



# Native American Language Program (NAL@ED)

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FY2024 Grant Competition  
Applicant Resource



## What is NAL@ED?

NAL@ED supports the Nation's First Peoples' efforts to use, practice, maintain, and revitalize their languages, and to improve educational opportunities and student outcomes in Native American and Alaska Native communities by providing grants to support schools that use Native American and Alaska Native languages as the primary language of instruction.

In the FY 2024 competition, we anticipate making approx. **\$2.4M** in awards. We expect that awards will range from **\$300,000 - \$400,000/year**.

The project period is up to 3 years (36 months).





# Eligibility & Absolute Priorities

## Who is eligible to apply?

Any of the following, alone or as part of a group application. The applicant must have a plan to develop and maintain or to improve and expand programs that use a Native American or Alaska Native language as the primary language of instruction in one or more elementary or secondary schools:

- An Indian Tribe
- A Tribal College or University (TCU)
- A Tribal education agency
- A local educational agency (LEA)
- A school operated by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)
- An Alaska Native Regional Corporation
- A private, Tribal, or Alaska Native nonprofit organization
- A non-Tribal for-profit organization

**i** The NAL@ED application has two absolute priorities. Each application must meet one of these priorities to be considered for funding and cannot be considered for both.

## Absolute Priorities





# Competitive Priorities & Selection Criteria

The NAL@ED application will be awarded based on scores on the competitive preference priorities and selection criteria, described below.

## Support Project Sustainability with Title VI Indian Education Formula Grant Funds

(up to 7 points)

To meet this priority, an applicant must receive, or be eligible to receive, an ESEA Title VI formula grant, and must commit to use all or part of that formula grant to help sustain the project after the conclusion of the grant period. The applicant must include –

- (a) A statement identifying the school year in which the entity will start using title VI formula grant funds to help support the project;
- (b) The percentage of the title VI formula grant, which must be at least –
  - (i) 20% (3 points); 40% (4 points); 60% (5 points)
  - (ii) 80% (6 points); 100% (7 points)
- (c) The timeline for obtaining parent committee input and approval, if necessary.

## Preference for Indian Applicants

(0 or 5 points)

To meet this priority, an application must be submitted by an Indian Tribe, Indian organization, BIE-funded school, or TCU that is eligible to participate in the NAL@ED program. A consortium that provides a signed agreement and includes one such entity also meets the requirements for this priority.

### Competitive Priorities

**Quality of Project Design:** Extent to which goals, objectives, and outcomes are clear and measurable; the project will ensure student progress toward fluency in the Native American language, the project will incorporate parent engagement, the quality of assessment, and continuous improvement.

32 points

**Quality of Project Services:** The quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability; the quality of the plan for grade-level and developmentally appropriate Native language instruction; the extent to which the project will provide professional development, including cultural competence training; extent of partner collaboration; the extent to which the percentage of the school day during which instruction takes place in the Native American language is ambitious and reasonable.

29 points

**Quality of Project Personnel:** (1) Extent to which the applicant encourages applications from people who are traditionally underrepresented; the extent to which Native American language teachers are fluent; the qualifications of key project personnel

16 points

**Adequacy of Resources:** The extent to which costs are reasonable in relation to objectives, design and significance and potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment to such support.

10 points

**Quality of the Management Plan:** Adequacy of the management plan to achieve objectives on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones; the extent to which the time commitments of the project director and key project personnel are appropriate to the project.

13 points

### Selection Criteria













# General Application Requirements



The NAL@ED application has **six general application requirements**, described below. There are also additional application requirements shown on the next page. Applicants must address these requirements in their NAL@ED application.

	<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Description</i>
	<b>Instructional language</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> The name of the Native American or Alaska Native language to be used for instruction at the school(s) supported by the grant.
	<b>Students to be served</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> The number and grade level(s) of students to be served.
	<b>Instructional hours</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> The number of hours of instruction per week in and through one or more Native American or Alaska Native languages currently provided, if any.
	<b>Pre- and post-assessments</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Whether a pre- and post-assessment of Native American language proficiency is available, and <input type="checkbox"/> If not, the percentage of grant funds that will be used for developing such assessment.
	<b>Program description</b>	A description of how the applicant will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Support Native American language education and development;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide professional development for staff to strengthen the overall language and academic goals of the school(s);</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure implementation of rigorous academic content that prepares all students for college and career; and</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that students progress toward meeting high-level fluency goals in the Native American language.</li> </ul>
	<b>Organizational information</b>	For each school included in the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Information about the school's organizational governance or affiliations, including the school's governing entity;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The school's accreditation status;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Any partnerships with institutions of higher education (IHEs);</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Any indigenous language schooling and research cooperatives.</li> </ul>









## Application Requirements, continued



The NAL@ED additional application requirements are shown below. Applicants must address these requirements in their NAL@ED application.

