

Literacy Link South Central's Innovation Fund

Background

Literacy Link South Central (LLSC), since our inception in 1991, has developed both the ability and the desire to invest in the communities we support. To that end, LLSC's Board of Directors is pleased to celebrate International Literacy Day 2017 by releasing its application for the annual Literacy Link South Central Innovation Fund.

What funds are available?

Each fiscal year (April 1 – March 31), LLSC issues a community-wide call for new projects that foster and support innovative work within adult literacy programs. The Board and staff of Literacy Link South Central review applications, and select either one application to receive a grant of up to \$10,000 or two applications to receive a grant of up to \$5,000 each.

Check your eligibility

Applicants to LLSC's Innovation Fund must:

- run an adult literacy organization that operates within Literacy Link South Central's catchment area (Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk, Elgin, Oxford and Middlesex Counties)
- have been in operation for at least one year
- have an innovative idea!

Not sure if you qualify? Contact us at literacylink@bellnet.ca or at 519-681-7307

Financial criteria

- Applicants may not profit financially from the project
- Applicants are responsible for keeping expense receipts to account for project costs

Other important information

- Literacy Link South Central believes in sharing knowledge, expertise and resources throughout the adult literacy community. With this in mind, LLSC maintains the right to share products developed through the Innovation Fund.
- Literacy Link South Central does not accept liability for any risks associated with Innovation Fund-supported activities.
- We welcome applications that represent partnerships between agencies, but ask applicants' to specify a lead organization with whom we can work on an administrative level.

What does LLSC expect in return for Innovation funding?

- To hear about your project progress each quarter, using a form we will provide
- That we can share the results of your project with others in the literacy community
- That you will spend the funding in the way you describe in your proposal. If you want to change the way the funding will be spent, please contact us **before** making any changes so we can discuss them.
- That you will credit Literacy Link South Central on project materials and communications with: **This activity was made possible through Literacy Link South Central's Innovation Fund.**

How does LLSC describe "innovation"?

- Doing something in a way that has never been done before.
- Introducing strategies and techniques to enhance learning progress.
- Looking at things from a different perspective – the vision to take an idea and turn it into a reality, and the bravery to take a risk on that idea.
- Finding new tools, processes, and ideas to accomplish tasks that have been traditionally completed other ways.
- Doing what you think needs doing, not what you think funders will fund.
- Having vision.
- A new idea that is applied to an activity or process to increase understanding and engagement.
- A new idea that is applied to an activity or process to increase efficiency and overall performance.

How do I apply?

Please complete the following form by downloading the editable application from Literacy Link South Central's website at www.llsc.on.ca. Mail your completed application to literacylink@bellnet.ca by the submission deadline of 4:00 pm on **Thursday October 12, 2017**.

Applicant Information	
Organization Name:	
Contact Person:	
Role within the organization:	
Contact Information	
Address:	Phone:
Email Address:	
Please describe your connection to adult literacy (no more than 250 words).	

1. Why do you need this funding? What is the need you are hoping to address?

2. How does your innovative idea fit with LLSC's vision of innovation?

3. Tell us about your plan -what activities are you proposing?

4. Who is going to do the work?

5. What are the timelines for your activities?

6. What is your budget?

7. What's at stake? What impact will there be if you don't get this funding?

8. What benefit will your project have for the field of adult literacy?

9. Is there anything else you want us to know?

