

Endangered Language Fund: Native Voices Endowment
2024 Request for Proposals
Guidelines

Deadline: November 1, 2024

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 or employees of a tribal college
- 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 tribes, tribes seeking federal recognition, or tribes with state recognition 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

A list of eligible Native languages within the United States can be found [here](#).

Examples of successful applications from past NVE cycles include:

- 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 an eligible Native language for preservation and future education (examples include video or audio recording of elder speakers, private instruction or immersion classes, books or films)
- Scholarships and travel grants for participants to institutes or other types of training/workshops that support the documentation or revitalization of an eligible Native language

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

- **NVE is now a one-year grant, with a maximum allowable budget of \$10,000.**

Grant Period

NVE grants are now awarded for only one year. Previous awardees must submit and have approved a final report before they can apply for any new funding.

Deadline

November 1, 2024. Decisions will be delivered in January 2025.

How to Apply

Emailed applications are not accepted. Please navigate to the [Project Application Page](#) to complete and submit an application. More detailed instructions may also be found [here](#). The application 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:
- A letter of support from the governing body (tribal council, executive committee, etc.) or the tribe in which the applicant is enrolled or that runs the tribal college that the applicant is an employee of. Tribal councils and officials are busy. **Be sure to plan ahead** for this part of your submission. If you anticipate being unable to submit any of the above, please contact us well ahead of the deadline to discuss alternatives.
- 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 tribe or group stating that the research and use of the materials after the research is concluded meets the ethical standards of the tribe or group.
- FOR PAST NVE AWARDEES: If you have received prior support from the Endangered Language Fund's NVE program, you must make sure that your final report has been received by us or you may be ineligible for future award consideration. Contact elf@endangeredlanguagefund.org if you have any questions about this.

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.

Final Reports

All recipients are required to provide the Fund with a formal final narrative and budget report upon completion of the funded project.

For further information, contact:

Native Voices Endowment
elf@endangeredlanguagefund.org

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