

# Registered Apprenticeship Program for Teachers (RAP-T)

## Key Information for Round Five

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The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) has received feedback from Educator Preparation Providers (EPPs) and understands the challenges around participation in the RAP-T. We are committed to working with you to address these challenges so together we can have successful implementation of the RAP-T program in North Dakota. As we release the RFA for round five, NDDPI is sharing flexibility that has been incorporated into the RAP-T programming.

### Timeline Extension

- NDDPI has received official approval on our request to the U.S. Department of Labor for a no cost timeline extension to allow all apprentices to have until June 30, 2027, to complete their program.

### Degree and Licensure

- For round three and all subsequent rounds of RAP-T funding, we have revised the language pertaining to obtaining a degree. The new language states: The awardee must provide teacher participants with a tuition-free education with a goal of obtaining a post-secondary degree and licensure to teach in North Dakota, with licensure in at least one field.

### Wrap Around Supports

- In addition to the competitive State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula grants (SAEF) grant that we received, NDDPI has the opportunity to apply for an annual SAEF Base grant. NDDPI will use Base grant funding to pay for wraparound supports for all apprentices. These wrap around supports will include paying for the first Praxis test, the background check, and the initial licensure fee. In addition, we have provided RAP-T grantees with a wraparound grant to help defray costs associated with the program.

### **NON-NEGOTIABLES**

- Participant Seats: At minimum, EPP must serve five participants per \$100,000 cohort.

### **CLARIFICATIONS**

- RAP-T grantees are encouraged to leverage other funding sources to help with program costs (i.e. WIOA funds through Job Service ND, student financial aid, district contributions).
- The only instance where a grantee would be required to pay back funding is if the funds were used for unallowable activities not approved of in the application.

- Apprentices are not mandated to teach in North Dakota for a required number of years, although it is the intent of the program to grow teachers for the state.
- Paraprofessionals who are not able to complete their coursework during the SB 2032 funding period are encouraged to join one of our RAP-T programs to complete their degree and obtain licensure.
- Paraprofessionals in the RAP-T program don't have a traditional 10-week student teaching experience. Rather, they participate in a one or two yearlong apprenticeship. Therefore, it is **MANDATORY** that the paras continue to be paid during their entire apprenticeship program, as outlined in the MOU that all participants sign.

## QUESTIONS

Questions pertaining to the RAP-T program can be sent to:

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