

California Literacy, Inc. Background

California Literacy, Inc. is a non-profit organization established in 1956 for the purpose of improving adult literacy and English-language proficiency in the State of California. California Literacy supports and provides leadership for new and existing community-based and volunteer-based local literacy programs. California Literacy offers start-up guidance, resources, tutor training and recruitment, fundraising assistance, and advocacy for the interests of adult learners and literacy providers. California Literacy serves more than 150 local literacy programs associated with churches, YMCAs, libraries, prisons, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers, homeless shelters and adult schools. Through our affiliated programs, over 14,000 volunteers dedicate more than 600,000 hours a year tutoring over 35,000 Californians in literacy and English language skills necessary for them to more fully participate in society.

The Project

California Literacy, Inc. received a grant from the SBC Foundation for the purpose of creating Literacy Technology Centers in two community-based adult education organizations in California.

California Literacy requests proposals from any eligible applicant for the creation of Literacy Technology Centers. The LTC Project is an effort to reach out to those most likely to lack access to technology -- low-income adults with low literacy skills. The two winning applicants will receive a ***fully functioning computer learning center***, equipped with five computers, two printers, Internet capability, networking equipment (not wireless), educational and basic office software, and free training in both the educational use of technology and the technical services needed to maintain the learning center.

Eligible Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Any community-based organization that provides adult education services in California. This does not include publicly-funded programs, such as libraries, correctional facilities, adult schools, and the like. Publicly-funded programs are not eligible for this grant.
2. Any community-based organization in California that serves students who are economically disadvantaged and who do not have access to computers or the Internet.
3. Any community-based organization in California that does not currently have a computer learning center available to students.
4. Have sufficient space, furniture, and funding for Internet access to support a Technology Center. The grant does not provide for the rental of space, the purchase or rental of furniture, or the purchase of Internet access. These items need to be provided by the applicant. Applicants are encouraged to be creative in their proposals. For example, laptop computers can be purchased to accommodate a mobile Technology Center.

How to Apply:

1. Provide answers to the eight questions found on Page 3.
 - a. The entire application must be five pages or less, using one inch margins, double-spacing, and 12 point Times New Roman font (or an equivalent-sized font).
2. Attach a copy of your organization's 501(c)3 letter from the IRS to the application.
3. Send a completed application to:
SBC LTC Proposals
California Literacy
133 N. Altadena Drive, Suite 410
Pasadena, CA 91107
matthewscelza@caliteracy.org
4. Deadline: Thursday, December 19, 2002, at 5pm Pacific Time. Applications received after 5pm on the 19th will not be considered.
5. Each application will be judged on a 100-point scale. 100 is the highest possible score. There are eight questions to be answered, with varying point values for each question.
6. Applicants will be notified in early January as to the outcome of their proposal. The application process may include a site visit by California Literacy staff prior to the awarding of a grant.

Literacy Technology Centers--Application

Name of Program _____

Contact Person and Title _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** CA **Zip Code** _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Questions to be answered:

Question #1: What is your organization's history and mission? (5 points)

Question #2: Describe the areas you serve and the target population for your organization's services. (10 points)

Question #3: Why is your organization interested in a SBC Literacy Technology Center? What are the current technological needs in your community? (15 points)

Question #4: How would your organization use the SBC LTC? What services would your organization offer? How many students would use the SBC LTC? What staff (paid or volunteer) would be available to work in the SBC LTC? (25 points)

Question #5: How would your organization evaluate the effectiveness of the SBC LTC? (15 points)

Question #6: What are your organization's plans for maintaining the SBC LTC after the grant period of one year is complete? (15 points)

Question #7: Where would the SBC LTC be placed? Why was this site chosen? Does it provide easy access for students via public transportation? (10 points)

Question #8: How would your organization publicize the receipt of a SBC LTC grant from California Literacy? (5 points)