



JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State & State Librarian
Illinois State Library, Gwendolyn Brooks Building
300 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62701-1796

WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM

SYNERGY: The Illinois Library Leadership Initiative 2010

April 20-22 — Starved Rock Lodge and Conference Center, Utica
August 3-5 — Pere Marquette Lodge, Grafton
October 26-28 — Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Hotel, Lisle, IL

Application Packet

Selection Criteria

1. Master's degree in Library and Information Science and/or School Library Media Specialist (32 hours in Library Science, Type 10 Certification). Please indicate all specific certifications held. A Teaching Certificate Endorsement is not acceptable.
2. Employed at an Illinois library/school media center.
3. Demonstration of leadership.
4. Commitment to attend all three leadership sessions and participate in intersession activities.
5. Ability to assume responsibility for all travel, personal and incidental expenses.

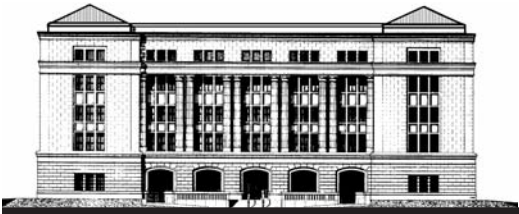
Application Instructions

Applications must be postmarked by Monday, November 30, 2009.

Applicants are responsible for compiling and submitting **completed** applications and supporting documents together in the order below.

1. **Applicant Confirmation Checklist** — Confirm and sign the checklist.
2. **Cover Letter** — Formal letter indicating how the applicant believes he/she meets each of the Selection Criteria above and listing individually the specific enclosed items requested below.
3. **One-page Formal Résumé** — Current résumé describing pertinent professional experience and achievements, particularly with regard to librarianship and leadership.
4. **Nomination Letter** — Formal letter on letterhead from any of the following: director or staff member of a regional library system; ILLINET-member library director; Illinois State Library Leadership Planning Committee member; or a representative of a state professional association or organization such as ILA, ISLMA, IACRL, LIBRAS, CARLI, Illinois Chapter SLA or PALI. The writer must provide strong evidence supporting the applicant based on his/her knowledge of the applicant and the applicant's special strengths, and provide examples of the applicant's leadership/problem-solving abilities and achievements.
5. **Letters of Support** — Two letters from any of the above individuals or from supervisors, former professors or colleagues, or librarians who have completed the *Synergy Initiative*. Letters should comment strongly on knowledge of the applicant and his/her strengths, and provide examples of the applicant's leadership/problem-solving abilities and achievements.
6. **Statement of Applicant's Achievements** — One-page narrative statement (not bullet points) describing the applicant's achievements, including community service and professional activities, that demonstrate leadership potential, aspirations for the future and qualities the applicant possesses as an emerging leader.

Submit completed application packets to: *Synergy: The Illinois Library Leadership Initiative 2010*, Attn.: Ellen Popit, Committee Chair, Shawnee Library System, 607 S. Greenbriar Rd., Carterville, IL 62918-1602.



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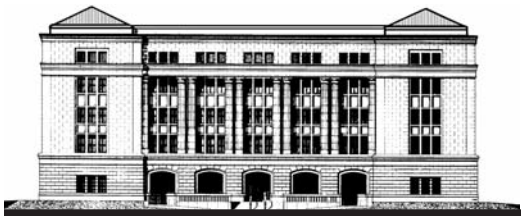
Application Confirmation Checklist

Please make this checklist the first page of your application packet.

If selected, I, _____ (please print), agree to and confirm the following *Synergy: The Illinois Library Leadership Initiative 2010* selection criteria.

- I have enclosed an applicant cover letter.
- I have enclosed a one-page formal résumé.
- I have enclosed one letter of nomination.
- I have enclosed two letters of support.
- I have enclosed a one-page narrative statement of my achievements.
- I have a master's degree in Library and Information Science and/or School Library Media Specialist completed before **November 30, 2009**.
- I am employed at an Illinois library/school media center.
- I commit to attending all three leadership sessions and participating in intersession activities. If I am unable to attend any one of the sessions, I understand that I will be automatically eliminated from the *Synergy: The Illinois Library Leadership Initiative 2010* because each *Synergy* session builds upon the leadership skills of the previous sessions.
- I understand that *Synergy* is a highly competitive leadership training initiative and only 30 applicants are selected from many applications each year. I agree to notify the Shawnee Library System immediately if I am selected but am unable to attend all the sessions. My early notification may allow another applicant to attend.
- I accept full responsibility for all travel, personal and incidental expenses.

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



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Information Fact Sheet

- *Synergy 2010* is planned for a maximum of 30 participants.
- Attendance at all three sessions is mandatory. If an applicant is accepted but cannot commit to all three sessions, he/she must forfeit his/her place. If you anticipate professional or personal changes in the next year that might conflict with the Synergy schedule, it is recommended that you not apply.
- Applicants must hold a master's degree in Library Science or a School Library Media Specialist (see details on Application Instructions).
- Synergy is open to librarians from all types of libraries — academic, public, school and special — as well as regional library systems Applicants must be employed at an Illinois library or school media center.
- Individuals at all levels of the library profession will be considered.
- Family members are not allowed to accompany participants on the Synergy sessions. Participants will be busy for long hours during the three-day leadership sessions, and their full attention should be on the Synergy experience, not personal or work responsibilities.
- Applications and all supporting documentation must be sent together in the same envelope at the same time. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Supporting documents include the following (see Application Instructions for details):
 - 1) One-Page Résumé
 - 2) Cover Letter
 - 3) Nomination Letter
 - 4) Two Letters of Support
- Applications packets must be postmarked by **November 30, 2009**.
- Once the selection process is completed, applicants will be notified as to whether or not they have been selected for *Synergy 2010*. The selection process may take up to two weeks.

For more information on *Synergy: The Illinois Library Leadership Initiative 2010*, please contact Patricia Norris at pnorris@ilsos.net or 217-524-5867; Vandella Brown at vbrown@ilsos.net or 217-785-9075; Cyndy Colletti at ccolletti@ilsos.net or 217-524-3529; or Ellen Popit at epopit@shawls.lib.il.us or 800-455-4374 x-2024.