

## Overview and Guidance

The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) Office of Academic Support is inviting public schools and districts to participate in the Greater Math in North Dakota (>Math in ND) program through a grant application process.

### Program Summary

The NDDPI is committed to helping improve mathematical concept understanding for all North Dakota children and equipping educators with the tools to do so. The >Math in ND program is a grant opportunity made available through ESSER III funds to promote the use of blended learning instructional approaches in grades 3-8 math classrooms in North Dakota. Because math is cumulative, unfinished learning and skills from prior years make it difficult for students to master new concepts and achieve proficiency in later grades (New Classrooms, 2019). This program is aimed to increase math growth closing the students' math gaps through implementing a high-quality blended learning model.

Blended learning combines face-to-face instruction with online learning by leveraging technology to assist educators in diagnosing students' prior knowledge, differentiating academic paths for each student, and adjusting lesson execution.

By supporting educators to deliver instruction and intervention through a high-quality blended learning model targeted to individual student needs, >Math in ND will help to fill unique gaps in student knowledge skills and increase personal growth and proficiency in math. >Math in ND will support educators in developing their skills through a community of practice and virtual group coaching.

This grant opportunity utilizes a collaborative approach for sustained change by including resources and supports from the REL Central (a mathematics research firm serving North Dakota), the NDDPI, and local >Math in ND teams from selected districts, as well as involvement from other educational partners, including the ND Regional Education Associations.

### Application Specifications

To be eligible to participate in this opportunity, a public school district working with students in grades 3-8 in the math content area must apply to the NDDPI. Below are the application requirements.

Although applicants targeting a series of three consecutive grade levels (i.e., grades 3, 4, and 5) will be considered eligible, higher preference will be given to those committing to reform math instruction in all grades 3-8. This preference would be provided to schools within the same feeder pattern in a large district.

Application Due Date: December 8, 2022 (*Please see the attached scoring rubric.*)

Application and Assurances must be submitted via email to [dpiacademicsupp@nd.gov](mailto:dpiacademicsupp@nd.gov) by December 8, 2022, at 11:59:59 CST p.m. The NDDPI assumes no responsibility for delays caused by any delivery service. Failure to apply before the deadline may cause the application to be rejected. Late applications or amendments will not be accepted.

The application template is online at [>Math in ND](#).

#### Application Content

- I. District and School(s) Information
- II. School(s) Demographics and Structure
- III. >Math Narrative Responses
  - A. Current Math Practices
  - B. Student Needs and Desired Outcomes
  - C. Educator Engagement and Needs
  - D. System Capacity Lead
- IV. Budget Information
- V. Assurances and Signatures

The applications scoring rubric is online at [>Math in ND](#).

#### Application Schedule

The following tables list the estimated application schedule the NDDPI will follow

Funding Opportunity Announced	November 8, 2022
Webinar: Overview and Q&A	November 15, 2022, at 9:00 AM CST <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
Webinar: Application Process and Q&A	November 22, 2022, at 3:30 PM CST <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
Webinar: Questions/Assistance	November 29, 2022, at 4:00 PM CST <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
Applications Due	December 8, 2022, at 11:59:59 PM CST
Review of Applications and Scoring	December 12-15, 2022
Notice of Selection for Opportunity	December 16, 2022
Post Award Meetings	January 2023

## Training, Support, and Implementation Schedule

REL Central will support districts/schools through a collaborative training and staff development approach. The general outline below provides the support and training schedule offered throughout the grant program.

Title	Description	Anticipated Timeframe
>Math in ND Blended Learning Training Sessions and Follow-up	<i>Facilitated by REL Central, these training sessions will focus on understanding the evidence for blended learning and strategies for strengthening current practices.</i>	March 2023 (virtual) April 2023 (virtual) May 2023 (face-to-face)
>Math in ND Budget Planning	<i>Informed by the spring training sessions, grantees will submit budget proposals to support implementation through September 2024.</i>	May through August 2023
Blended Learning Implementation	<i>Local &gt;Math Teams implement high-quality blended learning programming in identified grade levels and refine practices as informed by the CoP.</i>	2023-2024 school year
>Math in ND Community of Practice (CoP)	<i>Facilitated by REL Central, this CoP is comprised of grantee educators, including school/district leaders and instructional personnel, to support the implementation of evidence-based blended learning strategies and practices in math.</i>	2023-2024 school year
>Math in ND Budget Planning	<i>Informed by the training sessions, CoP and program implementation grantees will submit budget proposals to support implementation through June 2025.</i>  <i>*At the time of this grant release, funding beyond September 2024 has yet to be obtained; however, the NDDPI is working diligently to secure resources.</i>	May through August 2024
Blended Learning Implementation	<i>&gt;Math Local Teams implement high-quality blended learning programming in identified grade levels and refine practices as informed by the CoP.</i>	2024-2025 school year
>Math in ND Community of Practice (CoP)	<i>Facilitated by REL Central, this CoP is comprised of grantee educators, including school/district leaders and instructional personnel, to support the implementation of evidence-based blended learning strategies and practices in math.</i>	2024-2025 school year

## Budget Process

The NDDPI has reserved \$500,000 in ESSER III funds to grant approximately three school districts funding to participate in the >Math in ND program. Grant funds are used to support the above training, support, and implementation expenses. Awarded districts will complete a budget application before August 2023 in response to the training sessions and implementation plans designed during spring 2023. Some funding disbursement may be allowed to grantees before August 2023 if the school district deems it necessary to carry out the >Math in ND Blended Learning training sessions in Spring 2023. These expenses may include travel expenses for face-to-face meetings, substitute teachers, >Math Team compensation, etc.

Award amounts will range between \$50,000 to \$200,000 based on student and staff size. No district award will exceed \$250,000.

The ESSER III funding is available through September 30, 2024; however, the >Math in ND program has the training, support, and implementation expectations through June 2025. At the time of this grant release, funding beyond September 2024 has yet to be obtained; however, the NDDPI is working diligently to secure resources.

Allowable costs you may include in the August 2023 budget proposal:

- Professional Salaries
- Non-professional Salaries
- >Math in ND Team Stipends
  - Training Sessions and Follow-up
  - >Math in ND CoP Sessions and Follow-up
  - >Math Team local work and meetings
- Math Curriculum Enhancements
  - Digital Tools
  - Technical Services
  - Necessary Materials/Supplies
- Mathematics Professional Learning
  - Diagnostic and screening tools
  - Data Analysis
  - Ongoing monitoring of individual data pathways

## Suggested Reading

Applicants are encouraged to read and review the resources listed below that highlight how a blended learning model with educator support can target each student's unique math gaps. When complemented with practicing continuous monitoring, refinement, and improvement of instructional practices, the NDDPI believes >Math in ND will increase math outcomes for students in grades 3-8.

- [Iceberg Problem](#)
- [Urgent Need for Tailored Math Instruction](#)
- [School Renewal for ND Public Schools](#)

## Contact Information

The points of contact for this application process are listed below. Please direct all questions and communications regarding this grant opportunity to these contact points.

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