



**State of New Jersey**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**PO Box 001**  
**TRENTON, NJ 08625-0001**

**CHRIS CHRISTIE**  
*Governor*

March 9, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

I am writing to express my support for the New Jersey State Library's grant application for federal broadband funding under the BTOP Round II, Public Computing Center Grant program. Services to the unemployed and underemployed residents of our state and support to New Jersey's small businesses and entrepreneurs during this economic downturn are of critical importance. The partnership with our State's community colleges, NJN/Department of Labor and many other agencies, such as the League of Municipalities, will allow all of the involved agencies to better serve the residents of our state.

The recent economic downturn has hit New Jersey particularly hard, especially in terms of jobs. Many recently displaced workers are struggling to adapt to a 21st century job market, in which computer skills and technological literacy are critical success factors. The State Library's proposal to establish workforce development and job training programs at local libraries will fill this gap in our communities. By leveraging the state's public library system, the State Library's programs will provide an unprecedented level of access to a wide spectrum of people in our community, including support for New Jersey's many small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Specifically, the State Library's proposal will directly benefit New Jersey communities by dramatically increasing the number of people who can get assistance looking for jobs. For this reason, I support the New Jersey State Library's grant application for broadband funding and believe it will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on New Jersey communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Christie".

Chris Christie  
Governor

**RUSH HOLT**  
Twelfth District, New Jersey

1214 Longworth Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-5801  
Fax 202-225-6025

50 Washington Road  
West Windsor, NJ 08550  
609-750-9365  
Fax 609-750-0618

<http://holt.house.gov>



## Congress of the United States

Chair  
Select Intelligence Oversight Panel  
Committee on Appropriations

Committee on Education  
and Labor

Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence

Committee on Natural Resources

March 8, 2010

Lawrence R. Strickling, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

I write in support of the application of the New Jersey State Library for a grant under the federal Public Computing Center's BTOP Round II for broadband services for job seeking, job training and small business development. (Easygrants ID 5319).

It is estimated that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will provide approximately 8000 new jobs in New Jersey's 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District as well as an opportunity to further establish sustainable growth. Receipt of the Public Computing Center grant will support these opportunities and help the unemployed and underemployed connect with these newly created jobs.

These days, when many employers only accept online applications and only search for resumes on line, it is vital that wait time in libraries is not excessive and that public computing centers have sufficient computers and bandwidth to support these endeavors.

The approval of this grant will make a difference in the lives of those seeking employment and others who rely on public centers to conduct e-business. I encourage the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to support this worthwhile application. If you have any questions, or need further information, please contact me or my staff at my New Jersey office at (609) 750-9365.

Sincerely,

RUSH HOLT  
Member of Congress

RH/gk

LEONARD LANGE  
SEVENTH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE:  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
AND CONSUMER CREDIT

DOMESTIC MONETARY POLICY  
AND TECHNOLOGY



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

114 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510  
PHONE: 202-225-5361  
FAX: 202-225-9460

425 NORTH AVENUE, EAST  
WESTFIELD, N.J. 07090  
PHONE: 908-518-7733  
FAX: 908-518-7751

23 ROYAL ROAD, SUITE 101  
FLEMINGTON, N.J. 08822  
PHONE: 908-788-6900  
FAX: 908-788-2869

March 3, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

I am writing to express my support for the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program Grant, Round II, sponsored by the New Jersey State Library in partnership with the New Jersey Library Association, the New Jersey League of Municipalities, the Department of Labor and other agencies.

This grant will provide public libraries around the state with fast and effective Internet access and dependable computer hardware to offer library patrons the best possible chance to mount an effective job search.

New Jersey's public libraries have come to the aid of job seekers as our Nation's economy has worsened. In addition, the State Library has provided effective leadership by producing tools that librarians can use to help patrons with their job searches. For example, the State Library's "Get Help" website furnishes a multitude of information sources for residents doing a job search in the library and remotely. This grant will bolster public libraries' broadband connectivity allowing them to become destinations for residents who need to use technology for this purpose but cannot afford to pay for it.

Libraries are important anchors in our communities. This grant will provide libraries around the state with greater ability to support their patrons' job search needs. I endorse this grant application and believe that the end product will be a dramatic improvement in our residents' ability to find lasting and fulfilling employment.

Best personal wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leonard Lance".

Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE:

HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT  
SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMERCE, TRADE, AND CONSUMER  
PROTECTION SUBCOMMITTEE

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

INSULAR AFFAIRS, OCEANS AND  
WILDLIFE SUBCOMMITTEE

DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE:

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

<http://www.house.gov/pallone>

FRANK PALLONE, JR.  
6TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3006

REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3006  
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-4671

DISTRICT OFFICES:

TOLL-FREE NUMBER:  
(888) 423-1140

☐ 504 BROADWAY  
LONG BRANCH, NJ 07740  
(732) 571-1140

☐ 67/69 CHURCH STREET  
KILMER SQUARE  
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901  
(732) 249-8892

March 12, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, N.J. 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

I am writing to support the New Jersey State Library's Public Computing Center grant application under BTOP Round 2 for the purposes of upgrading broadband service in New Jersey's public libraries. I fully support this endeavor to supply New Jersey libraries with the appropriate tools to assist both the unemployed and underemployed citizens of my district in job seeking, job training, and small business development.

Libraries throughout my district are already serving as a lifeline to those who have been adversely affected by tough economic times. For example, constituents from my district as well as citizens all over the country are forgoing additional internet expenses and instead are visiting their local libraries for free internet access. In addition to saving money, my constituents can find programs and services to support their job search or simply to learn more about technological devices. At the Monmouth County Library, residents can stop by to learn how to handle any technological device from an iPod to a laptop computer. At the Long Branch Public Library, residents can visit the "Virtual Career Center," an online resource brimming with job-seeking skills, interview tips, and educational and employment opportunities. The Piscataway Public Library boasts a number of programs supporting small business owners and job-seekers including a professional networking group, Job Search for Moms, and an online career center complete with resume and cover letter help. BTOP funding will expand the ability of these New Jersey libraries to offer a diverse range of programs that can only be enhanced by the presences of additional computers and staff to support this initiative.

Access to and knowledge of computers is essential in today's economy. Many businesses only accept online applications, resumes, and cover letters. Because of the technological requirements of the economy, the unemployed and underemployed must have sufficient access to computers and other pertinent digital media. Adding public computing centers to libraries in the 6<sup>th</sup> district will assure that New Jersey citizens have full support in job seeking, job training, and small business development.



Please let me know should you need my further assistance as your application moves through the grant process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank Pallone Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

FRANK PALLONE, JR.  
Member of Congress

ALBIO SIRES  
13TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
WESTERN HEMISPHERE  
EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT  
RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND  
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.HOUSE.GOV/SIRES](http://www.house.gov/sires)



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3013

March 4, 2010

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
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35 JOURNAL SQUARE, SUITE 906  
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306  
(201) 222-2828

5500 PALISADE AVENUE, SUITE A  
WEST NEW YORK, NJ 07093  
(201) 558-0800

BAYONNE CITY HALL  
630 AVENUE C, ROOM 9  
BAYONNE, NJ 07002  
(201) 823-2900

100 COOKE AVENUE, 2ND FLOOR  
CARTERET, NJ 07008  
(732) 969-9160

PERTH AMBOY CITY HALL  
260 HIGH STREET, 1ST FLOOR  
PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861  
(732) 442-0610

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

I am delighted to support the New Jersey State Library's application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Round II. This has come at a time when the nearly 10% unemployed residents of New Jersey are seeking avenues to re-establish themselves.

Libraries are facing increased demands with job assistance from these unemployed or underemployed residents seeking employment, as well as thousands seeking to improve their education and job skills. Since libraries offer the only free access to computers and Internet in 78% of New Jersey's municipalities, libraries must be able to continue meeting the critical and growing need. Expert librarians are helping file for unemployment, file job applications online, upload resumes, and teach interview skills. Libraries are also a free resource for small businesses seeking information on business and marketing plans, and research reports and patents that are key to business sustenance in economic downturn.

Awarding the additional funding for training, computers, resources, and the expanded bandwidth at libraries will help in rebuilding the struggling economy, and eventual economic rebound of New Jersey. For these reasons, I support the New Jersey State Library's BTOP application.

Sincerely,

Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

**DONALD M. PAYNE**  
**10TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY**

**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH**  
**CHAIRMAN**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL**  
**ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND**  
**OVERSIGHT**

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**  
**AND LABOR**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD,**  
**ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**AT-LARGE WHIP**



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3010**

March 12, 2010

**WASHINGTON OFFICE**  
**2209 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3010**  
**(202) 225-3436**

**DISTRICT OFFICES**  
**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
**FEDERAL BUILDING AND COURTHOUSE**  
**50 WALNUT STREET**  
**ROOM 1016**  
**NEWARK, NJ 07102**  
**(973) 645-3213**

**333 NORTH BROAD STREET**  
**ELIZABETH, NJ 07208**  
**(908) 629-0222**

**253 MARTIN LUTHER KING DRIVE**  
**JERSEY CITY, NJ 07305**  
**(201) 369-0392**

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
US Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Re: New Jersey State Library Grant Application #5319

Dear Mr. Strickling:

I would like to express my support for the New Jersey State Library's Public Computing Center Grant application under Round II of the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP). The approval of this grant will expand broadband services to many state residents who currently do not have access. In this age where many employment, government and small business opportunities have gone digital, it is vital that all residents have access to broadband.

