

Educational Requirements for Future ALA Executive Directors
 Required ALA-Masters -Pros and Cons

#	Areas/Issues	Pros (requiring the ALA-accredited MLIS and keeping the Year 2000 decision in place)	Cons (do not require but make the ALA-accredited MLIS preferred which entails rescinding the Year 2000 decision)
1	Must have an understanding of the values of the profession and of library environments	The ALA-accredited MLIS provides individuals with a deep understanding of the values of the profession and of library environments especially when combined with a career of working and applying these values in diverse library settings	There are a variety of other avenues – through education and experience in libraries or related settings for example - for acquiring and demonstrating a deep understanding of the values of the profession and of library environments.
2	Need an MLIS to manage an organization the size and complexity of ALA	Many associations – including large, complex entities - seek ED’s with executive skills because of the complexity and the size of the organization. ALA is an association with great complexity and size and the experience of an individual and the ALA-accredited degree provides content and avenues to prepare individuals for managing ALA.	An ALA –accredited graduate degree content does not necessarily provide the educational expertise needed to manage and lead an organization the size and complexity of ALA; therefore, we need a broader pool of individuals who may or may not have the ALA-accredited graduate degree or one who might not have the degree but might have significant experience within ALA.
3	Attract a good pool of people	An applicant pool limited to ALA-accredited MLIS candidates will be a robust pool given the education and the breadth of experience as well as the knowledge of equally complex institutions	

