Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities

(https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/access)

Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities will offer more than $7 million in grants to small and rural libraries to increase the accessibility of facilities, services, and programs to better serve people with disabilities.

To be eligible, a library must have a legal service area population of 25,000 or less and be located at least five miles from an urbanized area, in keeping with Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) definitions of small and rural libraries.

ALA is now accepting applications for grants to be distributed over the next three years ranging from $10,000 to $20,000.

Participating libraries will first conduct community input-gathering sessions to assure that their work aligns with local needs. Libraries will be required to identify the primary audience they are hoping to reach (e.g., homebound seniors, children with autism, Deaf community members) and facilitate a community conversation with the impacted populations in order to guide improvement of the library's services. Grantees would then use the funds to create services or improve their facilities based on the needs identified by their audience.

- Apply now (https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=AMALA)
- Guidelines (https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/access/guidelines)
- Frequently Asked Questions (https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/access/faq)
- Review Recording and Slides from the Pre-Application Webinar (https://programminglibrarian.org/learn/pre-application-webinar-libraries-transforming-communities-accessible-small-and-rural)
- Advisors (https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/access/advisors)
- Read "Accessibility in Libraries: A Landscape Review" (/tools/sites/ala.org.tools/files/content/220928-ppo-ltc-access-landscape-review.pdf)

Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities is part of ALA's longtime commitment to preparing library workers for the expanding role of libraries. The initiative is offered in partnership with the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL). Questions? Contact ALA's Public Programs Office. (mailto:publicprograms@ala.org)

Online Learning (http://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/online-learning)

Get started with the free e-course, "Libraries Transforming Communities: Facilitation Skills for Small and Rural Libraries."

Learn More (http://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/online-learning)

LTC: Accessible Small and Rural Communities (https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/access)

LTC: Accessible Small and Rural Communities will offer more than $7 million in grants to better serve people with disabilities.

Learn More (https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/access)

Facilitation Skills Guide (http://www.ala.org/tools/sites/ala.org.tools/files/content/PPO_LTC_Fac_Guide%20-%20revised%20v3_0.pdf)

Learn basic facilitation skills with ALA's free guide, "Leading Conversations in Small and Rural Libraries."

Learn More (http://www.ala.org/tools/sites/ala.org.tools/files/content/PPO_LTC_Fac_Guide - revised v3_0.pdf)