As the nation continues to progress towards economic recovery, it is important that residents can conduct job searches, access government services and small business opportunities, and learn workforce skills. For many, particularly during these trying economic times, the public library is the gateway to such opportunities. It is estimated that 440,000 New Jersey residents have used the state's public libraries to seek employment. Thousands of others have used their local library to enhance their education and job skills. In fact, New Jersey's public libraries have seen a double-digit increase in the use of their resources, particularly the public computers.

Libraries, such as those in my district, have already stepped up to meet this challenge and are assisting entrepreneurs in the development of small businesses and providing resources to the unemployed and underemployed. However libraries, like other resources in our state, are struggling to meet the needs created by increased unemployment caused by the recent economic downturn. With the funding from BTOP, the New Jersey State Library will upgrade their current digital infrastructure and expand broadband access to more libraries within the state. This, in turn, will allow New Jerseyans to take better

advantage of such services as the Virtual Career Center, Department of Labor trainings and "Get Help" community fairs.

As the NTIA considers many grant requests for Round II of BTOP funding, I respectfully request that you approve the New Jersey State Library's Public Computing Center Grant application. This funding will provide smart and targeted investments to assist in the creation and expansion of jobs by supporting small business, and will move people back into the workforce by matching people with opportunities. It will build an infrastructure that will help grow our economy in the long term. It represents another step in our ongoing effort to put Americans back to work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald M. Payne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Donald" being the most prominent.

Donald M. Payne  
Member of Congress



**CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**  
4TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

CONSTITUENT SERVICE CENTERS:  
1540 Kuser Road, Suite A9  
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TTY (609) 585-3650

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(202) 225-3765

<http://chrissmith.house.gov>



## Congress of the United States

### House of Representatives

COMMITTEES:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH  
SUBCOMMITTEE  
RANKING MEMBER

WESTERN HEMISPHERE  
SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND  
COOPERATION IN EUROPE  
RANKING MEMBER

CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE  
COMMISSION ON CHINA  
RANKING MEMBER

DEAN, NEW JERSEY DELEGATION

March 12, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20230


Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling,

I am writing in support of the New Jersey State Library which is applying for the second round of funding for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). Should the library be awarded this grant, the increased access to broadband would equip New Jersey's libraries with additional training resources and Internet access for the thousands of residents who visit the local libraries.

Over the last few years, New Jersey has witnessed a dramatic increase in the number of library visits. In fact, according to the most recent library statistics, New Jersey libraries received over 48.5 million visitors in 2008. This is 2.5 million more than in the previous year. In 2009, the New Jersey State Library and the New Jersey Library Association hosted two 'Snapshot Days' to capture how many people visit libraries on a daily basis. They found that more than 160,000 people walked through the doors of New Jersey libraries in one day and that librarians answered nearly 20,000 reference questions.

New Jersey libraries continue to serve the community in numerous ways including through business and workforce development, free web access, books and other reading materials, and various online services. Increasing the reach of these services could benefit many additional residents and certainly warrants fair consideration of the New Jersey State Library's grant application.

Sincerely,

  
CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH  
Member of Congress

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENT AND  
PUBLIC WORKS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 11, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickland  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Strickland:

I am writing in support of the New Jersey State Library's application for funding under the BTOP Round II, Public Computing Center Grant program. The New Jersey State Library has become vital in providing services to the unemployed and underemployed residents of our state, in addition to supporting New Jersey's small businesses and entrepreneurs during this economic downturn.

As you are aware, public libraries provide free access to a variety of people in our community, including small business owners and entrepreneurs. BTOP will increase the access to the State Library's Knowledge Initiative, which is proving free access to otherwise expensive, embargoed resources that can provide critical information to help business grow. Additionally, The New Jersey State Library will partner with NJN and in-state community colleges to provide content and training to help the unemployed and underemployed. The Gates Foundation has also pledged their support for matching funds of \$1.5-2 million dollars, once the BTOP grant is awarded.

I believe this funding, if awarded, will have a positive and lasting impact on the New Jersey economy and communities at large. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



ROBERT MENENDEZ  
NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN  
AFFAIRS  
BUDGET  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
FINANCE  
FOREIGN RELATIONS

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3005

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ONE GATEWAY CENTER  
11TH FLOOR  
NEWARK, NJ 07102  
(973) 645-3030

208 WHITE HORSE PIKE  
SUITE 18-19  
BARRINGTON, NJ 08007  
(856) 757-5353

March 11, 2010

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C., 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

The New Jersey State Library has submitted an application for a Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) Round II Public Computing Center Grant (Easygrants ID # 5319). I am writing to offer my strong support for their proposal.

The BTOP grant will allow New Jersey libraries to update and expand their broadband technology. Such upgrades are essential, as New Jersey libraries are experiencing unprecedented public demand for their support and training services for job seekers. Public libraries are the sole source of free computer and internet access in 78 percent of New Jersey's municipalities. Many of New Jersey's 440,000 residents seeking employment are turning to public libraries as their only option to browse and apply for jobs, write a resume, or to develop their language and computer literacy skills. Librarians have the training and expertise to bridge the gap for access to employment services for job seekers in greatest need of assistance.

The New Jersey State Library has already brought together an impressive coalition of state agencies, nonprofits and philanthropic foundations so that they may hit the ground running in providing the necessary employment services for New Jersey residents. The New Jersey State Library has already enjoyed tangible success in similar programs, such as South Jersey Works and their Get Help initiative. The BTOP grant can generate up to \$7 million in services for unemployed and underemployed New Jerseyans. It is critical that we utilize creative and effective tools to spur job growth and economic recovery, and the New Jersey State Library has fully demonstrated that they are prepared for this task.

Again, I strongly support the New Jersey State Libraries grant application. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance. Thank you in advance for your earnest consideration.

Sincerely,



ROBERT MENENDEZ  
United States Senator





## NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
SPEAKER

March 3, 2010

STATE HOUSE-PO BOX 098  
TRENTON, NJ 08625  
(609) 984-8290

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08652-0520

### **RE: Public Computing Center Grant Application**

Dear Ms. Blake:

I support the federal Public Computing Center Grant application under BTOP Round II for broadband services for job seeking, job training and small business development applied for by the New Jersey State Library. To hasten the economic recovery in New Jersey, the State Library has partnered with the NJ Library Association, the League of Municipalities, the State's county colleges, and NJN/Department of Labor among others for increased broadband access and workforce development training.

The libraries of New Jersey have stepped up to provide mapping of job assets, virtual career centers, business information and programs to help the unemployed and underemployed. Librarians created the GetHelp.org website and held housing fairs regionally. Librarians have been trained by the Department of Labor to help residents file unemployment and other vital forms and applications correctly. Increased broadband will give residents and business people access to training in many formats, and decrease wait time for public computers.

For these reasons, I support the New Jersey State Library's application for a Public Computer Center Grant. The effect of the economic downturn on the State of New Jersey makes finding new resources for business and workforce development an urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheila Y. Oliver".

Assemblywoman Sheila Y. Oliver  
Assembly Speaker





## NEW JERSEY SENATE

STEPHEN M. SWEENEY  
Senate President  
Email: SenSweeney@njleg.org

Please reply to: ☒ Kingsway Commons, Suite 400  
935 Kings Highway  
West Deptford, NJ 08086  
Tel: (856) 251-9801  
Fax: (856) 251-9752  
☐ 14 E. Commerce Street  
Bridgeton, NJ 08302  
Tel: (856) 455-1011  
Fax: (856) 455-2853  
☐ 199 East Broadway, Suite G  
Salem, NJ 08079  
Tel: (856) 339-0808  
Fax: (856) 339-9626

March 2, 2010

Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

The residents of New Jersey will be well served by the approval of the New Jersey State Library's application for a broadband Public Computing Center grant under BTOP, Round II. The State Library has involved the Library Association and many other partners such as New Jersey Network/Department of Labor and the League of Municipalities to help the state's small businesses and entrepreneurs as well as the underemployed and unemployed in our State.

New Jersey has been hit particularly hard by the recession, and our local libraries are performing as instruments of recovery, supplementing agencies that deal with workforce development. Librarians help job seekers file applications online and upload resumes. Librarians also help individuals file unemployment and other vital forms, as well as teach interview skills, basic literacy, English language and computer literacy. Libraries serve as a resource for small businesses, the vast majority of businesses in the State, by assisting with information sources, and with business and marketing plans.

Awarding the New Jersey State Library the federal broadband Public Computing Center grant will greatly enhance the work of local libraries in making the economic recovery of our State more sustainable. Libraries are community anchors that serve our most vulnerable residents in tough times. For this reason, I support the New Jersey State Library's broadband application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Stephen M. Sweeney", written over a horizontal line.

