



# OWWL LIBRARY SYSTEM

## REDUCED MATCH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

As a result of legislation passed in 2011, public and association libraries that are located in an “economically disadvantaged community” may be awarded up to 75% of the total approved project costs for the State Aid for Library Construction Program.

To qualify for consideration for the reduced match option, libraries in the System must be located in a county that meets at least two of the following criteria:

- the unemployment rate of the county is above the New York State average
- the median household income of the county is below the NYS average
- the percent of people below the poverty level residing in the county is above the NYS average
- the percent of high school graduates in the county is below the NYS average,
- the percent of people with a Bachelor’s Degree or higher education in the county is below the NYS average

Additionally, as stated in the legislation, the System’s Board of Trustees shall give particular attention to how the project addresses the library service needs of the economically disadvantaged community or communities, as described in the application.

The most recent United States Census data available will be drawn for the area best representing the service area of the applying library. Should there be more than one possible Census area, the level that brings the library closer to qualifying for reduced match will be used.

*Amended: February 9, 2022; June 8, 2016  
Reviewed: March 10, 2021; May 13, 2015  
Adopted: June 13, 2012*