

Justification for Change

FY2026 IMLS National Leadership Grants for Libraries *and* Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Notices of Funding Opportunity (3137-0091)

IMLS is requesting approval for non-substantive changes in the FY2026 IMLS National Leadership Grants for Libraries *and* Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) to update key calendar dates and to update, clarify, and simplify instructions. The current OMB approval expiration date is 7/31/2027.

Request abstract:

In this clearance submission (3137-0091) and justification, IMLS is requesting approval of non-substantive changes to a previously approved clearance for the FY2026 NOFOs for National Leadership Grants for Libraries *and* the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, two discretionary grant programs that support the Nation's libraries.

The changes consist of:

- Updating the application due date, date of notification of award decisions, and beginning date of the period of performance.
- Updating the award amount range and average amount of funding (Section 1 - Basic Information).
- Making copyedits to further simplify descriptions and streamline instructions.
- Updating the Executive Summary to further comply with 2 C.F.R. 200 updates.
- Clarifying eligibility to incorporate archives (Section 2 – Eligibility)
- Removing preliminary proposals from the application process.
- Updating the program goals and objectives to comply with Administration policies and priorities.
- Updating instructions on how to complete and submit the IMLS Library - Discretionary Program Information Form.
- Removing the requirement to select Keywords on the IMLS Library - Discretionary Program Information Form.
- Updating the simplified acquisition threshold to \$350,000 (Section 6 - Risk Assessment).
- Updating the requirement for reporting matters related to recipient integrity and performance detailed in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII (Section 8 - Reporting)
- For National Leadership Grants for Libraries: combining Guidance for Research Applications with the Data Sharing and Public Access Plan instructions to streamline guidance.

Burden Estimate:

The respondent burden remains the same.