Stephen M. Sweeney  
Senate President  
Third Legislative District

SMS/bas



New Jersey General Assembly

**Upendra J. Chivukula**

Assemblyman D-17

888 Easton Avenue Suite 3

Somerset, New Jersey 08863

P: 732-247-3999 F: 732-247-4383

[asmchivukula@njleg.org](mailto:asmchivukula@njleg.org)

**COMMITTEES**

Telecommunications and Utilities, *Chairman*  
Appropriations

**COMMISSIONS**

NJ Science and Technology  
Asian-American Foundation

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

March 4, 2010

Dear Ms. Blake,

The residents of New Jersey, including my constituents in District 17, will be well served by the approval of the New Jersey State Library's application for a Public Computing Center grant under the federal BTOP, Round II opportunity. By involving a number of partners, especially the New Jersey Library Association, New Jersey Network/New Jersey Department of Labor, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities, their ability to identify and help the state's small businesses, entrepreneurs, unemployed and underemployed has been greatly enhanced.

New Jersey has been particularly hard hit by this recession, and our local public libraries are doing a tremendous job in their roles as instruments of recovery, especially in assisting agencies that traditionally deal with workforce development. Some of the services provided by libraries include helping job seekers file applications online; upload resumes; file for unemployment; teaching interview skills, basic literacy and computer literacy. Libraries also serve as a resource for small businesses, which are the vast majority of businesses in New Jersey, by assisting with information sources and with business and marketing plans.

In my role as Chairman of the New Jersey Assembly's Telecommunications and Utilities Committee, I am keenly aware of the demand for reliable, ubiquitous high-speed Internet access. Awarding the New Jersey State Library a federal broadband Public Computing Center grant will greatly enhance the work that local libraries do to make our State's economic recovery come sooner rather than later. Libraries are community anchor institutions that serve our most vulnerable residents in tough times. I fully support this application. Please feel free to contact me should I be able to assist the State Library further in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Upendra Chivukula".

Assemblyman Upendra J. Chivukula  
Chairman, Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee



## NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LOUIS D. GREENWALD  
ASSEMBLYMAN, 6TH DISTRICT  
1103 LAUREL OAK ROAD  
SUITE 142  
VOORHEES, NJ 08043  
(856) 435-1247  
e-mail: [asmgreenwald@njleg.org](mailto:asmgreenwald@njleg.org)

CHAIRMAN  
BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEMBER  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

March 9, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

The residents of New Jersey will be well served by the approval of the New Jersey State Library's application for a Public Computing Center grant under the federal BTOP, Round II opportunity. By involving a number of partners, especially the New Jersey Library Association, New Jersey Network/New Jersey Department of Labor, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities, their ability to identify and help the state's small businesses, entrepreneurs, unemployed and underemployed has been greatly enhanced.

New Jersey has been particularly hard hit by this recession, and our local public libraries are doing a tremendous job in their roles as instruments of recovery, especially in assisting agencies that traditionally deal with workforce development. Some of the services provided by libraries include helping job seekers file applications online; upload resumes; file for unemployment; teaching interview skills, basic literacy and computer literacy. Libraries also serve as a resource for small businesses, which are the vast majority of businesses in New Jersey, by assisting with information sources and with business and marketing plans.

Awarding the New Jersey State Library a federal broadband Public Computing Center grant will greatly enhance the work that local libraries do to make our State's economic recovery come sooner rather than later. Libraries are community anchor institutions that serve our most vulnerable residents in tough times. I fully support this application. Please feel free to contact me should I be able to assist the State Library further in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis D. Greenwald", written over a horizontal line.

LOUIS D. GREENWALD  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee



NEW JERSEY SENATE

SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
COMMITTEES  
COMMERCE, CHAIR  
JUDICIARY, MEMBER

NIA H. GILL  
SENATOR, 34<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT  
425 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE  
MONTCLAIR, N.J. 07042  
(973) 509-0388  
FAX (973) 509-9241

March 10, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

This letter is written in support of the *New Jersey State Library's* application for a Public Computing Center grant under the federal BTOP, Round 2 opportunity. By involving a number of partners, especially the New Jersey Library Association, New Jersey Network, the New Jersey League of Municipalities and the New Jersey Department of Labor, their ability to identify and help the state's small businesses, entrepreneurs, unemployed and underemployed has been greatly enhanced.

The recession period has been particularly difficult for New Jersey, and our local public libraries are doing a tremendous job in their roles as instruments of recovery, especially in assisting agencies that traditionally deal with workforce development. Some of the services provided by libraries include helping job seekers file applications online; upload resumes; file for unemployment; teaching interview skills, basic literacy and computer literacy. Libraries also serve as a resource for small businesses, which are the vast majority of businesses in New Jersey, by assisting with information sources and with business and marketing plans.

Awarding the New Jersey State Library a federal broadband Public Computing Center grant will greatly enhance the work that local libraries do to make our State's economic recovery come sooner rather than later. Libraries are community anchor institutions that serve our most vulnerable residents in tough times. I fully support this application. Please feel free to contact me should I be able to assist the State Library further in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Nia H. Gill  
Chair, Senate Commerce Committee

NHG/sm



March 10, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
New Jersey State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

The residents of New Jersey, including my constituents in District 4, will be well served by the approval of the New Jersey State Library's application for a Public Computing Center grant under the federal BTOP, Round II opportunity. By involving a number of partners, especially the New Jersey Library Association, New Jersey Network/New Jersey Department of Labor, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities, their ability to identify and help the state's small businesses, entrepreneurs, unemployed and underemployed has been greatly enhanced.

New Jersey has been particularly hard hit by this recession, and our local public libraries are doing a tremendous job in their roles as instruments of recovery, especially in assisting agencies that traditionally deal with workforce development. Some of the services provided by libraries include helping job seekers file applications online; upload resumes; file for unemployment; teaching interview skills, basic literacy and computer literacy. Libraries also serve as a resource for small businesses, which are the vast majority of businesses in New Jersey, by assisting with information sources and with business and marketing plans.

Awarding the New Jersey State Library a federal broadband Public Computing Center grant will greatly enhance the work that local libraries do to make our State's economic recovery come sooner rather than later. Libraries are community anchor institutions that serve our most vulnerable residents in tough times. I fully support this application. Please feel free to contact me should I be able to assist the State Library further in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Fred H. Madden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Fred" being the most prominent part.

The Honorable Fred H. Madden, Jr.  
Chairman, Senate Labor Committee



State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
PO Box 500  
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

BRET SCHUNDLER  
Acting Commissioner

March 2, 2010

Ms. Norma Blake, State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
185 West State Street  
P.O. Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

**RE: Letter of Support, New Jersey Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP)  
Grant Application**

I am pleased to write in full support of the New Jersey State Library's efforts to pursue grant funding to expand computer and Internet access in New Jersey libraries. This grant application, if successful, will provide benefits for New Jersey's students through the following planned improvements:

- Additional computers for every participating public library, which will greatly improve students' ability to use these computers after school and on weekends with a much shorter wait time and a longer usage time;
- Additional databases, licensed for all New Jersey public libraries, that will be available to students and teachers using their public library card, including those for career exploration; and
- Expanded audio and video streaming capabilities due to improvements to the Jersey Connect technology infrastructure.

Technology is a valuable tool to support and enhance the teaching and learning process in all content areas as evidenced in the 2009 New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and standards support materials (<http://njcccs.org>). This creates the need for increased Internet access by students and educators in order to use current and emerging Web 2.0 applications and resources. The ability to access such resources after school hours in libraries will greatly benefit those students who do not have such access at home.

Please note the Department of Education also supports the ongoing development and sustainability of the state library computer centers and network in order to assist in meeting our goal to prepare all students for postsecondary education and the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace.

Sincerely,



Bret Schundler  
Acting Commissioner

BS/WS/JJ/LC/S:\Cocco, Larry\Ltr Of Support-NJBTOP Grant Application-2010.Doc

c: Willa Spicer  
Janis Jensen  
Larry Cocco



February 25, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
State Librarian  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

As Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, I am delighted to support the New Jersey State Library's application for federal funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

I understand that the Gates Foundation is providing the cash match that is essential for a successful review of this application and that the grant, if funded, will provide increased broadband connectivity, additional computers and subscription databases for New Jersey's public libraries.

As the agency responsible for providing financial assistance to New Jersey businesses and supporting the State's economic development, we were certainly appreciative of the ground-breaking New Jersey Knowledge Initiative which provided New Jersey businesses with free access to a variety of research databases, as well as market research reports. I look forward to our future partnership endeavors.

Sincerely,



Caren S. Franzini  
Chief Executive Officer



# SETC

## STATE EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING COMMISSION

P O B O X 9 4 0 • T R E N T O N N E W J E R S E Y • 0 8 6 2 5

*Chris Christie, Governor*

*Dennis M. Bone, Chairman*

March 10, 2010

Norma Blake  
State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

The State Employment and Training Commission (SETC), New Jersey's State Workforce Investment Board (WIB), supports the New Jersey State Library's (NJSL) application for federal funding under the BTOP program.

