

### OFFICE of INDIAN EDUCATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

April 24, 2025

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Fiscal Year 2025 Competition Pre-Application Webinar

Demonstration: Native Youth Community Projects - (NYCP) 84.299A

1) If we already submitted a proposal before the correction notice was published, do we have to submit a new proposal?

Yes, applications submitted prior to April 3, 2025 will not be considered. Please review the correction notice (90 FR 14644)<sup>1</sup> and make any necessary revisions. You must re-submit your revised application no later than May 8, 2025 @ 11:59:59 Eastern Time.

- 2) Will applicants be notified if our proposal was approved or denied?
  - Yes, all applicants will be notified if an application was approved or denied.
- 3) Is there a possibility to extend the deadline?

No, the NYCP competition will not have any additional deadline extensions beyond what was previously extended by the correction notice (90 FR 14644).

4) Is the estimated funding of \$450,000 as stated in the Notice of Inviting Applications, the cap for the entire proposal or is it the cap for the entire year?

The estimate is for each year, not the total across five years, there is no cap.

- 5) Can a current Office of Indian Education Grantee apply for this grant opportunity? Yes, current grantees may apply.
- 6) Who qualifies as a Tribal Organization?

A "Indian Organization" as defined in the original Notice Inviting Applications (90 FR 5838)<sup>2</sup> means an organization that:

- (1) Is legally established—
  - (i) By Tribal or inter-Tribal charter or in accordance with State or Tribal law; and
  - (ii) With appropriate constitution, by-laws, or articles of incorporation;
- (2) Includes in its purposes the promotion of the education of Indians;
- (3) Is controlled by a governing board, the majority of which is Indian;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Correction notice published April 3, 2025: https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2025-05721

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Original Notice Inviting Applications published January 17, 2025: <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2025-01238">https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2025-01238</a>

- (4) If located on an Indian reservation, operates with the sanction of or by charter from the governing body of that reservation;
- (5) Is neither an organization or subdivision of, nor under the direct control of, any institution of higher education or TCU; and
- (6) Is not an agency of State or local government.

# 7) If a current NCYP grantee applies for the new grant opportunity, would it be an extension of the current award, or would this be a completely new program?

No, it will not be an extension of the current award, it will be a new award subject to all requirements as published in the original Notice Inviting Applications (90 FR 5838).

### 8) Can this program be designed to fit any age level?

It depends, the purpose of this program is to improve educational opportunities and achievement of Indian children and youth. This includes ages 5 through 16; or any age covered under compulsory school attendance under any applicable State law.

# 9) Can an applicant meet the Absolute Priority of career readiness and the Competitive Preference Priority 3?

All applicants are required to meet the Absolute Priority. All Competitive Preference Priorities (CPP) are optional. Applicants may apply for CPP1 or CPP2 but not both. Applicants may apply for CPP3 in conjunction with either CPP1 or CPP2.

### 10) Are partnerships required?

Yes, as described in the original Notice Inviting Applications (90 FR 5838), to meet the absolute priority, applicants must propose a project that is designed and implemented through a partnership of various entities which must include:

- (A) One or more Tribes or their Tribal education agencies; and
- (B) One or more BIE-funded schools, one or more LEAs, or both; and
  - (ii) May include other optional entities, including community-based organizations, national nonprofit organizations, and Alaska regional corporations;

### 11) Are the assurances and other application requirements part of the 50-page narrative limit?

Assurances can go under "other attachments" and won't count towards the 50-page limit.

### 12) What is the page limit for the Narrative?

The page limit is 50 pages.

### 13) The application package in <u>grants.gov</u> includes an evidence form. Is this form required as a source for the "demonstrates a rationale" requirement?

The evidence form in the grants.gov application is optional. You can use it to demonstrate a rationale or create a logic model when proposing the factors for the selection criteria, quality of project design, but it is not required.

### 14) Should the Project Narrative and budget reference 5 years or just three?

Both the project narrative and budget must cover and describe each year of requested funding. You can request funding up to 60 months.

### 15) Are all parts of the proposal subject to the formatting guidelines?

Yes, the application narrative refers to the application section that addresses the priorities and selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application.

### 16) If a potential applicant missed the intent to apply, are they disqualified?

No, the intent to apply is optional and applicants will not be disqualified.

### 17) Do applicants have to utilize the What Works Clearinghouse?

No, the What Works Clearinghouse is not required.

18) Does the evidence have to consist of an already established model/framework/program, or is it sufficient to justify project components using several individual, high-quality studies/evaluations that present positive findings on those individual project components?

Peer Reviewers score applications based on the quality of research and proposed activities within the grant application. See the original Notice Inviting Applications (90 FR 5838).

### 19) Is an outside evaluator required?

No, an external evaluator is not required. However, project proposals should explain a method of evaluation of project goals and objectives or outcomes provide other evidence-building that will provide performance feedback and formative, diagnostic, or interim data that is a periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

#### 20) What is the difference between the GPRA and applicants project measures?

The main difference between GPRA measures and applicant-developed project measures is their scope and purpose. GPRA measures are mandated outcomes reported to Congress annually by federal agencies, focused on evaluating the overall performance of an agency's programs. Applicant-developed project measures, on the other hand, are specific to individual projects and are used to track progress and outcomes within those projects, often aligning with the broader GPRA framework.

The GPRA performance measures for the NYCP program as defined in the original Notice Inviting Applications (90 FR 5838) are:

- (1) The number and percentage of the annual measurable objectives, as described in the application, that the grantees meet; and
- (2) The number of, and percentage increase in, community collaborative efforts that promote college and career readiness of Indian children.