Western COVID-19 Relief Grant Opportunity

Introduction and Q&A

Tuesday, June 15, 2021
10:00 a.m. MDT
Webinar Format

• Participants will be muted for this webinar.
• If you have questions during the webinar, please “raise your hand” using the hand button or enter your question(s) in the Question box.
Webinar Topics of Discussion

- Introduction – First Nations Development Institute
- Overview of Grant Opportunity & Experience
- Walk-thru of online application process
- Question & Answer
About First Nations Development Institute

Native-Led Nonprofit
Founded in 1980

Based in Longmont, Colorado

28 Staff Members

1993: Grantmaking Program Launched

Grantmaking to date: 1,928 grants, $40.2 million

Constituent Base: Tribal Programs, Native-Led Nonprofits & Community Orgs
Our Mission...

to strengthen American Indian economies to support healthy Native communities. We invest in and create innovative institutions and models that strengthen asset control and support economic development for American Indian people and their communities.
Our Approach

First Nations has always been exclusively committed to Native control of tribal assets and to restore control and promote culturally-compatible stewardship of those assets.

Asset-building Defined

A positive and collaborative approach, asset-building focuses on cultivating traditional knowledge and practices, and creating new ones to build Native capacities, capabilities and communities.

Why Asset-building Works

Native nations are uniquely knowledgeable about their own communities. They know the strengths, challenges and needs of their communities better than outside agencies. It strengthens the effectiveness of Native nations to create solutions to their own challenges and allows them to best leverage their resources on their own terms. In brief, in the long term it works because it helps protect and enhance tribal sovereignty.

Assets in Native Communities

Natural Resources
Social Capital
Human Capital
Political Assets
Physical Assets
Languages
Cultural & Artistic Heritage
Our Strategies
How Change Happens

Our strategies are designed to support the entire ecosystem of transformative change in Native communities and build a network of grantee partners that ultimately leads to asset-building in Native communities.
OUR IMPACT

As of FY 2020

- 41 Years of grantmaking
- 2,150 Grants Awarded
- 37,592 People educated through convenings, webinars, and conferences in 2019 alone
- 4,447 Publications downloaded from our online knowledge center in 2019 alone
- $43 MILLION Dollars invested through grantmaking
Grant Information

• First Nations expects to award up to 14 grant awards ranging from $23,000 to $28,000 to support tribes and organizations that are working create long-term COVID-19 recovery and immediate COVID-19 relief to Native communities.

• Applicants must be located in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming in order to be eligible.

• Applicants must target elders, foster youth, adults and transitioning youth with disabilities, and/or veterans and military families.
Grant Information

• Grant Award Ceiling: $28,000
• General Operating Support
• Grant Term: begins on August 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022
• Application Deadline: June 24, 2021
• Award or Declination Information: Expected week of July 26, 2021
• Grant will require a grantee orientation and a final report
Grantee Eligibility

Federal- and state-recognize tribal governments

Native-controlled 501(c)(3) non-profits

Native-controlled* community organizations with fiscal sponsorship

Native 7871 Organizations
Geographic Eligibility

In order to be eligible for funding, applicants must be located in any of the following states:

- Alaska
- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Montana
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- Oregon
- Texas
- Utah
- Washington
- Wyoming
Grant Impact

Grantees selected **must** serve one of the following demographics:

- Elders
- Foster youth
- Adults and youth with a disability, who are transitioning to live independently
- Veterans and military families.
Selection Priorities

Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate:

• That they can help strengthen Native American, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian communities
• Proper alignment with funding priorities and eligibility guidelines
• Ability and/or experience necessary to successfully accomplish the proposed project
• Strong leadership reflecting the community served
• Feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and sustainability of proposed projects or programs
• A clear plan of action with specific, measurable, and realistic goals and objectives
Proposal Requirements

• A brief history of your organization or tribal program
• A description of the project and whom it will serve
• At least one specific and measurable objective to be accomplished during the project year
• A summary of project activities and how they will be implemented
• An estimated budget for the project
Objectives

Specific: What, exactly, in detail, do you want to achieve?

Measurable: How will you know when you’ve reached your goal? Quantify it!

Achievable: What resources are needed – do you have them? (including time)

Realistic and Relevant: What is the outcome – the change – you’re expecting?

Timed: Break it into steps. When will each step be completed?
Application Attachments

**Tax Status Documentation:** A copy of the organization or fiscal sponsor’s IRS Determination Letter if the applicant is a 501(c)(3) organization or a community organization using a fiscal sponsor. Tribal programs and governments may submit proof that they are a federal- or state-recognized tribe.

**Budget:** An estimated budget for the proposed project. Please note that these will be general operating support grants.

**A description of the Board of Directors and Key Project Staff:** Native-controlled nonprofits should submit a list of their Board of Directors and key project staff who will be responsible for overseeing and implementing the proposed project. The list should include tribal affiliations (if applicable). Community organizations with fiscal sponsors should submit a list of their leadership team, with tribal affiliation of each team member (if applicable). Tribal programs and governments should submit a list of their Tribal Council in lieu of a Board of Directors.
Online Application System

• All applicants must complete First Nations’ online grant application, including submission of necessary attachments, no later than THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021, at 5 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time.
  • Should you encounter any technical issues please contact grantmaking@firstnations.org ASAP and prior to the 5pm deadline.

• Some of our most rural and remote applicants may have limited access to high-speed Internet. Any exceptions to use of the online system must be made at least two weeks in advance of the deadline by submitting an email request to grantmaking@firstnations.org. Please include your name, contact information, and indicate you are applying for the Western COVID-19 Relief grant program. If you do not have access to email you can call our office at (303) 774-7836 and ask to speak with a member of the Grantmaking Department.
Online Application System

First Nations website: https://www.firstnations.org/

Online RFP page: https://www.firstnations.org/rfps/western-covid-19-response-grant/
Questions
Western COVID-19 Response

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