



The Economic Stimulus and ProQuest Solutions for School Libraries

The Importance of School Libraries and Librarians – Ann Martin, president of the ALA's American Association of School Librarians (AASL), notes "Across the country research has shown that students in schools with good school libraries learn more, get better grades, and score higher on standardized test scores than their peers in schools without libraries." ". . . equal access for all students to the shared resources and information skills instruction crucial for students to learn and thrive in the 21st century."

Great News for School Librarians – The ARRA economic stimulus act provides billions of *new* and more *flexible funding* for education primarily through Title I and Title IID (Ed Tech). There will also be new sources of funding for all schools, not just NCLB schools (see summary below). **Your library can share in this with the right strategies.**

Education Solutions Funding Strategy –There is no specific mention of "databases" as being eligible for funding in Title I and Ed Tech criteria. Nor is there specific mention of school libraries. But, but there is a focus on the use of this funding for "education solutions." So, the strategy that librarians can use with their school leaders to get a share of stimulus funds (plus future NCLB funding) is to demonstrate that ProQuest library resources (a) increase student achievement, (b) increase teacher effectiveness, (c) integrate critical thinking and problem solving, (d) help [differentiate instruction and learning](#), and (e) integrate ISTE [21st Century](#) and AASL information literacy skills.

ProQuest Support for You – That's a real challenge for most librarians who are accustomed to requesting funding for library databases, not education solutions. How do you demonstrate that ProQuest teaching and learning resources address the priorities and [needs of teachers](#) and school leaders? To support your initiative and share in the Education Stimulus funding, ProQuest provides you with a variety of guides as tools to help you present and demonstrate your education solution message to the school leaders who will decide *how and to whom this new funding is allocated*.

First, let's review a summary of this new funding that can be applied to school libraries:

Title I Education for the Disadvantaged (\$13 B Grants to LEAs)

- \$5 B Targeted Grants (FY08 \$3B)
- \$3 B School Improvement Grants (FY08 \$500 M -- \$1.2 B for MS and HS)

Qualified School Construction Bonds (\$22.4B -- A **new** bond. \$11B each year 2009, 2010, go to the states)

- Can be spent on: new schools, repairs, **ed tech, IT, curriculum materials**, etc. **Very flexible.**

Restoring cuts made by states to present education funding (**All school districts are eligible**)

- Restore primary school funding formula to greater of FY 08 or 09 level in each of FY 2009, 2010 and 2011
- Any remaining Funds: allocated to school districts based on the Federal Title I formula

Enhancing Education Through Technology (\$650 M **new--plus NCLB** annual recurring funding of \$270 M)

- Allocated to states by Title I formula criteria and then to LEAs--50% Formula/50% Competitive

Now, let's look at some of the ProQuest tools created to support your education solution rationale when you request funding for ProQuest teaching and learning resources from your school leader(s):

NCLB Funding for ProQuest Solutions – (**Click any Title for links to more info**) Slide show demonstrates how ProQuest addresses Title formula criteria; education solutions rationale supports other school libraries as well.

ISTE Standards for Teachers and ProQuest Solutions – **IF Tech Coordinator** controls distribution of funds.

ISTE Standards for Students and ProQuest Solutions – **IF Tech Coordinator** controls distribution of funds.

AASL 21st Century Information Literacy Skills and ProQuest Solutions – Demonstrate the correlation of AASL information literacy and 21st Century teaching and learning to ProQuest solutions to your school leaders.

21st Century Skills and the New eLibrary Education Solution – Demonstrates the teacher and student tools in the new eLibrary that will impress school leaders and that no one else can provide.

ProQuest Professional Development – All Title I, EETT, and Stimulus funding require that 15-25% include professional development. ProQuest offers a variety of modes to help **teachers** use our resources effectively.