

## National Writing Project (No CFDA No.)

### I. Legislation

Title X, Part K of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (expires September 30, 1999).

### II. Funding History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
1991	\$1,952,000
1992	2,500,000
1993	3,212,000
1994	3,212,000
1995	3,212,000
1996	2,955,000

### III. Analysis of Program Performance

#### A. Goals and Objectives

The purpose of this program is to make a grant to the National Writing Project, a nonprofit educational organization which has as its primary purpose the improvement of the quality of student writing and learning, and the teaching of writing as a learning process in the nation's classrooms. The National Writing Project carries out its purpose through (1) supporting the establishment of teacher training programs, (2) supporting classroom research on effective teaching practices and to document student performance, and (3) coordination with the Eisenhower Professional Development Program.

#### B. Strategies to Achieve the Goals

Begun in 1973, the National Writing Project became a federally funded program in 1991. Based on a "teachers teaching teachers" model, the National Writing Project funds projects at 160 sites in over 45 states. Each Writing Project sponsors five-week invitational summer institutes for teachers at their local universities where teachers, drawing upon their own experience and expertise, provide workshops for other teachers on writing instruction. In 1995 and 1996, the program raised over five additional dollars for every federal dollar of funding. The program trained over 120,000 teachers in 1995 and over 132,000 in 1996.

The program's legislation directs that all federal funds be awarded via a noncompetitive grant to the National Writing Project, Inc. located in Berkeley, California, which, in turn, competitively awards 160 one-year contracts annually. A number of the contracts made each year are to continue previously funded projects.

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### **C. Program Performance—Indicators of Impact and Effectiveness**

Indicators are under development.

### **IV. Planned Studies**

The “National Writing Project Survey,” by Inverness Research Associates is a report prepared and distributed annually.

### **V. Sources of Information**

1. Program files.
2. “National Writing Project 1995 Fact Sheet.”

### **VI. Contacts for Further Information**

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