

Tennessee Secretary of State
Tre Hargett



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General Guidelines

Construction funds are typically granted to a City, County or Library Board. The applicant must have the legal authority to accept state grant funds and will be responsible for adhering to all applicable laws. To qualify for this grant, a library must meet the guidelines for inclusion in the regional system (please see Part VI).

State funding will not exceed 50% of the project's budget or \$200,000, whichever is less. The project budget must include an appropriation by the city and/or county government of at least 10% of the amount requested in this application. The minimum amount for a grant award is \$20,000.

Primary consideration will be given to new construction projects and significant expansions. In the case of a library system or a county with multiple library buildings, once the system/county has received the maximum in grant funds, any additional applications from that system/county within a 10-year period will be given a lower priority. When funds are available, projects for renovation will be considered provided the purpose is to improve accessibility of the library and its collections to the public.

Construction grants require a pre-requisite amount of local project funds to be spent prior to the availability of grant funds. This pre-requisite amount is equal to the amount of the grant award and can be spent on elements of the project that grant funds are not eligible towards, including but not limited to planning, studies, architectural drawings or other pre-construction expenses. These pre-requisite funds can also be spent prior to the grant contract start date. Grant funds can only be for actual construction costs and must be expended within the contracted start and end dates and are issued as reimbursements as paid invoices are submitted.