

DPI Budget Request for the 2025-2027 Biennium: Northern Plains & Red River Valley Writing Project

Objective:

To **improve literacy** and the **teaching of writing** in ND schools (K-College) in all subject areas, through professional training for teachers and direct work with students in youth writing camps, workshops, and competitions. To foster **informed, intentional, and innovative communication** that can boost North Dakota’s economy and enrich civic life.

DPI Budget Request for the 2025-2027 Biennium:

Summer Leadership & Advanced Institutes	\$46,000
To support graduate tuition waivers and participant stipends for approximately 50 teachers per year to receive 8 weeks of intensive professional development and leadership training. For the next biennium, training will focus on AI writing, digital media literacy, and other pressing needs for today’s teachers.	
Instructional Workshops & Book Studies	\$10,000
To support approximately 20 teachers per year in studying, developing, and sharing innovative lesson plans, activities, and curricular materials for teaching writing in the ever-changing world of digital tools and writing situations.	
Administrative Support	\$10,000
To support a programming director, whose duties include leading monthly planning meetings, applying for grants, managing budgets, submitting budget and grant reports, contracting services, overseeing teacher consultants, coordinating with larger organizational networks, and promoting services to increase engagement and visibility.	
Conference Participation	\$2,000
To help support travel, lodging, and registration fees for up to 10 teachers attending regional conferences such as NDCTE in Mandan, ND.	
Continuing Association Fee	\$2,000
To cover \$1,000 annual association fees to the National Writing Project network.	
Youth Programs	\$ 2,000
To help support statewide youth writing programs such as the North Dakota Art & Writing Awards (the state championships for teen artists and writers) and “Raising Rural Voices” (a teen journalism initiative).	

TOTAL 2025-2027 Biennium Budget	\$ 72,000