NJSL, as a member of the Commission's State Council for Adult Literacy Education Services since 2003, has helped guide policy designed to integrate adult literacy with the State's workforce investment system, and to engage local libraries with local workforce systems. Additionally, NJSL is working with the SETC as we explore strategies for more effectively connecting community resources with distance learning technology to better meet the skill and credential needs of our workforce.

New Jersey, like the rest of the nation, has been adversely affected by the current recession. The State's current unemployment rate hovers over 10%, while some local areas have experienced even greater job dislocation. Likewise, many industry sectors key to the State's economy such as banking, manufacturing, and pharmaceutical have downsized leaving many of New Jerseyans out-of-work or with reduced hours. More, job losses have had a hard hitting affect on managers and professionals, as well as front-line and support staff, white collar as well as blue collar workers. Many recently dislocated workers are ill-prepared to take advantage of the current job search tools and



lack the skills to be competitive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century job market – a market which places a premium on knowledge and skills, including basic literacy, computer skills, and technological literacy.

NJSL has been an important partner with the SETC as we explore strategies using information and communications technology to expand the reach of education, training, and employment programs. Your proposal to expand and improve the State's libraries' digital infrastructure to support workforce development initiatives will add value to New Jersey's state-based locally-driven workforce system. The SETC stands ready to work with NJSL to ensure that the proposed BTOP initiative becomes fully integrated with the overall workforce system. We believe the libraries will provide an important access point for job seekers to conduct job searches, build skills, and connect to additional services. More, these "new customers" will be exposed to the vast information resources of the library system not only to aid in their career development and job search, but also to enhance their overall development.

Therefore, the SETC strongly supports NJSL's proposal for BTOP funding and believes it will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on New Jersey's communities. And, we look forward to working with you to ensure its success and maximum impact.

Sincerely,

Robin Widing

Acting Executive Director

March 4, 2010

Office of Research and Development

Norma Blake  
State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Mrs. Blake,

This letter is in strong support of the State of New Jersey State Library's (NSL) application for federal funding under the BTOP.

The Enterprise Development Center (EDC) at New Jersey Institute of Technology is New Jersey's oldest and largest high technology business incubator. The EDC accelerates the successful development of entrepreneurial companies through an array of business support resources and services, developed or orchestrated by EDC management, and offered both in the incubator and through its network of contacts. EDC's main goal is to produce successful firms that will leave the program financially viable and freestanding. These incubator "graduates" create jobs, revitalize neighborhoods, commercialize critical new technologies and strengthen local and national economies. Management guidance and consulting suitable to young companies is critical to our mission.

There are currently 95 technology based companies in our incubator program. They employ close to 300 people and over 100 students work with them on various projects. The majority of these companies are developing a product or service based on a proprietary technology. In order to successfully commercialize their inventions they need to integrate Market knowledge and business insights with their strong technical foundation.

Our companies have found the New Jersey Knowledge Initiative (NJKI) program an extremely valuable resource. The complement of technical and business information available to small companies under this program enhanced their ability to successfully compete for Federal SBIR/STTR grants. In addition the access to market information allowed them to develop business plans with robust commercialization paths that are a critical element when they later seek venture capital and other traditional funding for their business.

The proposal to include the NJKI remote access to these database information resources as part of the BTOP program will fill a gap for emerging technology based companies in

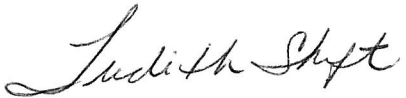
the state. Frequently these entrepreneurs are working on grant applications and funding proposals round the clock so the remote access capability is critical.

The market cost of the reports available as part of the NJKI would be prohibitive to a small technology based start up if they needed to pay for access directly to the provider. A start up with limited funds would not be able to obtain access the full array of information without a program such as NJKI.

NJKI is a unique program that has in the past been a key component of the information infrastructure that is vital to keeping NJ on the cutting edge of the knowledge economy. Inclusion of NJKI as part of the BTOP proposal will have a meaningful impact on the NJ state economy by helping these technology based start ups grow and thrive.

NJIT EDC incubator supports the NJSL BTOP proposal and welcomes the opportunity to partner with you in the project implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Judith Sheft".

Judith Sheft  
Associate Vice President  
Technology Development  
NJIT



# The College of New Jersey

## Small Business Development Center

### Headquarters

The College of New Jersey  
Forcina Hall  
Po Box 7718  
2000 Pennington Road  
Ewing, NJ 08628  
(609) 771-2947  
Fax (609) 637-5217

### Satellite Offices

Mercer Regional  
Chamber of Commerce  
1A Quakerbridge Plaza  
Hamilton, NJ 08619  
(609) 689-9960

Middlesex Regional  
Chamber of Commerce  
1 Distribution Way  
Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852  
(732) 821-1700

sbdc@tcnj.edu  
www.tcnj.edu/sbdc

February 2010

Attn: Norma Blake, State Librarian, NJ State Library  
Ref: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Dear Norma,

Please accept our letter of support for the proposed New Jersey State Library Public Computing Center Grant as part of the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

As part of the US Small Business Administration's network of 1100 SBDC centers nationwide and 11 regional centers statewide, to provide management and technical assistance and low to no cost training to small business representatives, it would be our privilege to participate to help:

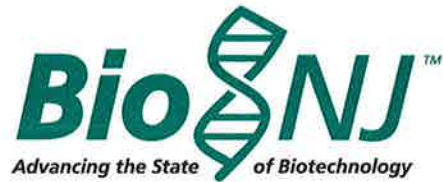
- Identify small businesses as potential partners in the program
- Promote the program to the local business communities
- Support with SBDC resources related to public computer based learning and education

Supported in smaller part by the State of New Jersey and increasingly by our local County of Mercer, it would be a great opportunity for our center to expand our technology based training focus to include the libraries as a base for our local business training.

We look forward to the success of this program and the potential of contributing to the education and growth of our shared business communities.

Most sincerely,

Lorraine Allen  
Regional Director



February 16, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
State Librarian  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-5020

Dear Ms. Blake:

As President of BioNJ, New Jersey's trade association for biotechnology companies in our State, I am delighted to support the New Jersey State Library's application for federal funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

I understand that the Gates Foundation is providing the cash match that is essential for a successful review of this application and that the grant, if funded, will provide increased broadband connectivity, additional computers and subscription databases for New Jersey's public libraries.

As the agency responsible for "acquiring and coordinating resources and providing services to members", we were enthusiastic supporters of the ground breaking New Jersey Knowledge Initiative, which provided our members with free access to a variety of research databases, as well as market research reports.

I look forward to meeting with your staff on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 2PM in my Trenton office to discuss this grant as well as future partnership endeavors.

Sincerely,

Debbie Hart  
President, BioNJ





March 5, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake,  
State Librarian  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

As President of the Southern New Jersey Development Council, the non-profit organization that works for responsible economic growth in the southern eight counties of New Jersey, I am writing in support the New Jersey State Library's application for federal funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

I understand that the Gates Foundation is providing the cash match that is essential for a successful review of this application and that the grant, if funded, will provide increased broadband connectivity, additional computers and subscription databases for all New Jersey public libraries.

As the agency responsible, through the collective support of our membership, to advocate "for the planning and development, implementation, and efficient completion of economically stimulating projects", we were certainly appreciative of the ground-breaking New Jersey Knowledge Initiative, which provided our members with free access to a variety of research databases, as well as market research reports. This program, in addition to the many other services provided by the State Library, extended beyond local library communities and into to the public and private sectors of South Jersey.

I look forward to continuing our partnership to bring information, education and information to the libraries of New Jersey and the people they serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marlene Z. Asselta".

Marlene Z. Asselta  
President  
Southern New Jersey Development Council



March 8, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake, State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
185 West State Street  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

As Executive Director of the New Jersey Library Association, the primary membership association for professional librarians in the state, I would like to express my organization's support for the State Library's application for federal funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

I know that the public libraries have been surveyed by the State Library in order to better determine their needs for upgraded broadband connectivity, training, database resources and additional public access computers in order to support our state's residents with job-seeking, research and submitting on-line applications. This initiative will in turn complement the recent New Jersey Department of Labor grant awarded to NJLA in order to provide resource-mapping and 24/7 real-time, on-line resources for job seekers in our south jersey region.

Currently many New Jersey libraries are struggling with insufficient bandwidth to provide the services their customers need and want. We see the State Library's initiative as a potential benefit to all our libraries, not just the biggest. The New Jersey Library Association is committed to participating, as appropriate, in the State's grant application for public computing centers throughout the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to support you and to participate in this grant. Please feel free to call on me at any time for any additional assistance I or my organization may offer you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Patricia A. Tumulty'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'P' and 'T'.

