

**Project Title:** Needs Assessment of Florida Public Library E-Government and Emergency/Disaster Management Broadband Services  
**Investigator(s):** Dr. Charles R. McClure and Dr. John T. Snead  
**Funding Agency:** State Library and Archives of Florida  
**Award Dates:** April 2009 – June 2009  
**Award Amount:** \$40,000

The Information Use Management & Policy Institute, directed by Charles R. McClure, Francis Eppes Professor at the College of Information, Florida State University (FSU) was awarded a grant to conduct a Florida public library E-government and disaster management needs assessment. The project was funded by the [State Library and Archives of Florida](#). The E-government and emergency/disaster management (EGEDM) broadband services project produced findings and recommendations that significantly enhanced public library provided broadband-based E-government and emergency/disaster management services in Florida.

Results of the project's activities assisted the State Library and Archives of Florida in determining best deployment practices for and necessary levels of broadband connectivity needed to support public library provided E-government and emergency/disaster management services throughout the state. Project activities included:

- Describing a number of E-government and emergency/disaster management service roles that the public library could provide its local community ;
- Estimated the resource requirements necessary for public libraries to perform the E-government and emergency/disaster management service roles;
- Estimated the level of interest that different types of Florida public libraries would have in offering these various E-government and emergency/disaster management services;
- Identified those Florida public libraries in LATAS and/or counties or specific census tracts that have rural, underserved, and/or non-served populations, or urban underserved or non-served populations ; and
- Offered recommendations for how public library E-government and emergency/disaster management services can continue to be improved.

Ultimately, this needs assessment was a first step toward improving Florida residents' access to and use of broadband-based E-government and emergency/disaster management services as well as assisting public libraries to better support these activities at the local and state level.