

Endangered Language Fund: Language Legacies  
2021 Request for Proposals  
Guidelines

**Deadline: October 1, 2021**

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The Native Voices Endowment: A Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Legacy Project was created within the Endangered Language Fund for the purpose of revitalizing and perpetuating the Indigenous languages of the American Indian Nations whose ancestors encountered the 1803-1806 Lewis & Clark Expedition.

#### Eligibility Criteria

Proposals will be accepted only from:

- individuals who are enrolled tribal members
- tribal government language programs
- tribal community language programs
- tribal schools and colleges

Individuals or groups who apply must further belong to one or more of the following groups:

- federally recognized tribal nations along the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail
- those whose ancestors experienced contact with the 1803-1806 Lewis & Clark Expedition
- those whose ancestral homelands were traversed by the Lewis & Clark Expedition
- those whose tribal customs or languages were recorded by the Lewis & Clark Expedition

An eligibility list of tribes along the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail is available [here](#) and a list of eligible languages can be found [here](#).

Proposals will be accepted only for:

- Native language education programs, curricula, or projects
- Individual language study by Native students who are pursuing study with:
  - universities or colleges offering coursework or research in the student's Native language, or
  - a fluent tribal language speaker of the student's Native language in a mentor-apprentice program, private immersion, or tutelage arrangement.
- Documentation and recording of a Native language for preservation and future education (examples include video or audio recording of elder speakers, private instruction or immersion classes, books or films).

#### Eligible Expenses

Salaries, equipment, supplies, consultant fees, travel, and publication costs are eligible. Eligible salaries may include those for tribally enrolled teachers, mentors, researchers, traditional

teachers, elders, and storytellers. If, at any time during or at the conclusion of a funded project, the primary project manager leaves the project or language program, ownership of all equipment, such as video or audio recorders or computers, funded by a Native Voices Endowment grant, shall revert to the tribe whose language was subject of the funded project. **Indirect and general operating expenses are not eligible for funding.**

#### Grant Amounts

- \$2,500-\$10,000 per year

#### Grant Period

Grants are awarded for one to three years. Multiple-year projects will be required to submit complete and timely annual reports before subsequent years' funds can be released.

#### Deadline

**October 1, 2021.** Decisions will be delivered in January, 2022.

#### How to Apply

Emailed applications are no longer accepted. Please navigate to the [Project Application Page](#) to complete and submit an application. The Project Application More detailed instructions may also be found [here](#). Page will request information including the title of the project, name of the tribal community in which the project will happen, The ISO 639-3 Code for the language and the state in which it is spoken, The amount requested, and Primary Project Manager information.

In addition, a number of files are required to be uploaded. They must all be in PDF format. They include:

- **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:** Beginning on a separate page, provide a description of the project. This should normally be **two** pages, single spaced, but the maximum is **five** pages. Be detailed about the type of material that is to be collected and/or produced, and the value it will have to the Native community (including relatives and descendants who do not yet speak the language) and/or to linguistic science. Be specific about the methods and procedures you plan to use and about how long the project will last.
- **BUDGET:** In a separate file, prepare an itemized budget that lists expected costs for the project. Show how you have estimated costs (e.g. 10 USB drives @ \$15 each). Explain the rate at which consultants or teachers are to be paid. List other sources of support you are currently receiving or expect to receive and other grant proposals you may be submitting in support of the project. Identify grant sources and amounts requested.
- **SUPPORTING LETTERS AND RESOLUTIONS:** The following supporting materials must accompany your proposal and be received by the deadline:
  - An official resolution of the governing body (tribal council, executive committee, etc.) for the tribe whose language is the subject of the

project. Tribal councils are busy. **Be sure to plan ahead** for this part of your submission.

- Optional: Letter(s) of support from individuals or organizations who are familiar with your work.
- If your request is for a mentor-apprentice program, a letter from your Native language mentor, stating that they have committed to participate in the project.
- If your proposal is for college or university Native language study, proof of your registration in that college or university.
- If your proposal is for recording Native speakers, a list of the speakers you propose to record must accompany your request.
- **STATEMENT OF ETHICAL APPROVAL:** This should be submitted via the "other files" button on the Project Management page. If this application is for research with living speakers (as opposed to recordings), it should be accompanied by a statement from the appropriate tribal group stating that the research and use of the materials after the research is concluded meets the ethical standards of the tribe.

#### Limit to One Proposal

An applicant can be primary project manager on only one proposal.

#### Acknowledgement of Receipt

Receipt of proposal will be acknowledged automatically upon submission of the application.

#### Annual and Final Reports

Recipients of multiple-year grant awards are required to provide the Native Voices Endowment/Endangered Language Fund with a formal report, including budget summary, at the end of each year of the project before funding for the subsequent year can be released. All recipients are required to provide the Fund with a formal final narrative and budget report upon completion of the funded project. ***New: we will be posting a project report form soon!***

#### Deposit of Safe Copies

All grant recipients are required to provide the tribe whose language was subject of the project, and the Endangered Language Fund with **digital** copies of materials, audio and video recordings collected or made with Native Voices funds, accompanying transcriptions, and any publications or films resulting from materials obtained with the assistance of the grant. The purposes of this requirement are to make available to tribes and tribal members a means of preserving their own data and to build a repository of language education and preservation materials that can be available to future teachers and researchers. The extent to which materials sent to ELF are made available to future researchers and teachers may be specified or restricted by the recipient and the tribe whose language was the focus of the recipient's project. Any disagreements among teachers, researchers, tribes and other parties concerning the level of access to copies of language materials will be resolved by the Native Voices Endowment's advisory committee. Because we require digital copies, please reach out to the Endangered

Language Fund to receive an upload link, or else you may budget a reasonable amount for an external hard drive to mail the materials to the ELF office in New Haven, CT at the end of the project.

**For further information, contact:**

Native Voices Endowment  
[elf at yale dot edu](mailto:elf@yale.edu)

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