

**Priority:** Education  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating  
**Related Programs:**

**Lead Agency:** Library  
**Program Contact:** Cathy Schneider

**Program Characteristics:** Measure 5 Education

**Executive Summary**

BOOKS 2 U improves the literacy skills of elementary and middle school students by providing students in public schools, after-school care sites, and summer programs with book collections and reading motivation programs. BOOKS 2 U serves schools where high percentages of students are not meeting state reading benchmarks and communities where a high percentage of students qualify for free and/or reduced lunch.

**Program Description**

BOOKS 2 U staff and volunteers introduce students to high interest books through booktalking programs and through providing paperback copies of books being promoted. Thousands of paperback books are provided each year to schools, SUN programs, other after-school care sites, and summer programs served by BOOKS 2 U. BOOKS 2 U also introduces Multnomah County Library as an educational partner and significant resource by attending and presenting at parent and family night programs; providing library cards to children served; and promoting the Library's Summer Reading program and the neighborhood library and its services. BOOKS 2 U currently serves 95% of the eligible elementary schools in the county, 70% of the eligible middle school programs, and 90% of the eligible SUN schools. In the last three school years, on average, three elementary schools have been dropped from the BOOKS 2 U program because 90% or more of the students are reading at grade level for four years in a row (based on state reading test scores).

**Program Justification**

The 2006 Quality of Education Model (QEM) from the Oregon State Library stated that only 6% of Multnomah County schools meet QEM standards for adequate school library staffing and money spent on books and other library resources, leaving many students without adequate access to quality books. Many of these schools serve low income children from homes with no books and who are unable to visit the public library. BOOKS 2 U targets schools with student populations that have the greatest need for access to library books, and helps to break down barriers to academic success (Strategy #5) by providing books during the school day, after school, and over the summer.

BOOKS 2 U supports parents and caregivers in helping children acquire the reading skills they need to succeed in school and the workplace (Strategy #2) by bringing books and the Library's Summer Reading program to locations such as housing sites, free lunch programs, academic summer schools, and parks and community centers.

Studies show that the number of minutes spent in out-of-school reading correlates positively with reading achievement, since students spend 7,800 hours outside of school vs. 900 hours in school. The American Library Association in a review of independent reading stated "Students who read independently become better readers, score higher on achievement tests in all subject areas, and have greater content knowledge than those who do not." BOOKS 2 U enables schools, children, and families to have easy access to books and motivational reading programs that encourage out-of-school reading on a regular basis, supporting Strategies 3 & 4 ("Promote reading at grade level by third grade" and "Promote student performance beyond fifth grade, targeting students who are performing below standards").

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY05-06)	Current Year Purchased (FY06-07)	Current Year Estimate (FY06-07)	Next Year Offer (FY07-08)
Output	Youth served school day programs (unduplicated)	7,527	7,000	7,000	8,000
Outcome	% of schools served that show improvement in 3rd & 5th grade reading scores	65.0%	60.0%	60.0%	68.0%
Output	# of federal summer food sites and housing sites served in the summer	57	65	65	70

**Performance Measure - Description**

 **Measure Changed**

Output #1: Changed youth served in all of BOOKS 2 U to youth served in BOOKS 2 U school day programs (unduplicated).

Outcome: Determined by using the previous and current school years' state reading scores for third and fifth grade.

## Legal/Contractual Obligation

Measure No. 26-81 "Renew Five-Year Local Option Levy to Continue Library Services", November 2006 General Election – The levy language reads: "Continue programs for school age children, story hours for babies and toddlers, summer reading, literacy services for children in child care, programs for teens; Help teachers and students use library resources; provide homework helpers to assist children with school work; Maintain free access to information; Update books and materials; Continue books delivery to homebound seniors and nursing home residents; Open planned libraries in underserved neighborhoods of East County and North Portland: Keep libraries open; maintain current hours and services at Central and neighborhood libraries."

## Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2007	2007	2008	2008
<b>Program Expenses</b>				
Personnel	\$77,729	\$181,367	\$76,650	\$178,851
Materials & Supplies	\$24,426	\$56,994	\$27,000	\$63,000
Internal Services	\$3,730	\$8,703	\$3,094	\$7,220
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$105,885</b>	<b>\$247,064</b>	<b>\$106,744</b>	<b>\$249,071</b>
Administration	\$21,082	\$37,479	\$17,999	\$41,997
Program Support	\$8,261	\$14,685	\$7,283	\$16,994
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$29,343</b>	<b>\$52,164</b>	<b>\$25,282</b>	<b>\$58,991</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$135,228</b>	<b>\$299,228</b>	<b>\$132,026</b>	<b>\$308,062</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$434,456</b>		<b>\$440,088</b>	
Program FTE	1.00	2.00	1.00	2.00
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$1,525	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$132,026	\$308,062
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$1,525</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$132,026</b>	<b>\$308,062</b>

## Explanation of Revenues

The Admin revenue allocated to this program offer represents a pro-rated share of Library Levy taxes (65%) and library-generated revenues such as overdue fines, interest earnings, and user charges for services provided to Library patrons (5%). General Fund revenue represents about 30% of the Library's total revenue.

## Significant Program Changes

**Last year this program was:** #80005A, Books 2 U-Current Service Level

Output: Was "Youth served (duplicated)". FY05-06 Actual: 23,000; FY06-07 Purchased: 24,500; FY06-07 Estimate: 21,000; FY07-08 Offer: 22,000.

No significant programmatic changes.