Patricia Tumulty  
Executive Director  
New Jersey Library Association



March 5, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake  
State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

Dear Norma:

LMxAC, a consortium of libraries with members in Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset and Union Counties, expresses its enthusiastic support for the State Library's application for federal funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

Each of our libraries will undoubtedly speak for itself with regard to unemployment services, training and public hardware and its need for increased internet access. LMxAC is a behind the scenes partner that offers our members retrospective conversion of library catalog records, circulation control, online public access catalog (both the member's individual catalog and a consortium-wide), connection with other library catalogs throughout the United States and connection with numerous commercial online research databases. Since our inception in 1989 we have managed our member's telecommunications access and are very aware of their hardware needs, patterns of Internet usage and costs. We are aware of the significance of what NJSL does for our libraries, and we have been proud and enthusiastic members of Jersey Connect.

Currently many of our libraries are struggling with insufficient bandwidth to provide the services their users demand. We see the State Library's initiative as a potential benefit to all our libraries, not just the biggest.

LMxAC is committed to participating, as appropriate, in the State's grant application for e-rate assistance, for 10MB Ethernet connection, and reduced Verizon pricing for 10MB Ethernet connection.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this grant.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eileen M. Palmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eileen" being more prominent.

Eileen M. Palmer  
Executive Director  
Libraries of Middlesex Automation Consortium



March 1, 2010

Norma E. Blake  
NJ State Librarian  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Ms. Blake:

PALS Plus, the consortium of libraries in Passaic and Essex Counties expresses its support for the State Library's application for federal funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Each of our libraries will undoubtedly speak for itself with regard to unemployment services, training and public hardware and its need for increased internet access. PALS Plus is a behind the scenes partner that advises, intermediates, monitors and maintains our libraries' connections to our central site and from there to the New Jersey State Library. In many cases, we are more aware of our libraries' hardware needs, patterns of Internet usage and costs than they are. We are aware of the significance of what NJSL does for our libraries, and we are proud and enthusiastic members of Jersey Connect.

Currently many of our libraries are struggling with insufficient bandwidth to provide the services their users demand. We have worked diligently, over several months, with Verizon to upgrade two of our biggest libraries to 10MB Ethernet connections. However most of our libraries cannot afford the increase to move from their T1 lines to Ethernet. There is currently no affordable intermediate step. We see the State Library's initiative as a potential benefit to all our libraries, not just the biggest.

PALS Plus is committed to participating, as appropriate, in the State's grant application for e-rate assistance, for 10MB Ethernet connection, and reduced Verizon pricing for 10MB Ethernet connection.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this grant.

Ruth A. Bogan, Executive Director  
PALS Plus  
973-486-2141  
bogan@palsplus.org





PRINCETON  
REGIONAL  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

9 Vandeventer Avenue  
Princeton, NJ 08542  
Tel: 609.924.1776  
Fax: 609.924.5776  
info@princetonchamber.org

March 1, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake,  
State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

As President & CEO of the Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce, Central New Jersey's membership organization for the business community, I am pleased to support the New Jersey State Library's application for federal funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

I understand that the Gates Foundation is providing the cash match that is essential for a successful review of this application and that the grant, if funded, will provide increased broadband connectivity, additional computers and subscription databases for New Jersey's public libraries.

As an organization that serves our members by "promoting an environment for business growth", we were certainly well-served by the ground-breaking resources offered by the New Jersey Knowledge Initiative, which provided our members with free access to a variety of research databases, as well as market research reports. RefUSA, which is still being funded by NJKI, has continued to be a valuable research tool for many of our members.

Best wishes on a successful grant application.

Sincerely,

Peter Crowley  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce



CenturyLink™

160 Center Street  
Clinton, NJ 08809  
EMBARQ.com

March 3, 2010

New Jersey State Library  
Mr. Michael Rasimowicz  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Mr. Rasimowicz:

On behalf of CenturyLink, we are writing to express support for the New Jersey State Library's Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) application request for funding to bring libraries in CenturyLink territory to the State of New Jersey backbone for Internet access.

As a supporter, CenturyLink will work with the New Jersey State library to identify possible candidates that are located within our serving territory. In addition, we will work with the New Jersey State Library to provide pricing on Ethernet or other services from the libraries in CenturyLink to a common co-location facility that will allow the libraries in our dial tone to connect to the backbone for the State Library. CenturyLink will also work to provide alternate Internet services that could provide redundancy and expand the bandwidth services to the end-users.

Developing this advanced network would allow libraries to provide both the resources and tools to profoundly impact the daily lives of many people. This network would assist individuals by providing them the resources they need to enhance their education and job skills.

Sincerely,

Tina M. Pursel  
Major Account Manager  
CenturyLink Business  
[tina.m.pursel@centurylink.com](mailto:tina.m.pursel@centurylink.com)  
908-735-3304



March 8, 2010

Ms. Norma E. Blake, State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
185 West State Street  
PO Box 520  
Trenton NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake:

As the President of ReferenceUSA, the premier source of business and residential information for reference and research, I am pleased to support the New Jersey State Library's application for federal funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program(BTOP).

I understand that the Gates Foundation is providing the cash match that is essential for a successful review of this application and that the grant, if funded, will provide increased broadband connectivity, additional computers and subscription databases for New Jersey's public libraries.

As a partner of the State Library since 2005 in the New Jersey Knowledge Initiative, we have been delighted to work with your staff on this ground-breaking program of support to small and entrepreneurial businesses. I can assure you that we will continue to work closely with the State Library, as appropriate, to demonstrate the usefulness of RefUSA for the Public Computing Center initiative as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Laird".

**Steve Laird**  
**President/ReferenceUSA**  
**5711 S. 86<sup>th</sup> Circle**  
**Omaha, NE 68127**  
**402.537.7725**  
**[Steve.Laird@Infogroup.com](mailto:Steve.Laird@Infogroup.com)**



March 11, 2010

Norma Blake  
State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake,

NJEntrepreneur.com is very pleased to support the New Jersey State Library's (NJSL) application for federal funding under the BTOP program. Our web site has the mission to support entrepreneurs and small business owners who rely heavily upon resources provided through the state library system.

NJSLs proposal to establish workforce development and job training programs at local libraries will provide an important service to the entrepreneurial community. We believe the libraries will help the unemployed gain valuable skills that will not only help them either find jobs or better prepare them to start a business.

As NJEntrepreneur.com is a statewide site promoting the information and resources available throughout New Jersey, we both support your proposal for BTOP funding and will assist in the dissemination of information to bring attention to the program when established.

Sincerely,

Jeanne E. Gray  
Publisher



**THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE AND ITS  
AFFILIATE THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY**  
(A Component Unit of the State of New Jersey)

Financial Statements, Management's Discussion  
and Analysis and Supplemental Schedules

June 30, 2009 and 2008

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)





KPMG LLP  
Suite 402  
301 Carnegie Center  
Princeton, NJ 08540-6227

## Independent Auditors' Report

The Board of Trustees  
Thomas Edison State College and its Affiliate  
the New Jersey State Library:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities and the discretely presented component unit of Thomas Edison State College and its Affiliate the New Jersey State Library (the Organization), a component unit of the State of New Jersey, as of and for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, which collectively comprise the Organization's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audits. We did not audit the financial statements of Thomas Edison State College Foundation, Inc., a component unit of the Organization. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Thomas Edison State College Foundation, Inc., is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits and the report of the other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, based on our audits and the report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities and the discretely presented component unit of Thomas Edison State College and its Affiliate the New Jersey State Library as of June 30, 2009 and 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the years then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

The management's discussion and analysis on pages 1 through 13 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.



Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information included in schedules 1 through 8 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

KPMG LLP

September 30, 2009

**THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE AND ITS  
AFFILIATE THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY**  
(A Component Unit of the State of New Jersey)

## Schedule of Net Assets

June 30, 2009

Assets	College	Library	Total
Current assets:			
Cash	\$ 1,942,100	685,357	2,627,457
Investments	30,605,168	6,127,967	36,733,135
Receivables:			
Students, net	2,566,842	—	2,566,842
State of New Jersey	244,907	413,050	657,957
Federal	271,947	502,214	774,161
Corporate accounts, net	1,701,933	—	1,701,933
Other receivables	129,658	8,601	138,259
Total receivables	4,915,287	923,865	5,839,152
Prepaid expenses and other assets	112,200	—	112,200
Due to College from Library	139,974	(139,974)	—
Total current assets	37,714,729	7,597,215	45,311,944
Noncurrent assets:			
Restricted investments	—	623,449	623,449
Trustee held investments	93	1,094,277	1,094,370
Rare books, artwork, and historical documents	317,321	1,564,050	1,881,371
Capital assets	22,041,310	10,551,452	32,592,762
Total noncurrent assets	22,358,724	13,833,228	36,191,952
Total assets	60,073,453	21,430,443	81,503,896
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	5,697,653	939,567	6,637,220
Deferred tuition and fees	5,122,700	—	5,122,700
Deferred grants and contracts	246,644	1,819,044	2,065,688
Deposits held in custody for others	7,010	—	7,010
Long-term debt – current portion	621,735	48,431	670,166
Total current liabilities	11,695,742	2,807,042	14,502,784
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Compensated absences – noncurrent portion	178,207	19,471	197,678
Long-term debt	1,997,237	—	1,997,237
Total noncurrent liabilities	2,175,444	19,471	2,194,915
Total liabilities	13,871,186	2,826,513	16,697,699
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	19,739,660	12,067,070	31,806,730
Restricted for:			
Nonexpendable:			
Aid to local libraries	—	416,073	416,073
Library for the Blind and Handicapped	—	264,661	264,661
Expendable:			
Aid to local libraries	—	413,542	413,542
Library for the Blind and Handicapped	—	1,509,838	1,509,838
Public policy	218,595	—	218,595
Capital projects	93	—	93
Unrestricted	26,243,919	3,932,746	30,176,665
Total net assets	\$ 46,202,267	18,603,930	64,806,197

**THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE AND ITS  
AFFILIATE THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY**  
(A Component Unit of the State of New Jersey)

## Schedule of Net Assets

June 30, 2008

Assets	College	Library	Total
Current assets:			
Cash	\$ 1,638,134	648,087	2,286,221
Investments	31,715,769	6,253,417	37,969,186
Receivables:			
Students, net	2,646,187	—	2,646,187
State of New Jersey	237,117	193,826	430,943
Federal	149,413	282,984	432,397
Corporate accounts, net	2,252,440	—	2,252,440
Other receivables	39,025	6,536	45,561
Total receivables	5,324,182	483,346	5,807,528
Prepaid expenses and other assets	186,340	934	187,274
Due to College from Library	110,430	(110,430)	—
Total current assets	38,974,855	7,275,354	46,250,209
Noncurrent assets:			
Restricted investments	—	994,857	994,857
Trustee held investments	1,817,689	1,148,598	2,966,287
Rare books, artwork, and historical documents	307,383	1,564,050	1,871,433
Capital assets	19,016,607	11,442,593	30,459,200
Total noncurrent assets	21,141,679	15,150,098	36,291,777
Total assets	60,116,534	22,425,452	82,541,986
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	5,079,279	856,895	5,936,174
Deferred tuition and fees	5,827,933	—	5,827,933
Deferred grants and contracts	424,647	1,932,954	2,357,601
Deposits held in custody for others	5,232	—	5,232
Long-term debt – current portion	681,142	62,619	743,761
Total current liabilities	12,018,233	2,852,468	14,870,701
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Compensated absences – noncurrent portion	143,348	5,383	148,731
Long-term debt	2,613,285	48,432	2,661,717
Total noncurrent liabilities	2,756,633	53,815	2,810,448
Total liabilities	14,774,866	2,906,283	17,681,149
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	16,029,563	12,895,592	28,925,155
Restricted for:			
Nonexpendable:			
Aid to local libraries	—	416,073	416,073
Library for the Blind and Handicapped	—	331,749	331,749
Expendable:			
Aid to local libraries	—	417,559	417,559
Library for the Blind and Handicapped	—	1,719,424	1,719,424
Public policy	237,192	—	237,192
Capital projects	1,817,689	—	1,817,689
Unrestricted	27,257,224	3,738,772	30,995,996
Total net assets	\$ 45,341,668	19,519,169	64,860,837

**THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE AND ITS  
AFFILIATE THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY**  
(A Component Unit of the State of New Jersey)

Schedule of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets

Year ended June 30, 2009

	<u>College</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Total</u>
Operating revenues:			
Student tuition and fees, net	\$ 31,840,195	—	31,840,195
Federal grants and contracts	1,985,915	4,327,756	6,313,671
Federal indirect cost recovery	45,642	112,453	158,095
State of New Jersey grants and contracts	314,562	14,750,316	15,064,878
Noncollegiate sponsored programs	50,485	—	50,485
Other operating revenues	114,910	31,551	146,461
Total operating revenues	<u>34,351,709</u>	<u>19,222,076</u>	<u>53,573,785</u>
Operating expenses:			
Academic support	18,120,433	—	18,120,433
Student services	3,947,531	—	3,947,531
Public services	1,008,451	4,560,742	5,569,193
General institutional	10,678,752	—	10,678,752
General administration	10,817,259	1,881,665	12,698,924
Other sponsored programs	796,783	—	796,783
Scholarships	884,829	—	884,829
State of New Jersey Library	—	5,626,996	5,626,996
Library for the Blind and Handicapped	—	3,096,929	3,096,929
Grants to libraries	—	12,639,484	12,639,484
Collections and exhibits	—	1,221,144	1,221,144
Depreciation	1,231,294	999,077	2,230,371
Total operating expenses	<u>47,485,332</u>	<u>30,026,037</u>	<u>77,511,369</u>
Operating loss	<u>(13,133,623)</u>	<u>(10,803,961)</u>	<u>(23,937,584)</u>
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):			
State of New Jersey appropriations	5,527,250	6,359,088	11,886,338
State of New Jersey paid fringe benefits	6,427,347	1,500,350	7,927,697
State of New Jersey paid facilities rental	1,796,380	—	1,796,380
Contributed U.S. Postal Service	—	1,081,216	1,081,216
Private gifts – restricted	357,005	1,094,747	1,451,752
Investment income (loss)	18,605	(147,100)	(128,495)
Interest on indebtedness	(124,924)	(2,967)	(127,891)
Net nonoperating revenues	<u>14,001,663</u>	<u>9,885,334</u>	<u>23,886,997</u>
Income before other revenues (losses)	<u>868,040</u>	<u>(918,627)</u>	<u>(50,587)</u>
Capital appropriations	—	8,281	8,281
Loss on disposal of equipment	(7,441)	(4,893)	(12,334)
Total other revenues (losses)	<u>(7,441)</u>	<u>3,388</u>	<u>(4,053)</u>
Increase in net assets	860,599	(915,239)	(54,640)
Net assets as of beginning of year	45,341,668	19,519,169	64,860,837
Net assets as of end of year	<u>\$ 46,202,267</u>	<u>18,603,930</u>	<u>64,806,197</u>



## Schedule 4

**THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE AND ITS  
AFFILIATE THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY**  
(A Component Unit of the State of New Jersey)

## Schedule of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets

Year ended June 30, 2008

	<u>College</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Total</u>
Operating revenues:			
Student tuition and fees, net	\$ 28,030,230	—	28,030,230
Federal grants and contracts	1,499,229	4,521,729	6,020,958
Federal indirect cost recovery	46,601	114,001	160,602
State of New Jersey grants and contracts	350,026	15,438,051	15,788,077
Noncollegiate sponsored programs	58,353	—	58,353
Other operating revenues	124,654	70,093	194,747
Total operating revenues	<u>30,109,093</u>	<u>20,143,874</u>	<u>50,252,967</u>
Operating expenses:			
Academic support	16,674,210	—	16,674,210
Student services	2,796,012	—	2,796,012
Public services	974,574	4,633,352	5,607,926
General institutional	10,455,381	—	10,455,381
General administration	10,086,258	1,725,381	11,811,639
Other sponsored programs	735,674	—	735,674
Scholarships	568,144	—	568,144
State of New Jersey Library	—	5,246,938	5,246,938
Library for the Blind and Handicapped	—	3,261,016	3,261,016
Grants to libraries	—	12,633,676	12,633,676
Collections and exhibits	—	1,181,572	1,181,572
Depreciation	1,068,036	997,765	2,065,801
Total operating expenses	<u>43,358,289</u>	<u>29,679,700</u>	<u>73,037,989</u>
Operating loss	<u>(13,249,196)</u>	<u>(9,535,826)</u>	<u>(22,785,022)</u>
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):			
State of New Jersey appropriations	5,951,750	6,542,191	12,493,941
State of New Jersey paid fringe benefits	5,502,876	1,234,105	6,736,981
State of New Jersey paid facilities rental	2,071,130	—	2,071,130
Contributed U.S. Postal Service	—	1,279,237	1,279,237
Private gifts – restricted	255,120	943,403	1,198,523
Investment income	1,050,634	175,774	1,226,408
Interest on indebtedness	(143,092)	(5,136)	(148,228)
Net nonoperating revenues	<u>14,688,418</u>	<u>10,169,574</u>	<u>24,857,992</u>
Income before other revenues	<u>1,439,222</u>	<u>633,748</u>	<u>2,072,970</u>
Loss on disposal of equipment	<u>(22,726)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(22,726)</u>
Total other revenues (losses)	<u>(22,726)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(22,726)</u>
Increase in net assets	1,416,496	633,748	2,050,244
Net assets as of beginning of year	43,925,172	18,885,421	62,810,593
Net assets as of end of year	<u>\$ 45,341,668</u>	<u>19,519,169</u>	<u>64,860,837</u>

**THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE AND ITS  
AFFILIATE THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY**  
(A Component Unit of the State of New Jersey)

