



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

Report: Library, Arts & Culture, re: Acceptance of Grant Funds for Adult Literacy and ESL Services

1. Motion accepting \$54,845 and \$83,916 in California Library Literacy Services grant funds from the California State Library to support services and programs for Adult Literacy and English as a Second Language; and authorizing the City Manager or a designee to execute all agreements, amendments, certifications, and documents necessary to accept and implement the funding
2. Resolution appropriating \$54,845 from the California State Library Literacy Services program and \$83,916 from the California State Library Literacy Services program.

COUNCIL ACTION

Item Type: Consent Calendar

Approved for October 18, 2022 **calendar**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Adult Literacy and English as a Second Language grants will allow Glendale Library, Arts & Culture (LAC) to maintain and expand its current Adult Literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL) services and programs for the grant period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Glendale Library, Arts & Culture recommends that the City Council approve the (1) Motion accepting \$54,845 and \$83,916 in California Library Literacy Services grant funds from the California State Library to support services and programs for Adult Literacy and English as a Second Language, (2) Resolution appropriating \$54,845 from the California State Library Literacy Services Program and \$83,916 from the California State Library Literacy Services program.

BACKGROUND

The California state budget funds the California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) program on an annual basis and Glendale Library, Arts & Culture (LAC) receives these funds from California State Library (CSL). In the past, these funds were restricted for use to support literacy services for adults who were already proficient in English, despite a greater need for ESL support in Glendale and statewide.

In FY 2021-22, the California state budget added one-time California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) funding of \$15 million for English as Second Language (ESL) Services. The California State Library will allocate this ESL funding to libraries statewide over a five-year period.

In FY21-22 LAC received a Literacy Services grant for \$58,488 and an ESL Services grant for \$32,050. For FY22-23, LAC has received two grant awards again, one for Adult Literacy for \$54,845 and one for ESL services for \$83,916.

ANALYSIS

According to estimates released in 2020 by the National Center for Education Statistics, 28% of Californians and 34% of Los Angeles County residents have a literacy proficiency level that is at or below Level 1, which includes a range of skills from functional illiteracy to difficulties comprehending print material.¹ Low adult literacy negatively impacts every area of a person's life, including economic, health and social outcomes. For Adult Literacy services, LAC will offer English skills conversation classes for small groups, one-on-one tutoring sessions for qualifying learners, and a Conversation Club for intermediate to advanced English speakers.

Support and services for English language learners are in demand in Glendale, where 52.4% of community members are born outside of the United States.² 56.7% of immigrants in Glendale over 5 years old speak English less than "very well," an estimated 59,000 people. Of Glendale households classified as "limited English Speaking," 12.2% speak Spanish, 71.9% speak other Indo-European languages, primarily Armenian, and 13.0% speak Asian and Pacific Island languages, primarily Korean.³ Due to the need in our community, multiple other organizations offer high-quality Literacy and ESL support already, including Glendale Community College (GCC), GlendaleLEARNS, and the International Rescue Committee. This grant will enable LAC to continue to offer different services than those currently available and extend offerings to community members who may need more scheduling flexibility and different instructional strategies. LAC will offer ESL small group conversation classes at three locations, one-on-one tutoring, ESL technology assistance by appointment, and at least one community building event to provide social support for learners.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates: Selected Characteristics of the Native & Foreign-Born Populations. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=immigrants%20glendale,%20ca%202020&tid=ACST5Y2020.S0501>

² U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates: Limited English Speaking Households. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=Glendale%20city,%20California&t=Language%20Spoken%20at%20Home&tid=ACST5Y2020.S1602>

³ National Center for Education Statistics, Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, U.S. Skills Map: State and County Indicators of Adult Literacy and Numeracy. <https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/skillsmap/>

The two grant awards, Adult Literacy and ESL, will fund both efforts and will support staff time, materials and supplies, and an online system for scheduling and data tracking.

STAKEHOLDERS/OUTREACH

LAC has long-standing literacy partnerships with GCC, Verdugo Jobs Center and GlendaleLEARNs, and plan to continue these relationships in FY22-23. LAC will be continuing to deepen partnerships with the Glendale Chamber of Commerce (to engage businesses who have employees who wish to learn or improve their English language skills), and California State University, Los Angeles College of Education (providing opportunities for graduate students who are looking to gain teaching and career experience).

FISCAL IMPACT

The Adult Literacy grant will cost \$54,845 and the English as a Second Language grant will cost \$83,916, which were not included as a part of the FY 2022-23 budget. Therefore, staff is requesting for an appropriation of \$138,761 from State Grant Revenue. The appropriation request is outlined below:

Requesting Appropriation			
Amount	From (Account String)	To (Account String)	Funding Source
\$39,490	GL: 32610-2750-LAC-0020 -P0000	GL: 41100-2750-LAC-0020 -P0000 PL: LAC00930AG	State Grant Revenue
\$15,355	GL: 32610-2750- LAC-0020-P0000	GL: 45350-2750-LAC-0020 -P0000 PL: LAC00930AG	State Grant Revenue
\$68,916	GL: 32610-2750-LAC-0020 -P0000	GL: 41100-2750-LAC-0020 -P0000 PL: LAC00924AG	State Grant Revenue
\$15,000	GL: 32610-2750- LAC-0020-P0000	GL: 45350-2750-LAC-0020 -P0000 PL: LAC00924AG	State Grant Revenue

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA/NEPA)

Because no possibility exists that the activity in question (Adult Literacy grant and ESL Services grants) may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA review under the common sense exemption set forth in 14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3).

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

This item is exempt from campaign disclosure requirements.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1: The City Council may adopt:

- Motion accepting \$54,845 and \$83,916 in California Library Literacy Services grant funds from the California State Library to support services and programs for Adult Literacy and English as a Second Language; and authorizing the City Manager or a designee to execute all agreements, amendments, certifications, and documents necessary to accept and implement the funding
- Resolution appropriating \$54,845 from the California State Library Literacy Services Program and \$83,916 from the California State Library Literacy Services Program.

Alternative 2: The City Council may decline to adopt a Motion and Resolution of Appropriation and, thus, forfeit the grant funding.

Alternative 3: The City Council may consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Prepared by:

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Nicole Pasini, Assistant Director Library, Arts & Culture

Approved by:

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E., City Manager

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS
