Certification Program for Public Library Administrators is Being Expanded

by Shannon Roy, Continuing Education Coordinator

The Certification Program for Public Library Administrators is now the Certification Program for Library Administrators!

Launched by the State Library of Kansas in July, 2007, the Certification Program for Public Library Administrators has become a very successful program! Over 227 librarians have requested their initial certification and begun documenting their career development for re-certification. It has been a great program … for public librarians.

There has been widespread interest in the certification program expressed by groups other than public librarians. The same suggestion keeps coming up: create a certification for my type of library. We heard you, and have now expanded the program to become the Certification Program for Library Administrators! This program will give respect and recognition to committed Kansas librarians whether they are directors, department heads or field specialists, and whether they are working in public, academic, school or special libraries.

The four levels of certification will remain the same. The re-certification requirement remains the same for all participants. They must document 45 contact hours of training between the date on their original certificate and the same date three years later. The State Library staff records the certifications and re-certifications, but not the hours for the training requirement. **Record keeping is the responsibility of the certified librarian.**

Training accepted for certification renewal includes:

- Workshops sponsored by regional systems, library organizations or libraries
- College courses in librarianship, information science or major academic disciplines
- Leadership programs
- A statewide library conference or pre-conference
- A national library conference or pre-conference
- A commercial training seminar that is connected to professional skills
- A workshop sponsored by a unit of government, if related to needed job skills or area of knowledge covered in the core competencies
- Online or desktop training events with a confirmation of completion from the provider
- Training credit will also be given for teaching a workshop or online event, but that credit will be limited to presentation time.

Activities that will not be accepted for library certificate training include:

- Programs that last for less than one hour
- Parts of programs
- Staff meetings, board meetings or committee meetings
- Individual on-the-job training sessions
- College courses designed for hobbies and personal skills rather than major academic disciplines.

If you would like to view the program online, it may be found at:

http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/development/certificationprogram.pdf

If you have questions or concerns about the Certification Program, please call Shannon Roy at 785/296-2148 or send e-mail to shanroy@kslib.info.