

## ABSTRACT

“The National Writing Project (NWP): Leveraging and Sustaining a National Improvement Infrastructure for Professional Development to Improve Writing Instruction Across Content Areas for *All Students*” directly addresses Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Absolute Priority 2 and Competitive Preference Priorities 1, 2, and 3.

NWP will provide high-quality professional development for K-12 teachers in the teaching of writing across content areas to help students meet rigorous academic standards through its national network of 190 university-based sites working in partnership with local schools and districts. Over two years, the program will:

- (1) Increase the number of K-12 teacher-leaders well-prepared to improve the teaching of writing across content areas by supporting the development of 3,000 locally-based expert K-12 teachers through intensive Invitational and Advanced institutes focused on supporting students in meeting college- and career-ready standards. These teacher-leaders will also contribute to work in local schools and districts and the work of Writing Project sites beyond the grant period to provide professional development programs in the teaching of writing across disciplines. Ten intensive Science and Literacy Institutes will be provided for middle-grade science teachers to support students in writing evidence-based science arguments.
- (2) Increase sustained professional development services in the teaching of writing for K-12 teachers in 100 schools and small districts serving concentrations of high-need students through providing at least 30 hours of professional development per school. Expected outcomes are: (a) improved teacher practice in the teaching of academic writing through increasing (i) the amount of time spent on writing instruction and in the number of extended writing assignments; (ii) the use of research-based instructional strategies for teaching writing in classrooms; (iii) the use of writing to learn strategies, as well as the number of more extended writing assignments involving analysis and use of evidence, and (iv) improved quality of writing assignments and their alignment with college- and career-ready standards across content areas; and (b) improved student achievement in informational and argumentative writing.
- (3) Develop and disseminate 20 new online professional development learning experiences to assist teachers and schools in strengthening curricula and practice related to improving the teaching of writing across content areas. NWP will broadly disseminate these OERs.

Potential contributions include: (1) Development of new knowledge and practices for improving the teaching of writing across content areas aligned with rigorous college- and career-ready standards; (2) Expansion of online learning opportunities for teachers including professional development in teaching multi-modal writing; and (3) Research-based evidence on effective professional development for middle-grade science teachers to improve the teaching of writing of scientific arguments for middle-grade students.

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