



## Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act?**
  - The Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act (TRRA) is a grant program designed to provide financial incentives to recruit and retain teachers in Nebraska classrooms.
  
- **What types of grants are available through TRRA?**
  - There are two types of grants available, the retention grant and the high-need retention grant.
    - The retention grant is a grant award of \$2,500 for any classroom teachers in their second, fourth, or sixth year of teaching. This is for total years of teaching experience.
    - The high-need retention grant is a grant award for \$5,000 if on or after June 2, 2023, a classroom teacher obtains an endorsement and has a contract to teach in specified areas.
  - For the 2023-2024 school year, only retention grants will be awarded.
  
- **For the retention grant, what does total years of teaching mean?**
  - Total years of teaching means all of your years of teaching including time spent teaching full-time in other states.
    - Example: You started teaching in the 2022-2023 school year in school A and in 2023-2024 you transferred to school B. You are in your second year. You are eligible!
    - Example: You have been teaching for five years in school A. In 2022-2023 you started teaching in school B for two years. You are in your seventh year. You are not eligible.
  
- **Who is eligible for the retention grant?**
  - Full-time classroom teachers with valid certificates, who teach grades K-12, in an approved or accredited Nebraska school are eligible for this grant program. Teachers meeting eligibility requirements in public and non-public schools or ESUs are eligible.
  
- **What are the requirements for the retention grant?**
  - For the retention grant, a teacher must have a contract for the award year, must be employed full-time, and must be in either their second, fourth, or sixth year.
  
- **What is an award year?**
  - Award year means the school year for which an application is submitted, as specified in 79-8,114.



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- For the retention grant, the award years are 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26, or 2026-27, and you must be in your 2nd, 4th, or 6th year of teaching at time of your submission.
- **What is an NDE Staff ID and where do I find it?**
  - This is a 10-digit number assigned by the NDE Staff ID system that uniquely identifies a staff person with a Nebraska certificate or permit, you can find your number here: <https://teach.education.ne.gov/#/verifylicense>.
- **Where do I find my agency ID ?**
  - You need your agency ID for your application. It can be found <https://educdirsrc.education.ne.gov/QuickDisplay.aspx?code=all&sort=agencyid> You can do a Ctrl + F to search for your school. If you worked at multiple schools, please select one.
- **How often can I apply?**
  - For the retention grant, you can apply once for every eligible award year.
  - For example, if you are in your 2nd year in 2023-24, and then in your 4th year in 2025-26, you can apply again.
- **Can I apply if I am a school counselor, librarian, etc.?**
  - Potentially. School systems across Nebraska have different contracts and requirements of their personnel. If you meet the requirements outlined above, you may be eligible to apply for TRRA.
- **Are funds from this program considered taxable?**
  - Yes, funds from this program are considered taxable for federal income tax. If you have any other questions, please contact your tax adviser.
- **Where can I find the application? When are applications due?**
  - The application can be found here: <https://www.education.ne.gov/csds/resources/teacher-recruitment-and-retention-act/>.
  - The application is powered by Qualtrics and opens on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 5pm CST.
  - For the 2023-2024 award year, applications are due June 13, 2024 by 11:59pm CST.
- **When will I find out if I am selected for this program?**
  - Applicants will be selected on a first come, first serve basis. You will receive formal notification of your status within a month of the application closing.
- **What happens after I'm selected?**



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- You will receive communication to submit additional documentation required to make payment directly to the recipient. These funds are intended to provide an incentive to remain in teaching and there are no obligations for the funds.

### High-Need Retention Grants

- **What are the requirements for the high-need retention grant?**
  - For the high-need retention grant, on or after June 2, 2023, a teacher must have obtained an endorsement in special education, mathematics, science, technology, or dual credit, and have a contract to teach full-time for the award year in the endorsement area. More information regarding specific endorsements is forthcoming.
- **How often can I apply?**
  - For the high-need retention grant, you can apply every eligible award year but can only be awarded this grant once, if selected.
- **What is an award year?**
  - Award year means the school year for which an application is submitted, as specified in 79-8,114.
  - For the high-need retention grant, the award years are 2024-25, 2025-26, or 2026-27.
- **When is the high-need retention grant starting?**
  - We will launch the high-need retention soon! More information is forthcoming!

### Additional Questions

- **If I have more questions, who can I reach out to?**
  - Please send all questions to [nde.trra@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.trra@nebraska.gov).