

Justification for Change

FY2027 IMLS National Leadership Grants for Libraries *and* Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Notices of Funding Opportunity (3137-0091)

IMLS requests approval for non-substantive changes in the FY2027 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 amend, clarify, and simplify instructions for applicants. The current OMB approval expiration date is 7/31/2027.

Request abstract:

Through this clearance submission and accompanying justification, IMLS seeks approval of non-substantive changes to OMB Clearance Number 3137-0091 for the FY2027 NOFOs for National Leadership Grants for Libraries *and* the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, two discretionary grant programs that support American libraries.

The changes consist of:

- Updating the application due dates, dates of notification of award decisions, and beginning dates of the period of performance.
- Copyediting text to further simplify descriptions, standardize terms, and streamline instructions for applicants.
- Updating text for Eligible Applicants to include language defining the characteristics of an open and operational library.
- Adding a statement that the finalized 2 C.F.R. § 200 updates will apply to all awards made on or after October 1, 2026.
- Adding a statement that the agency may update the General Terms and Conditions for IMLS Discretionary Grant and Cooperative Agreement Awards before making awards.
- Updating text for Eligibility and Completeness Checks to further clarify agency requirements.
- Updating instructions for applicants on how to complete and submit the IMLS Library - Discretionary Program Information Form.
- Updating IMLS's office mailing address.
- For National Leadership Grants for Libraries:
 - Adding an additional project characteristic under the Program Goals and Objective.
- For Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program:
 - Updating the Executive Summary to include additional project examples.
 - Adding additional project characteristics to the sections on Program Goals and Objectives and Project Types.
 - Adding additional project examples to Program Goals.

Burden Estimate:

The respondent burden remains the same.