



Applications Now Open

In an effort to continue important conversations and learning, the State Library of Iowa is launching a Project READY cohort for Iowa youth services librarians.

Project READY was funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and developed over the course of three years by faculty at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill's School of Information and Library Science. It features the work and scholarship of more than 40 library and school practitioners, scholars, administrators. Project READY is a free, online curriculum designed for librarians and educators who desire to improve their knowledge about race and racism, racial equity, and culturally sustaining pedagogy. The primary focus of the Project READY curriculum is on improving relationships with, services to, and resources for youth of color and Native youth.

Iowa's cohort will be made up of public librarians from across the state, selected by State Library staff through an application process. The cohort will earn continuing education credit by working through the 27 modules that make up the Project READY curriculum through regular online meetings and other forms of collaboration in an effort to strengthen and broaden their work with and for children and teens.

[Learn More About Project READY](#)

How Can I Be Part of Project READY?

Read on to find out if applying for the Iowa cohort is right for you!

How long does will this cohort last? When does it start?

Project READY for 2020-2021 runs from August 2020 to May 2021.

How much of a time commitment will this be?

The Project READY cohort meets virtually twice a month for about one hour. These sessions are a chance for us to discuss the material as well as the



assignments that go with each module. Regular attendance at these sessions is required. The assignments including journaling work as well as reading, watching videos, and other research and learning. There will also be email threads and collaborative online spaces participants are expected to contribute to approximately two-three times a month.

Who can apply?

Due to the nature of the Project READY curriculum, selection preference will be given to those staff whose primary responsibility is working directly with youth patrons. Due to space limitations in this cohort, only one person per library system will be accepted. This cohort is open only to librarians currently working in Iowa public libraries.

When will I know if I am accepted?

Applications close on Tuesday, July 21st at 5 PM. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance by July 24th and must formally accept the offer no later than July 29th. If applicants choose not to participate or do not respond, alternates may be invited after July 29th.

How many people will be accepted?

Due to the rigorous nature of the course work and the design of the curriculum, this cohort will be limited to 10-15 members. There is some flexibility in this number depending on the quantity and quality of applications received, but the cohort will not exceed 20 participants.

How are participants selected?

Using a blind selection process, State Library staff will select the applicants they feel are a best match for the program based on the depth and comprehensiveness of their answers.

What do I need to be a part of the cohort?

Due to the time commitment and work load requirements, you'll need authorization from a supervisor/administration in your library system. You will also need a reliable Internet connection and a computer with a working camera and a mic so you can join our discussion sessions.

How much does this cost?

Because Project READY curriculum is free and the State Library of Iowa supports the goals of Project READY, we are offering this program for free. State Library of Iowa staff will handle facilitation and administration, including hosting meetings.

How much CE credit will I earn for participating?

Upon completion of Project READY, you will earn 35 CE credits. We understand this is a lot of CE credit! That's because this is an intensive, months-long program that will require a lot of time, work, and professional learning and development. However, you must *complete* the entire curriculum with the cohort, no partial credit will be awarded.

If I don't get into the cohort, can I do Project READY on my own or with a different small group and earn 35 CE credits?

It's great you are interested in Project READY! Because the nature of this curriculum is necessarily intense, we're encouraging individuals or small groups who wish to complete part of the curriculum for a smaller amount of CE to contact [Sam Bouwers](#), our CE consultant, to review their options.

Will you be offering Project READY again?

This is a pilot program and we want to gauge interest and feedback, but it is definitely a future consideration.

Have other questions? Contact [Angie Manfredi](#) or [Sam Bouwers](#) directly.

Apply for Project READY now

State Library of Iowa Youth Services

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The Continuing Education program is made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of Iowa.