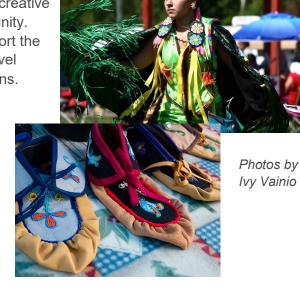# Maada'ookiing Grant Information and Checklist

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 $2,500 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)

Maada'ookiing Grant Information and Checklist

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?

Maada'ookiing Grant Information and Checklist

Maada'ookiing Application Questions

Following is the information you are asked to provide when applying for a Maada'ookiing Grassroots Grant, including the narrative questions you need to fill out on the portal. If you have questions about your project in relation to the grant guidelines, email us at grants@northlandfdn.org. The Maada'ookiing Grant Portal is found on the Maada'ookiing Grants page of the Northland Foundation website: https://northlandfdn.org.

Project Applicant Information

Name, Address, Email, and Phone Number

Under which category are you eligible to apply:
☐ Tribal Citizen
☐ Tribal Descendant
☐ Indigenous kinship ties or community affiliation

Please indicate your Tribal Nation(s) affiliation(s) [citizenship/descendancy/kinship]:

***If you apply under the kinship ties/community affiliation category**: Please upload two letters of support from Tribal community representatives that speak to your ties and affiliation with the community.

Narrative Questions

Project Title:
Total Amount requested: $
Project Start date:
Project End date:

1. Provide a short summary of your project. (3-5 sentences, up to 1,000 characters)

2. Please share your background (community work, skill sets, life experiences, knowledge, etc.) and how it relates to this project. (Up to 5,000 characters)

3. How does your project address the Maada'ookiing Grassroots Grant Areas of Focus and Priorities? (5,000 characters)

4. Which Tribal Nation or Indigenous community does this project serve? Please share any specific community populations engaged, if applicable (gender, age, ability, LGBTQ+, etc.). Please indicate if the project activities will occur within the boundaries or have community impact with **Bois Forte, Grand Portage, Fond du Lac, Mille Lacs (District II), or Leech Lake (District 1)**. (5,000 characters)

5. What is the need or opportunity this project seeks to address? (5,000 characters)

6. What activities will you carry out to meet the need or opportunity? (5,000 characters)

7. What impact or outcome will this project have for the Indigenous community this project serves? How will you determine success? (5,000 characters)

8. What support, if any, beyond funding, do you need to make your project a success? (5,000 characters)