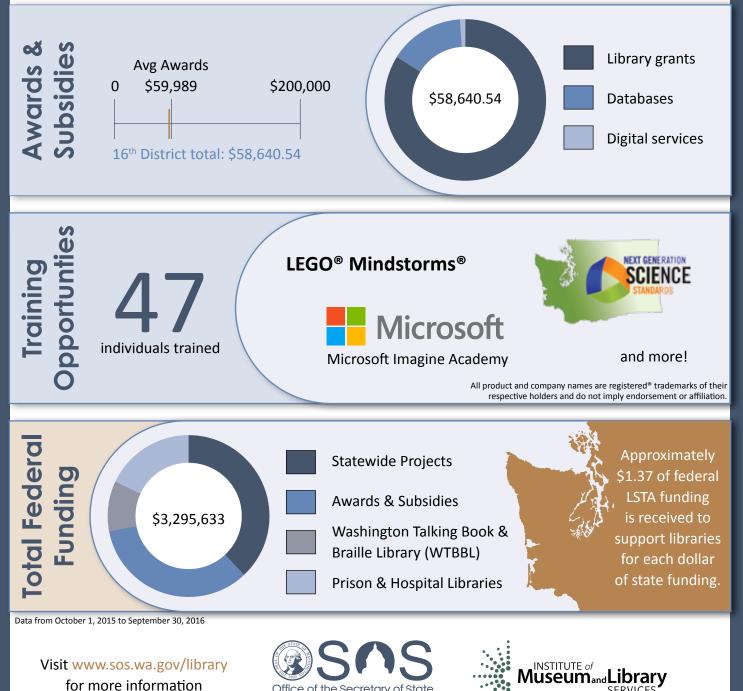
Services to Libraries: 16th Legislative District

The Washington State Library (WSL) is the only agency in Washington that is specifically designated by law to assist libraries and to ensure that residents of the entire state have access to library and information services. WSL achieves these goals using federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, offering projects to improve libraries, consulting services, grants, subsidies and training to libraries.

Examples of services include support for digital literacy programming, Microsoft Office training and industryrecognized certification, early literacy programming, professional grants, specialized training for library administration, circulating STEM kits, group cost-sharing for online databases, and 24/7 online reference support for college students and Washington residents.



Office of the Secretary of State

Washington State Library

Mar 2017

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Impact of LSTA Library Funding: 16th District

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The Washington State Library awarded professional development grants to Walla Walla Rural Library District for its staff to attend both the Washington Library Association and a national symposium for youth librarians. Here are their comments: "Conferences and trainings such as these are invaluable for enhancing our skills. We learn by attending sessions and by networking with our peers. Working in a rural area can be isolating, and even with the vast number of resources available online, it can be hard to get a feel for what other libraries are doing. The opportunity to talk to other librarians is of enormous benefit. Not only does it allow us to learn from each other, but the importance of events like this in refreshing and re-energizing our enthusiasm for our profession cannot be overstated."



Eleven schools in this district received a Refreshing School Libraries grant, which provided \$1,000 to the library to update their nonfiction collection. One librarian reported that "Before the grant the school's library was mostly used books donated by the community. The grant provided new and relevant nonfiction books that students are actually interested in reading. This grant made staff and students much more aware that Lincoln High School has a library that is available for use."