

Q&A: SB 2275 Foreign Language Instruction Pilot Program

NDDPI has been tasked with implementing SB 2275, a pilot program to provide grants to schools that offer instruction in a foreign language to kindergarten through grade three students. The legislative intent of this program is to fund up to ten schools/districts in exploring foreign language programming and reporting the findings to the department. Any district receiving a grant must provide a written report of the practices and programming explored.

[North Dakota Century Code t15.1c21](#)

For Schools/Districts

Q1: Who can apply for the pilot program grant?

Any North Dakota school (public or private) offering foreign language instruction in grades K–3 during the 2025–2026 school year.

Q2: What languages qualify?

All foreign languages, including Indigenous languages, are eligible. Districts will utilize the correct course codes for MISO3 data submitted to NDDPI. This course code for language exploration is **06010**.

Q3: Can we apply for the pilot both years?

Yes, eligible schools can apply annually for each school year of the pilot. At the end of the 2025/2026 school year, grantees will be offered a continuation grant.

Q4: How will funds be distributed? And if demand exceeds the budget?

NDDPI will utilize WebGrants to distribute funds to participating schools/districts. In the order in which applications are received, NDDPI will prioritize applicants based on the application's completeness and the quality of the instructional plan.

Q5: Can we use this funding to pay for the foreign language course provided by NDCDE?

Yes, districts can use this funding to provide a foreign language course for students.

For Teachers

Q1: Will this cover my salary or stipend?

Yes. Grant funds may be used to pay teacher stipends for providing foreign language instruction.

Q2: What credentials do I need to teach a foreign language in this program?

Credentialing or additional endorsements are not necessary to teach in this K-3 pilot program. Teachers should have some knowledge of the selected language and access to appropriate resources.

For Parents

Q1: How will this program impact my child's current instruction?

Foreign language instruction is meant to complement, not replace, the core curriculum and instruction. It may be integrated or delivered as an elective.

Q2: Will participation in this program be mandatory for students?

Questions regarding participation should be discussed at the local level.