Statements of Cash Flows

Business-Type Activities – Organization Only

Years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Student tuition and fees	\$ 33,057,064	28,751,280
Grants, contracts, and other revenues	13,087,882	13,918,132
Payments for salaries	(24,906,893)	(23,205,570)
Payments for fringe benefits	(1,302,104)	(1,882,406)
Payments for materials and supplies	(1,940,957)	(1,942,591)
Payments for services	(21,459,659)	(18,984,340)
Payments for maintenance	(862,875)	(925,214)
Payments to students	(997,785)	(814,694)
Payments for grants and contracts	(4,685,840)	(4,045,863)
Payments for noncapital improvements	(244,990)	(224,684)
Net cash used by operating activities	<u>(10,256,157)</u>	<u>(9,355,950)</u>
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities:		
State of New Jersey appropriations	11,693,338	12,493,941
Private gifts – restricted	1,376,679	1,122,431
Agency receipts	279,374	203,751
Agency disbursements	(273,586)	(213,748)
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	<u>13,075,805</u>	<u>13,606,375</u>
Cash flows from capital financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of tax exempt lease	8,190	2,700,000
Purchases of capital assets	(4,931,026)	(1,579,128)
Principal paid on capital debt	(746,265)	(537,005)
Interest paid on capital debt	(133,651)	(121,969)
Net cash (used by) provided by capital financing activities	<u>(5,802,752)</u>	<u>461,898</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments	94,967,908	26,230,519
Purchases of investments	(92,342,434)	(31,937,742)
Interest on investments	698,866	1,682,506
Net cash provided by (used by) investing activities	<u>3,324,340</u>	<u>(4,024,717)</u>
Net increase in cash	341,236	687,606
Cash as of beginning of the year	<u>2,286,221</u>	<u>1,598,615</u>
Cash as of end of the year	<u>\$ 2,627,457</u>	<u>2,286,221</u>

**THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE AND ITS  
AFFILIATE THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY**  
(A Component Unit of the State of New Jersey)

Statements of Cash Flows

Business-Type Activities – Organization Only

Years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Reconciliation of operating loss to net cash used by operating activities:		
Operating loss	\$ (23,937,584)	(22,785,022)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash used by operating activities:		
Depreciation expense	2,230,371	2,065,801
Noncash transactions	10,875,366	10,163,440
Change in assets and liabilities:		
Receivables	1,136,748	198,414
Prepaid expenses and other assets	75,074	(18,132)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	488,698	241,794
Deferred tuition and fees	(763,771)	254,777
Deferred grants and contracts	(361,059)	522,978
Net cash used by operating activities	<u>\$ (10,256,157)</u>	<u>(9,355,950)</u>
Noncash transactions:		
State of New Jersey paid fringe benefits	\$ 7,927,697	6,736,981
State of New Jersey paid facilities rental	1,796,380	2,071,130
Contributed U.S. Postal Service	1,081,216	1,279,237
Contributed services	70,073	76,092
Student waivers expense	(561,277)	—
Student tuition and fees	561,277	—
State of New Jersey paid grants to local libraries expense	(7,893,270)	(8,578,350)
State of New Jersey paid grants to local libraries revenue	7,893,270	8,578,350
	<u>\$ 10,875,366</u>	<u>10,163,440</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**BILL & MELINDA**  
**GATES** *foundation*

PO Box 23350  
Seattle, WA 98102, USA  
V 206.709.3100  
F 206.709.3180  
[www.gatesfoundation.org](http://www.gatesfoundation.org)

March 10, 2010

Norma Blake  
State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
185 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake,

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is pleased to award the New Jersey State Library (NJSL) a grant of \$1,650,000. As the lead applicant, NJSL will be submitting a proposal on March 15, 2010 to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) under the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program's (BTOP) Public Computer Centers funding category. The foundation's grant funds are to be used to help fulfill NTIA's matching requirements for this BTOP project, which is intended to increase broadband capacity and create job centers that provide workforce development and job search services.

Of the \$1,650,000 grant award, \$150,000 must be spent on E-rate application support as a training cost associated with building the capacity of participating library systems to sustain their projects following the conclusion of the BTOP project period.

The foundation's grant is contingent on NJSL receiving a BTOP award from NTIA and on the execution of a grant agreement between NJSL and the foundation. The grant will be paid in two equal installments. The first payment will be disbursed shortly after NJSL's receipt of an official BTOP award notice, and the second and final grant payment will be disbursed approximately one year after the first payment.

We are pleased to support NJSL in its application to NTIA and its efforts to meet community needs through high-quality technology and broadband Internet access in New Jersey.

Sincerely,



Allan C. Golston  
President, U.S. Program

Cc: Jill Nishi, Deputy Director, U.S. Libraries Initiative



**PUBLIC TELEVISION & RADIO**

Headquarters: 25 South Stockton St., Trenton, NJ 08608 Mailing Address: NJN, P.O. Box 777, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0777

Phone: 609-777-5000 Fax: 609-633-2921 <http://www.njn.net>



**TELEVISION**

- WNJS/23  
Camden
- WNJN/50  
Montclair
- WNJT/52  
Trenton
- WNCB/58  
New Brunswick
- All New Jersey  
cable systems

**RADIO**

- WNJN/89.7FM  
Atlantic City
- WNJS/88.1FM  
Berlin
- WNCB/89.3FM  
Bridgeton
- WNJZ/90.3FM  
Cape May Court House
- WNJM/89.9FM  
Manahawkin
- WNJT/88.1FM  
Trenton
- WNJP/88.5FM  
Sussex

March 5, 2010

Ms. Norma Blake  
Director  
New Jersey State Library  
185 West State St.  
Trenton, N.J. 08625-0520

Dear Norma:

On behalf of NJN Television and Radio (NJN), I would like to confirm NJN's intent to work closely with the New Jersey State Library to implement a statewide workforce development initiative to be funded by NTIA's BTOP Personal Computing Center program. We understand that this program will receive no other federal funding source.

NJN is pleased to support this project as it is currently described. NJN will provide educational video content designed for young adults and adults; will train instructors on the use of the content; and will provide technical assistance to set up the web portal and computers in libraries throughout New Jersey.

NJN has extensive experience in the area of workforce development training. Since 2001, NJN has partnered with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, using multiple technologies to produce customized content and obtain and deliver workforce training video and multi-media software. The Workforce Learning Link Program now serves more than 50 one-stop career centers and community-based sites across the state, helping adult learners improve their basic fundamental skills, raise their literacy levels, and acquire skills that will open doors to successful employment and a better quality of life. The need for improved workforce and life skills among New Jersey adults is great, and the New Jersey State Library project will meet that need by reaching even more adult learners.

As New Jersey's only public media network, NJN is dedicated to providing access to quality learning opportunities for all New Jersey residents, from cradle to grave. In addition to the full spectrum of children's programming that supports learning, NJN broadcasts *GED Connection* and *Crossroads Café* to provide the necessary education to enable anyone to get their GED and learn the English language.

Ms. Norma Blake  
March 5, 2010  
Page 2 – continued

NJN also actively participates in adult literacy organizations that service New Jersey, including the SETC (State Employment & Training Commission), SCALES (State Council for Adult Literacy Education Services, NJALL (New Jersey Association for Lifelong Learning), GSETA (Garden State Employment & Training Association), and others.

NJN has two dedicated professionals in workforce development that are eager to work with the State Library to develop library programs and services that assist in job searching, job training, and workforce and life skills.

If you require any additional information, please let me know. Thank you for this extraordinary opportunity to partner with the New Jersey State Library and to provide an important public service to the people of New Jersey.

Sincerely,



Howard Blumenthal  
Executive Director  
NJN Public Television and Radio





**PUBLIC TELEVISION & RADIO**

Headquarters: 25 South Stockton St., Trenton, NJ 08608 Mailing Address: NJN, P.O. Box 777, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0777  
Phone: 609-777-5000 Fax: 609-633-2921 <http://www.njn.net>



**TELEVISION**

- WNJS/23  
Camden
- WNJN/50  
Montclair
- WNJT/52  
Trenton
- WNJB/58  
New Brunswick
- All New Jersey  
cable systems

**RADIO**

- WNJN/89.7FM  
Atlantic City
- WNJS/88.1FM  
Berlin
- WNJB/89.3FM  
Bridgeton
- WNJZ/90.3FM  
Cape May Court House
- WNJM/89.9FM  
Manahawkin
- WNJT/88.1FM  
Trenton
- WNJP/88.5FM  
Sussex

March 10, 2010

Ms. Norma Blake  
Director  
New Jersey State Library  
185 West State St.  
Trenton, N.J. 08625-0520

Dear Norma:

NJN is very pleased to partner with the New Jersey State Library and help implement a statewide workforce development initiative to be funded by NTIA's BTOP Personal Computing Center program.

NJN will provide video content to 367 New Jersey libraries for a total value of \$600,000. We are looking forward to proceeding with this project, in which case NJN will waive these costs and provide the content as an in-kind service.

Sincerely,

Howard Blumenthal  
Executive Director  
NJN Public Television and Radio

Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development  
New Jersey Council of County Colleges  
330 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08618

March 8, 2010

Ms. Sheri Shafer  
CFO  
NJ State Library  
185 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Sheri,

On behalf of the New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development I am pleased to commit the Consortium's participation in the New Jersey Library's grant submission to NTIA's BTOP Personal Computing Center program.

