



2016 ARSL Conference Scholarship Announcement

Association for Rural & Small Libraries Association Conference
October 26-29, 2016
Fargo, North Dakota
<http://arsl.info/2016-conference/>

Deadline for receipt of applications is June 15, 2016.

APPLY NOW: Scholarships for public library employees to attend the 2016 Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference in Fargo, North Dakota.

The Vermont Department of Libraries is pleased to offer scholarships for up to five Vermont public library workers to attend the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference in Fargo, North Dakota on October 26-29*, 2016. This conference provides an excellent opportunity to learn and share practical knowledge, skills, and connections with other small/rural library workers from across the country. All of the attendees from past ARSL conferences have given us very positive feedback, and highly recommend that the Department continue to offer these conference grants to public library employees.

**Note: Attendance at preconference on October 26 depends upon availability, as space is limited.*

Here is what past scholarship recipients have reported to us:

"Hearing from and talking with librarians from rural areas who share the same challenges, budgets, and amount of staffing that we do was incredibly valuable. Presenters and colleagues shared doable ideas. I felt "at home", a feeling I don't experience at conferences where presenters are from libraries with big budgets and large staffing."

"... I left [the ARSL Conference] with a renewed sense of enthusiasm for the library. With so many ideas and inspirations, I feel like I am bursting at the seams to get everything in action."

Eligibility criteria? Recipients must:

- Be a permanent employee of a Vermont public library.
- Have an MLS, or Vermont Public Librarian Certification, or be actively working toward Certification.
- Not have attended an ARSL conference in the past 5 years.
- Agree to submit a written report on the conference by December 16, 2016 and participate in a 2017 VTLIB workshop or webinar (date to be determined)

- Receive prior approval from the Library Director (when applicable) and the Chair of the Library Board of Trustees (or designee) to attend the conference.

Library directors are especially encouraged to apply.

What will the scholarship cover?

Scholarships of \$1400.00 will be awarded to each awardee. Priority will be given to those candidates who will attend both the 3-day conference (October 27-29) and a 1-day preconference* (October 26) workshop.

**Preconference attendance depends upon availability, as space is limited. For those unable to attend a pre-conference workshop or the scheduled tour of libraries on October 26, the scholarship will be reduced to \$1300.*

Attendees will make their own registration and travel arrangements, with guidance from the Department of Libraries. Scholarship funds may be used for: ARSL membership, airfare, mileage to and from airport, parking, hotel, ground transportation in Fargo, conference registration, and meals. Attendees will be required to submit receipts for all expenses covered by the scholarship. Expenses that exceed the scholarship award must be paid by the attendee or the attendee's library.

All Vermont scholarship recipients will be required to pay for membership in ARSL in order to register for the conference at the member rate.

What is required for the scholarship application?

Applicants must use the Department of Libraries' [ARSL Conference Scholarship Application](#). **Deadline for receipt of applications is June 15, 2016.** Scanned application materials with required signatures will be accepted via email. VTLIB will announce scholarship winners by June 20, 2016.

For more information about this scholarship, see:
<http://libraries.vermont.gov/services/grants/scholarships>

Or contact Mara Siegel at: mara.siegel@vermont.gov



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