	<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Description</i>
	<p><b>Assurances</b></p>	<p>An assurance that for each school to be included in the project -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The school is engaged in meeting State or Tribally designated long-term goals for students, per Federal, State, or Tribal law;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The school assesses students using the Native American or Alaska Native language of instruction, where possible;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The qualifications of all instructional and leadership personnel are sufficient to deliver high-quality education through the Native American or Alaska Native language used in the school;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The school will collect and report to the public data about student achievement and, if appropriate, rates of high school graduation, career readiness, and enrollment in postsecondary education or workforce development programs, for students in the program.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)</b> <i>(only applicable if an applicant proposes to work with a partner)</i></p>	<p>A <b>signed</b> and <b>dated</b> memorandum of agreement from <b>within 4 months</b> of the application deadline (<b>for this competition, signed on or after 11/8/23</b>) that describes the roles and responsibilities of each partner, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How each partner will implement the project on the timeline in the proposal;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The roles and responsibilities of each partner related to ensuring the data necessary to report on the performance measures (see next page); and</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The roles and responsibilities of each partner to ensuring Native American language instructors can be recruited, retained, and trained.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Engagement with Tribes and Tribal Organizations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> For non-Tribal applicants, <b>evidence</b> of either <b>Tribal engagement or a letter of support</b> from one or more Tribes or Tribal organizations. May be provided as part of the MOA or separately. Note: <b>Affected LEAs</b> subject to <b>ESEA section 8538</b> must engage in <b>Tribal consultation</b>.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Certification</b></p>	<p>An applicant that is an LEA, a BIE school, or a nontribal for-profit or nonprofit, but submit <b>certification from a Tribe, TCU, Alaska Native Regional Corporation or an Alaska Native nonprofit organization, or a Native Hawaiian organization</b> stating that--</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The <b>school or applicant organization has the capacity</b> to provide education primarily through a Native American or an Alaska Native language; and</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> There are <b>sufficient speakers of the target language</b> at the school or available to be hired by the school or applicant organization</li> </ul>





# Performance Measures

**i** There are 4 performance measures we use to measure success:



## Proficiency

The # and % of students who attain proficiency in a Native language as determined by each grantee through pre- and post-assessments of Native language proficiency.

## Progress

The # and % of participating students who make progress in learning a Native language, as determined by each grantee, through pre- and post-assessments of Native language proficiency.

## Academic Improvement

The # and % of participating students who show an improvement in academic outcomes, as measured by academic assessments or other indicators.

## Attendance

The difference between the average daily attendance of participating students and the average daily attendance of all student the comparison group (e.g., school, LEA, Tribe, or other).



# How to Apply

The process can feel daunting, but preparing your organization properly and using Department of Education resources that are available will help make the application process easier.



## Preparation



**Brainstorm** project ideas



**Build** a program plan and team



**Engage** potential partners and implementation sites

## Applying

### 1 Review the [Notice Inviting Applications](#)

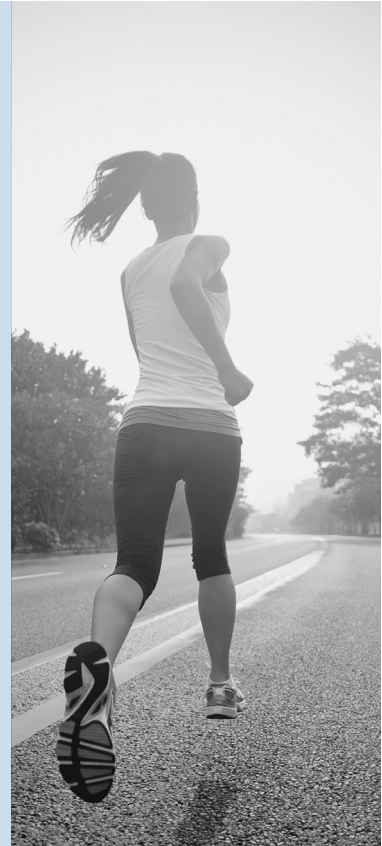
- See the [NAL@ED program website](#) for additional information.

### 2 Ensure that you have an **active UEI (Unique Entity Identifier)** number

- Entities who are not registered in SAM.gov will be assigned a UEI when they register
- To register in SAM.gov, click on the “Get Started” link under the “Register Your Entity...” heading in [SAM.gov](#).

### 3 Apply for the NAL@ED grant!

- Visit the government-wide website, <http://www.grants.gov>.
- Enter “84.415B” in the search bar in the upper right.
- Click on the Opportunity Number in the search results and follow instructions after hitting “Apply.”



- It is strongly encouraged to familiarize yourself with grants.gov and **strongly recommended that you register and submit early.**
- Visit the [program website](#) at for helpful information, frequently asked questions, dates of future webinars or workshops, and clarifications.





## Further Resources & Information



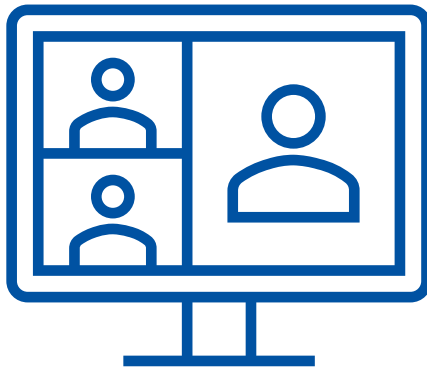
### Resources & Contact



[Program Website](#)



[Notice Inviting Applications \(NIA\)](#)



### Point of Contact:

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