



**Wisconsin Literacy (WL) asks that community-based literacy be supported with GPR funds to provide capacity-building support, professional development, digital literacy, tutor training, curriculum resources, information and referrals, and connectivity to Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) partners to benefit the 70 local member literacy agencies serving over 14,000 adults and families in Wisconsin.**

**Mission:** Changing lives by strengthening literacy statewide.

**Vision:** All people in Wisconsin have the literacy skills to reach their full potential.

We support member literacy agencies in [86% of Wisconsin](#) counties and advocate for and disseminate literacy resources and training that directly impact adult learners. Our [Wisconsin Health Literacy](#) (WHL) division provides health literacy programming statewide, including a 10-year effort to improve patient safety and health outcomes through the redesign of prescription medication labels. This effort has made millions of labels in Wisconsin easier to read and understand dosage instructions, resulting in improved patient health outcomes.

With state GPR funds, WL can continue providing local member literacy agencies and their students with direct resources focused on GED completion, digital literacy skills, work readiness skills, language acquisition, health literacy, and transitions to technical college career pathways and/or workforce training programs without consideration of the student's income level or whether they meet TANF-eligibility requirements.

Funding will help provide **staffing support for 5 regional literacy consultants and a digital literacy project manager**, who serve their respective members with capacity-building services including direct purchasing of curriculum resources, professional development, and training on implementing new and emerging technologies that build digital skills, increasing language acquisition, and incorporating best practices in tutor training. Their work facilitates the connections between local literacy staff/volunteer tutors and various WIOA partners and the state agencies listed below.

Additional GPR support would provide **direct capacity-building resources for staffing and infrastructure and digital service provision at the local level, particularly for mid to small and rural agencies** to serve students coming from a broad geographic area that have transportation challenges.

**And finally, state funds would allow for outreach in both workforce and health literacy by preparing adults with the necessary skills to find or keep a job, pursue advancement, or enter a career pathway.** In addition, we would continue to provide **health literacy trainings in communities, distilling health information so it is accessible and understandable for all.**

**We have partnered with the following state agencies for many years:**

- DPI (Department of Public Instruction)
- DCF (Department of Children and Families)
- DHS (Department of Health Services)
- DOC (Department of Corrections)
- DWD (Department of Workforce Development)
- WTCS (Wisconsin Technical College System)
- and numerous healthcare organizations

These partnerships help streamline services and better prepare adult students to advance their education, health, and careers.

While serving an adult population of over 14,000 students in our state, Community-based Adult and Family Literacy does not have access to State GPR or [Carl Perkins Funds](#). Presently, Wisconsin Literacy has no access to the federal WIOA Title II [Adult Education and Family Literacy Act](#) (AEFLA) State Leadership funds. This federal funding is disseminated through a process that is determined and implemented through staff at the WTCS state office which currently maintains 100% of that funding for internal use.

In reference to our state agency funding allocations, it is anticipated that FY24 will see a reduction or end to all but the DPI and DCF funding that supports WL efforts. For Wisconsin Literacy to continue building capacity of community-based literacy agencies statewide, sustained and reliable funding support will be required. GPR funding would provide us with a stable foundation to support the work of our 70 member agencies who instruct more than 14,000 adult students annually. Improvement in the skills and education of these students is critical to the workforce, health and overall strength of the State of Wisconsin.

**For questions or more information:**

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