The Consortium is the central coordinating body working on behalf of New Jersey's nineteen community colleges on matters relating to workforce development. As such the Consortium provides direct interface with statewide organization's like the New Jersey State Library. Among the Consortium's more successful partnership has been the highly successful and unique New Jersey Business and Industry Association's Basic Skills Workforce Training Program. Now in its third year the NJBIA project has provided training to over 800 businesses and over 12,000 individual employees. The Consortium will bring this in depth knowledge of the workplace to New Jersey's NTIA BTOP workforce program.

While working directly with the State Library, the Consortium will provide three training projects each targeting directly or indirectly out of work individuals. The professional staff training component will help expand the skills of local librarians which will allow them to provide better workforce services to out of work New Jerseyans. Secondly we will provide a state of the art personal workforce development course to out of work individuals. This course aims to make job seekers more self sufficient. Lastly, we will work with the Libraries on the delivery of our unique Training on Demand program. This program links employers and job seekers with job specific training and employment.

We are delighted to be a part of this exciting grant program. If you need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Robert F. Rosa  
Chief Operations Officer

C: Dr. E. Yaw, President County College of Morris, Chair NJ Edge  
Dr. S. Rose, President, Passaic County Community College  
Dr. L. Nespoli, NJ Council of County Colleges  
Dr. R. Bowman, CEO Community College Consortium

Telephone (609) 393-9000  
Fax (609) 392-8158



**February 24, 2010**

**Michael Rasimowicz  
NJ State Library  
185 West State St.  
Trenton, N.J. 08625-0520**

**Dear Mike,**

On behalf of Verizon New Jersey, Inc. ("Verizon"), I would like to confirm Verizon's intent to work with the New Jersey State Library and offer communications services that can be used to upgrade and expand the Verizon services currently used by the State Library in connection with the Jersey Connect Network. Verizon is pleased to support this project as it is currently described, based on the New Jersey State Library's representations that this project may be funded by NTIA's BTOP Personal Computing Center program and no other federal funding source.

Verizon already is providing telecommunications services to the New Jersey State Library and to many local libraries throughout New Jersey, and offering discounted rates to them under Verizon's Access NJ Program, as well as providing grants or funding for special programs. Verizon has invested millions of dollars to deploy Ethernet services throughout the State of New Jersey. This investment has given Verizon the ability to provide services that support technology initiatives of the State Library and many individual libraries.

Verizon has a team of dedicated professionals that are ready to work with the State Library and develop a proposal for communications services that can be installed in a timely manner, have sustainable pricing with the potential for e-rate funding eligibility, and be useful to the State and local libraries' provision of public computing capability to users of library programs that assist in job searching, job training, and other library services. Verizon is confident that the communications services to be proposed by Verizon will have the capability of benefitting the New Jersey State Library and the individual member libraries that use such services.

If you require any additional information, please let me know. Thank you.

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James M. Livecchi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**James M. Livecchi**  
Verizon Business- Sr. Account Manager, State of NJ

February 17, 2010

Comcast Enterprise Services  
800 Rahway Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Union, NJ 07083

New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

**Dear Mike,**

It was a pleasure to meet you last week at the State Library breakfast, I look forward to the opportunity to work with you and the NJSL.

Comcast fully supports the NJ State Library's round 2 BTOP applications. It has come to my attention that Comcast already is supporting many local Libraries by offering some complimentary services , as well as providing grants or funding for special programs.

Comcast recognizes that government budgets are decreasing and therefore will work with NJSL to provide alternative services. This includes the NJSL core network such as ISP services and assistance in NJSL's search for Co-Location space. Comcast will work with NJSL to reduce the current operating costs for the Jersey Connect network.

Comcast has invested hundreds of millions of dollars to enhance their existing network to meet the Ethernet provider standards required by the MEF Metro Ethernet Forum. This investment has given Comcast the ability to service the Technology initiatives set forth by the NJSL throughout our New Jersey Footprint. Comcast Enterprise services will be able to reach some of the library communities not yet served or underserved by other providers ad will work with NJSL to identify these library communities.

Best regards,

Andrew Ryan

Strategic Account Executive

Comcast Enterprise Services

908 624 6076



**New Jersey State League  
of Municipalities**

222 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08608  
PHONE (609) 695-3481 • FAX (609) 695-0151  
EMAIL [league@njslom.com](mailto:league@njslom.com) • [www.njslom.com](http://www.njslom.com)

William G. Dressel, Jr., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michael J. Darcy, CAE, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 29, 2010

Norma Blake, State Librarian  
New Jersey State Library  
PO Box 520  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0520

Dear Ms. Blake,

The League of Municipalities looks forward to supporting the State Library and the New Jersey Library Association application for funds through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

We are particularly heartened to learn the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is partnering with you to help you compete for these federal funds.

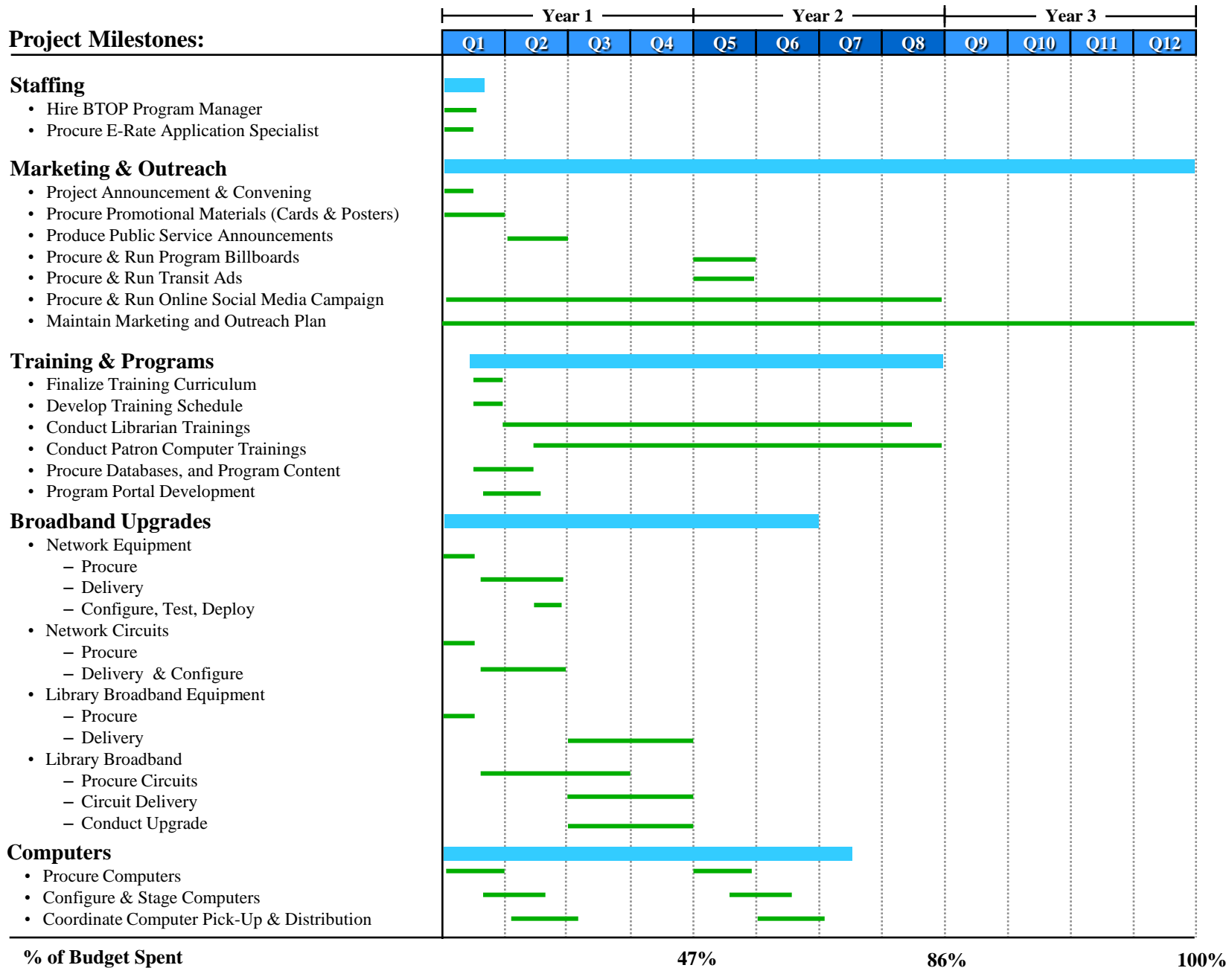
Local governments, like local libraries, seek to respond to residents' needs to access the Internet and develop 21st century skills, conduct job searches, access government services, and stay informed. The local library is an important point of access and a vital local link for many residents.

The League of Municipalities wants to support the BTOP funding efforts and resulting upgrade to local libraries' broadband access. Please contact the League going forward so we can assist these efforts.

Very truly yours,

  
William G. Dressel, Jr.  
Executive Director

# NJSL BTOP Project Timeline





**ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**

**NOTE:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL

TITLE

Associate Vice President & Treasurer

APPLICANT ORGANIZATION

Thomas Edison State College

DATE SUBMITTED

March 4, 2010