

NALRC FY'23 FAQs

The federal register mentions an indirect rate of 8% but [the application package] instructions say 10%. Can you clarify?

The NIA states that the NALRC program uses a training indirect cost rate, and the training indirect cost rate limits reimbursement to an entity's actual indirect costs, as determined in its negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, or 8 percent of a modified total direct cost base, whichever amount is less. For more information regarding training indirect cost rates, see [34 CFR 75.562](#). For more information regarding indirect costs, or to obtain a negotiated indirect cost rate, please see www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/intro.html.

May subgrants be awarded to tribal governments?

Per the NIA, under 34 CFR 75.708(b) and (c), a grantee under this competition may award subgrants—to directly carry out project activities described in its application—to the following types of entities: IHEs, nonprofit organizations, professional organizations, or businesses. The grantee may award subgrants to entities it has identified in the approved application or that it selects through a competition under procedures established by the grantee.

Are gifts allowed as part of the budget? E.g., appreciation gifts for program contributors/teachers?

Under 2 CFR 200.421 (e) and (c), unallowable advertising and public relations costs include the costs of promotional items and memorabilia, including models, gifts, and souvenirs. The term “public relations” includes community relations and means those activities dedicated to maintaining the image of the non-Federal entity or maintaining or promoting understanding and favorable relations with the community or public at large or any segment of the public.

However, if program contributors or teachers are contributing their expertise to the grant-funded activities, it may be appropriate and allowable to compensate them for their time. In that instance, applicants should review 2 CFR 200.459, which allows for costs of professional and consultant services provided by people who do not work for the applicant and are either members of a particular profession or have special skills. There are additional factors to consider, so we encourage all applicants to read all of 2 CFR 200.459 to review the factors, consider how they will pay for professional services, and how they will address the record keeping requirements.

Can a single applicant apply under Absolute Priority 1 to operate Regional Centers in more than one region?

Per the NIA, in a single application, an applicant must propose to operate a Regional Center in one and only one of the following regions:

1. Appalachia (Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia).
2. Central (Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming).
3. Mid-Atlantic (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania).

4. Midwest (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin).
5. Northeast and Islands (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, and the Virgin Islands).
6. Northwest (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington).
7. Pacific (American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Hawaii, Palau, and Republic of the Marshall Islands).
8. Southeast (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina)
9. Southwest (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas).
10. West (Arizona, California, Nevada, and Utah).

However, the NIA also includes this note: The Department prefers that an eligible entity apply for either the National Center or a Regional Center. The Department will, however, consider multiple, separate applications from one entity applying for one or more Regional Centers and the National Center as long as the entity submits a separate application for each Center. If an applicant submits multiple applications that fall within the funding range, after review and comparison of those applications, the Department may choose not to fund all applications that propose using the same project personnel or providing the same services as other fundable applications.

Can an applicant with a focus on one Native American language partner with other entities?

An applicant may choose to focus on one Native American language. They may also choose to include partners with expertise in other languages if they feel it will maximize the effectiveness of project services. Per the NIA, one factor to be considered under the Quality of Project Services is “[t]he extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.” This can be awarded up to 4 points.

Applicants may address any planned partnerships in the narrative section of the application. They may also choose to form a consortium, in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127–129. Please note that every consortium member must be an eligible entity - an institution of higher education as defined in the NIA, or an entity within an institution of higher education with dedicated expertise in Native American language and culture education.

Do the application requirements include signed and dated partnership agreements?

No, signed and dated partnership agreements are not required, but we encourage applicants to submit partnership agreements if they have agreements in place. Please note that applying as a consortium is different than applying for a project that will include working with partners. If an applicant is applying as part of a consortium, the consortium must include only eligible entities and comply with 34 CFR 75.127–129.