



Request for Applications (RFA) Community Empowerment Grants

The Notah Begay III (NB3) Foundation is pleased to announce its *Community Empowerment Grants Request for Applications (RFA)*. This funding and support opportunity, made possible by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and W.K. Kellogg Foundation will support Native American communities and/or organizations engaged in or initiating collective impact efforts to measurably impact Native American youth health through the NB3 Foundation's fore core areas.

About Notah Begay III Foundation

Founded in 2005, the NB3 Foundation's mission is to ensure Native children achieve their full potential by advancing cultures of Native American community health. NB3 Foundation focuses on Native children's physical, emotional and cultural health through four core areas:

- Physical Activity;
- Healthy Nutrition;
- Youth Development; and
- Cultural Connections.

To date, NB3 Foundation has invested more than \$10 million into Native communities, including more than 200 grants to over 130 Native-led and tribal organizations in 20 states. NB3 Foundation has also invested millions in direct programming, including nutrition education, food access pilot projects, community and traditional foods projects, sport programming, physical activity/sports camps and clinics, technical assistance to tribal communities and nonprofits, and research and evaluation work. Learn more about the NB3 Foundation at: www.nb3foundation.org

Grant Overview

The NB3 Foundation invests in community-led, culturally-rooted programs that promote physical activity, healthy nutrition, youth development and cultural connections. The Foundation confidently believes that all communities have the inherent knowledge, values and assets to develop strategies to ensure their children and communities are healthy. This initiative is designed to provide Native American communities, tribes and Native-led organizations with the financial support, technical assistance, collaboration opportunities and inspiration to develop or further collective impact efforts that promote one or more of the Foundation's four core areas.

Based upon the lessons learned through NB3 Foundation's *Native Youth on the Move* initiative, grants are designed to support organizations and tribes interested in serving as the "backbone organizations" initiating or deepening a collective and strategic network to promote Native youth health. In phase one of the grant (planning phase), grantees will receive financial and technical support in order to first complete an environmental scan of the communities they serve. The information gained through this scan will then be utilized to develop an implementation plan that will improve and sustain Native youth health in relation to one or more of the following core areas:

- Increasing opportunities for physical activity,
- Increasing access to healthy and affordable foods,
- Building youth leadership and advocacy,
- Deepening cultural connections.

In this second phase of the grant (implementation phase), grantees will implement their plan to develop or strengthen key community partnerships in order to collaboratively promote Native youth health.

In addition to financial support, over the course of these grants, NB3 Foundation will provide collaboration opportunities with other **Community Empowerment** cohort members and training in Indigenous evaluation and research, collective impact best practices, sustainable funding sources and other relevant topics.

Up to five 22-month grants of \$200,000 each will be awarded. Funding for the initial five-month planning phase will be awarded in the amount of \$50,000. The 17-month implementation phase will be funded in the amount of \$150,000. Applicants should plan to regrant at least 50% of implementation funds to community partners. Grant awards will fund Native-led organizations across the United States including Alaska and Hawaii. NB3 Foundation will continue to lead its **Community Empowerment** work in the greater Albuquerque area so it is highly unlikely organizations in the same area will be funded.

Eligibility Criteria

Organizations eligible to apply are U.S. based Native American-controlled nonprofits 501(c)(3), federally or state recognized tribal governments or programs, or Native American community-based groups with a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor. Schools are not eligible to apply unless they have 501(c)(3) status.

Grant Period

The grant period for the planning phase is May 1, 2021 – September 31, 2021. Upon successful completion of the planning phase, grantees will be eligible for funding of the implementation phase with a grant period of October 1, 2021 – February 28, 2023.

Funding Priorities and Requirements

Applicant organization must:

- Demonstrate evidence of strong tribal leadership and community support.
- Possess strong organizational capacity to implement the proposed project and manage the grant funds, including prohibitions against lobbying and political activities.
- Organizations must provide a letter(s) of support from the Native American community where the program will be operating;
- Ensure indirect costs do not exceed 15% of the total project

Indigenous Evaluation and Strengthening Community Knowledge

Grant recipients will be required to:

- Participate, share and inspire in the learning community with scheduled gatherings and trainings.
- Grant recipients will work with NB3 Foundation to collaboratively design and implement an Indigenous-based evaluation framework, tools and protocols to keep track of progress and capture the journey.

Deadlines/Grant Calendar

Action	Date
Announce Request for Applications	March 15, 2021
Community Empowerment RFA webinar and Q&A - Register here: http://ow.ly/WwZ850DZhQ6	March 18, 2021 at 2 p.m. MST
Applications Due	April 12, 2021
Notification of Award/Decline	April 21, 2021
Grant Period Start Date and Planning Phase Disbursement (\$50,000)	May 1, 2021
Welcome Webinar (participation required)	TBD
Planning Phase Progress Report and Implementation Phase Disbursement (\$135,000)	October 1, 2021
Implementation Phase End Date	February 28, 2023
Final Report Due and Final Disbursement (\$15,000)	March 31, 2023
Monthly Cohort Gatherings	TBD
Monthly individual check-ins with NB3 Foundation	TBD

Help?

We will host an RFA webinar and Q&A on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 2:00 pm MST to answer questions about the grant. To register, visit: <http://ow.ly/WwZ850DZhQ6>

All grant applications must be submitted by no later than April 12, 2021 at 5 p.m. MST to be considered for funding.

Full [applications](#) and supporting documents must be submitted via the NB3 Foundation online submission system. Upload to: <https://nb3foundation.wetransfer.com>

Please make sure to submit all requirements well before the final submission deadline. Program staff may not be able to assist all applicants in the final 48 hours before the deadline. In fairness to all applicants, we will not accept late or incomplete applications.

Access application [here](#)! For questions, please contact grants@nb3f.org

