



Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy: An Overview

For the North Dakota State Literacy Team
January 11, 2011



Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy (SRCL)

- Striving Readers is funded at \$250 million for FY 2010.

- It is not in the President's Budget for 2011, although a similar literacy program (*Effective Teaching and Learning: Literacy*) is included.
- Striving Readers will support comprehensive literacy programs serving children from birth through grade 12.



SRCL's Purpose

- The goal of this program is to build comprehensive literacy systems in States, in two ways:
 - Formula funding for the creation of comprehensive state literacy teams and the development of comprehensive literacy plans.
 - Competitive funding to SEAs to provide services to LEAs and early learning providers.

SRCL FY 2010 Funding

- The appropriation for Striving Readers breaks down as follows:
 - One-half percent set-asides for BIE and Outlying Areas (\$1,250,000 each)
 - Five percent for National Activities (\$12,500,000)
 - \$10 million for formula grants to SEAs to support State Literacy Teams, with no State receiving less than \$150,000
 - Remainder for competitive grants to SEAs (roughly \$225 million)



SRCL Formula Grants

- State Literacy Teams must develop and implement comprehensive literacy plan that address the needs of children from birth to grade 12, particularly English learners and children with disabilities.
- \$10 million in formula funds for State Literacy Teams was awarded in November 2010.
- The minimum funding level was \$150,000. Based on the Title I formula, most States (including ND) received \$150,000.



State Literacy Teams

State Literacy Teams will need to include members with expertise in:

- Serving all age/grade ranges from birth to grade 12
- Use of interventions
- Meeting needs of children with special needs and English learners
- Higher education
- Data analysis and evaluation



Timeline for Formula Funds

- Application was published for comment in spring 2010
- 60 day review by OMB
- Application provided to all SEAs in late August
- SEAs had 30 days to complete application



Timeline for Formula Funds (cont.)

- Funds were awarded to SEAs with approved applications around October
- SEAs will submit a draft literacy plan in February – this is not meant to be a final plan
- SEAs may use draft plan to support competitive application



Use of Formula Funds

- Funds may be used as reasonable and necessary to support establishment of literacy team, development of plan, and implementation.
- Funds will be available for obligation until September 30, 2012 (including Tydings year).



SRCL Competitive Grants

- The FY 2010 competition will occur in spring 2011, with grants awarded during the summer or early fall 2011.
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- Eligible entities are SEAs.
 - Funds must serve children from birth to grade 12, a big change from previous literacy programs, which concentrated on specific grade levels.



Competitive Awards: Subgrants

- SEAs may use 5% for State leadership activities.
- SEAs must award 95% of funding to LEAs and early childhood providers, using the following formula:
 - 15% for birth to pre-K;
 - 40% for grades K-5; and
 - 40% for grades 6-12, with equitable distribution between middle and high school.



SRCL Competitive Grants

Must fund services to children from birth to grade 12 “that have the characteristics of effective literacy instruction through professional development, screening and assessment, targeted interventions for students reading below grade level, and other research-based methods of improving classroom instruction and practice.”



Striving Readers Adolescent Literacy

- SRCL is slightly different from the Striving Readers Adolescent Literacy program, but funded under the same authority.
- This program was funded from 2005 to 2009 at roughly \$35 million. Awards were made directly to LEAs in 2006 and SEAs in 2009 (ND did not apply).
- Its purpose is to build a strong, scientific research base for identifying and replicating strategies that improve adolescent literacy skills.



Important to Remember...

SRCL Competitive funds have **NOT** been awarded yet!

Expected timeline:

- Spring 2011: SEAs apply for large discretionary grants (\$225 million).
- Fall 2011: Successful SEAs receive discretionary grants and prepare to make subgrant awards.