



CERTIFIED PUBLIC LIBRARY ADMINISTRATOR PROGRAM

The Certified Public Library Administrator (CPLA) program is a post-MLS certification program for public librarians with supervisory experience. CPLA certification will enable public library administrators to:

- Further their professional education and development
- Move to a higher level of practical professional experience
- Improve career opportunities through professional expertise
- Demonstrate to colleagues, trustees and board of directors, patrons and the wider information community that the certified person has acquired a professionally recognized body of knowledge and expertise in public library administration.

The CPLA program is jointly sponsored by the Public Library Administration (PLA), the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), and the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) and approved by the ALA Council. The Certification Review Committee will review and approve the requirements for certification and re-certification and administers the CPLA program.

The core competencies are:

- Budget and Finance
- Management of Technology
- Organization and Personnel Administration
- Planning and Management of Buildings

Each participant in the program will also choose three electives from the following five:

- Current Issues
- Fundraising
- Marketing
- Politics and Networking
- Service to Diverse Populations

CPLA candidates will have the following prerequisites before entering the certification process:

- A graduate degree in library and information studies from a program accredited by the American Library Association
- A master's level program in library and information studies accredited or recognized by the appropriate national body of another country.
- A master's degree with a specialty in school library media from an educational unit accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (for school library media specialists only).
- A minimum of three years of experience in a public library position that includes supervisory and administrative duties