

REDUCING TEACHER SHORTAGES

This document describes the process and requirements for the invitation for proposals from North Dakota universities, colleges, and other teacher preparation programs as a means of reducing the shortages of teachers in the state of North Dakota. Prospective applicants will need to review this information thoroughly to determine whether they can meet the requirements and wish to submit a proposal.

Introduction

The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) has a history of funding requests from North Dakota teacher preparation programs to collaboratively reduce the shortages of teachers in the state. The NDDPI would like to solicit an invitation for proposals for innovative projects that help address the shortages of teachers in North Dakota. The NDDPI intends to supplement a program by expanding the number of students eligible to participate. This invitation establishes the timelines for submission, eligible applicants, funding requirements, and criteria for evaluating proposals related to **reducing the number of unfilled teacher positions across North Dakota to ensure all North Dakota students have access to a high-quality education from qualified teachers.**

Eligible Applicants

North Dakota education teacher preparation programs.

Requirements

Proposals must address the following:

- Creating a researched-based education preparation program to address teacher shortages and retention in North Dakota, which includes graduating educators with a dual endorsement.
 - General Education – English Language Learner Endorsement
 - General Education – Special Education Endorsement
 - General Education – Early Childhood Endorsement
- Creating a pipeline for paraprofessionals to become qualified teachers.
- Demonstrating a sustainability plan to increase the likelihood that the project could be continued once funding is no longer available.

Priorities

Proposals that address the following will be given priority:

- Limits cost to students – majority of funding designated for student scholarships
- Proposes to graduate the largest number of students over the next two years

Funding

The NDDPI intends to award one applicant funds up to \$600,000. Activities funded within the proposal must be spent by August 31, 2024. The proposals must be clear regarding the areas in which the monies will be spent, including the number of student tuition scholarships being funded.

Allowable Costs

Funds may be used for, but are not limited to:

- Student tuition and scholarships
- Program funding (i.e., personnel to coordinate the grant and indirect costs)

Funds must be expended in accordance with Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR). The NDDPI does not intend to pay for staff needed to run the program or costs associated with creating a new program. The purpose of this grant is to increase the number of licensed teachers in North Dakota, therefore NDDPI does not intend to support proposals that include advanced degrees for those individuals currently holding a teaching license or to support alternative pathway proposals. Contact the NDDPI for further clarification.

Timelines

Applications Due	Monday, August 15, 2022 – 5 p.m. CDT Send to: Laurie Matzke , Assistant Superintendent
Awarded Applicants Notified	September 6, 2022
Project Period	September 12, 2022 – August 31, 2024

Proposal Review and Format

Applicants should use the evaluation rubric (Attachment 2) as the project narrative to guide them in writing a proposal. The NDDPI and state partners will use the rubric to evaluate and rate each proposal.

The proposal requires a **project narrative** that explains the project and research that supports it as a long-term solution for the shortages. The narrative must also include project details, collaborative partners, goals, and evaluation measures.

Contents of Proposal

- 1. Teacher Shortages Application (Attachment 1)**
- 2. Project Narrative (Proposals that do not have each element addressed will not be considered)**
 - a. Full and clear description of the project and its activities
 - b. Program eligibility, admission, and performance requirements
 - c. Program of Study Timeline
 - d. One or more performance goals
 - e. One or more formative/summative evaluations that measure progress or success toward the goal(s)
 - f. Letter of Support
 - g. Detailed budget with a narrative description
 - h. Sustainability plan

The grant recipient must collect data on the number of students supported through this funding and those on track to becoming teachers and provide an annual report (July 2023 and July 2024) to the NDDPI.

Proposal Due Date

Proposals may be submitted by email on/before Monday, August 15, 2022 – 5 p.m. CDT.
Send to: [Laurie Matzke](#), Assistant Superintendent