



Maada'ookiing Grant Information and Checklist

Native Led, for Native American Individuals

Native American people are actively resilient and rich in creative solutions that strengthen and sustain Indigenous community. This grant opportunity is an innovative approach to support the ongoing community work happening at the grassroots level outside of formally organized institutions and organizations.

Some past examples of the community work that happens, often unfunded, include a community-organized talking circle, a youth running group, sobriety support activities, teaching traditional art forms across generations, language tables, food sovereignty activities, and many other activities that Native community members bring to life. Maada'ookiing Grassroots Grants are a way to support this creative, impactful, and Native-led community building.



*Photos by
Ivy Vainio*

Who Can Apply for Funding

Individuals or groups who are Tribal Citizens, are Descendants, or who have Kinship Ties or Affiliation to Indigenous communities in the geographic service area. If applicants have projects that impact Tribal Nation communities or occur within Tribal Nation boundaries, the Maada'ookiing Advisory Board will consult with Tribal Nations as a matter of respect and recognition of sovereignty.

Areas of Focus – Grant Priorities

Grants up to \$5,000 each are available for:

- Supporting Native American Youth
- Strengthening Use of Native American Language
- Creating Access to Native American Language (digital apps, dictionaries, video projects, and other creative projects)
- Sharing Native American Cultural/Spiritual Practices and Activities
- Sustaining Tribal Civic Engagement, Sovereignty, and Self-Determination (including non-partisan Get Out the Vote or civic education)
- Shifting the Narrative and Increasing Visibility of Contemporary Native American Community
- Promoting Native American Leadership and Experiences (projects that provide training, networking, education opportunities)
- Engaging in Native American Grassroots Organizing (projects that strengthen community well-being and/or addresses and responds to Native American community issues)



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Application Deadlines and Funding Dates

The Maada'ookiing Advisory Board reviews grant applications 3 times per year with applications due by the **15th of February, May, and September**. Applicants will be notified about funding decisions **about 6 weeks** after the submission deadline. Be sure to plan ahead with your proposal and project timeline so that you allow time for the Board to meet and the Northland Foundation to process grants that are awarded (usually about two months after each deadline) before work on the project or the activity is scheduled to begin.

What Costs Grants will Cover

- Materials and supplies, including technology, needed to carry out grant-funded activities.
- Food for program participants.
- Space rental.
- Honorariums for Native American knowledge-holders who assist the project (elders, spiritual leaders, etc.)
- Compensation for program organizers.

Maada'ookiing does not fund capital projects (such as buying or renovating buildings or projects that are primarily to buy large equipment) or other hard costs related to starting up a business, financial assistance to support basic needs of individuals, political campaigns or other partisan political activities, sectarian religious activities, and personal compensation not related to project activities.

Grantwriting Checklist

The following information may help you think through your project and application. If you have questions, please email us at grants@northlandfdn.org. **Before applying online through the portal**, use the following checklist to make sure that all the information has been included and is correct. Applicants should be able to answer “yes” to each question.

- ☐ Is all the necessary information for the main contact person included?
- ☐ Have you clearly explained the project or activity?
- ☐ Can the project be accomplished in the time frame and manner that is proposed?
- ☐ Have you collected two letters of support, if you are applying using kinship/community affiliation?
- ☐ Is the budget enough/appropriate for the project needs?
- ☐ If needed, does the project have approval from others who will be involved?
- ☐ Does the project timeline allow enough time for the Maada'ookiing Board to review the application at their next meeting and process the grant, before work on the project actually begins?