
**Indian Education Act Program Grants for FY23
Q and A**

What is an RFA?

A written notice issued by the department, outlining the terms and conditions of the department and applicant in order to apply for a grant. Request for Applications (RFA)

Will a copy of this presentation be available?

Yes, please visit the following site and select [FY22-23 Funding Opportunities](#)

How do we gain access to the grant management system?

Please email, cassandra.garcia@state.nm.us , or if you have access you can complete the IEA RFA at [IED- IEA Grant Management System](#)

Will IEA grants be approved for more than one year?

RFA 22-92400-00009, potential grantees may propose a project from one year to three years. Award amounts for FY23 is based on annual funding. The current and continued funding is dependent upon annual legislative appropriations and program performance.

Does a district have to apply to receive the minimum base salary for a 520 certified teacher? If so, which one?

The Indian Education Division (IED) issued a memo on April 22, 2022 to districts and charter schools that currently have Native American and Language Certificate Staff as reported in STARS as of the 120th day, to verify salary and FTE status. If your district or charter school did not receive this memo please contact Interim Assistant Secretary Rebecca Reyes.

Do all funds provided by NMPED, have to target outcomes only within the State of NM.?

Yes, the funding that is being provided are general funds and are intended for American Indian students within New Mexico whereas it is appropriated by the New Mexico State Legislature for the purpose of serving New Mexico students.

Will the Native Languages and Education Blueprint grants be automatically renewed or do we need to submit another application for remaining funds?

SB377 RFA for Native Language and Educational Blueprints, was written and issued from FY21-23, no new application will be required. "This RFA may be used to make an award for fiscal year 2023 as well. The option to make such an award will be based on the performance of the entity in the first year, as determined by the NMPED. The estimated budget for year two will be based on grantee not expending all or partial of FY22 grant in addition to FY23 grant. The entity should include in their application a description for the second year as well. The determination for a second-year award will be based on a new award letter issued for that year upon agreement by the parties".

If tribes or other entities do not apply, what happens with the remainder of funds left.

All grants are competitive except the IEA, at the evaluation of applications student count and operational need will be finalized to determine funding amounts.

Is there a dollar amount set for Tribal Libraries for plan and design? And is it competitive?

Correspondence has been sent to Tribal Leaders regarding funding, and request for Scope of Work (SOW) regarding Tribal Libraries and this is not a competitive award.

For these RFAs, are collaborations allowed?

Yes.

What is the website where the RFAs will be posted?

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/information/rfps-rfis-rfas/>

How will applications be reviewed? Is there a scoring rubric?

IED, will be reviewing all RFAs via a scoring rubric.

Thank you for this opportunity, If one does not apply will you be asking for reviewers?

NM PED is fortunate enough to have employees who have worked in Higher Education Departments as professors, in PreK-12 schools and districts as classroom teachers, educators, principals, superintendents and/or as ancillary staff members. The department will pull from within to ensure a wide range of reviewers with relevant experience and expertise. Thank you for the question.

Can you apply for more than one RFA/Grant Opportunity?

If your program meets the eligibility criteria, yes you can apply for all/any grant opportunities

Indian Education Act RFA- who can apply?

- NM Tribal Departments of Education (TEDs)
- Local Education Agencies (LEAs)
 - School Districts*
 - State-Chartered Charter Schools, *
 - Locally Chartered Charter Schools*

*Serving a significant number of Native American students through programs and services aligned to Sections 22-23A-1 through 22-23A-11 NMSA 1978
*LEAs and Charters**

NM Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative RFA who can apply?

- NM Tribal Departments of Education
- Local Education Agencies (LEAs) *
- State – Chartered Charter Schools *

- Locally – Chartered Charter Schools *
- Schools identified by the Bureau of Indian Education as Tribally Controlled
- Organizations serving Urban Native American
- Non-profits organizations serving Native American Students
- Higher Education Institutions
- Tribal Colleges
 - Native American Community Based Immersion Schools Pre-K-12
 - Native American Language Immersion Programs
 - Indigenous Language Fellows
 - Increased access to High Quality Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Indigenous Education Initiative (IEI)

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs) *
- State – Chartered Charter Schools *
- Locally – Chartered Charter Schools *

*Serving a significant number of Native American students through programs and services aligned to Sections 22-23A-1 through 22-23A-11 NMSA 1978 *LEAs and Charters**

Recruiting and Retaining High Quality Teachers and Administrators for Native serving districts?

- NM approved alternative, and or traditional preparation programs

Will reciprocity be granted for an Administrative License?

In order to become an approved educator preparation program in the state of NM, you must go before the Professional Practices and Standards Committee (PPSC) [PPSC](#) , they can provisionally approve until final approval is granted, please review there manual and rubric as to what is needed to become approved in the state of New Mexico.

Of the four grant opportunities listed as part of RFA# 22-92400-00007 New Mexico Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative, which ones are LEAs eligible to apply for?

An LEA/Charter School can apply for all four strategies, if they feel their programming can fulfill the requirements.

There are four programs listed under the NM Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative RFA# 22-92400-00007, (Immersion Schools; Immersion Programs). We are interested but had a couple of questions about who it is open to. Is it only open to immersion schools or schools who are interested in becoming an immersion school and/or forming an immersion program?

All eligible entities may apply for the Immersion School funding as one of their key strategies. The first year can involve stakeholder engagement, school design and will help identify whether the "Immersion School" is a magnet school, a school within a school, a micro-school or an extension of an existing school's programming and offerings throughout their district or charter school.

RFA#22-92400-00008, NMPED Recruiting and Retaining High Quality Teachers and Administrators. I have a question: On page 4 under section IV, it states: ...Use the online form included in the IED grants management system.

The application should be submitted in word and emailed to indian.education@state.nm.us

RFA# 22-92400-00007, The information specifically uses the word immersion to describe the programs that are eligible for funding. Am I reading this correctly? Only immersion programs, not language classes offered in independent schools?

The RFA includes both, the first strategy is for an immersion school and the second strategy is for programming, which can be for a district/charter/tribe/ and all eligible entities listed in the RFA.

On pg 9 of RFA #22-92400-00009 (under "attachments" sub-section V in "Scoring Guidelines" section), there are directions to upload an "Operating Plan to include staffing capacity." Can you clarify what kind of information IED wants applicants to include in an "operating plan?"

An operational and staffing plan that highlights specific roles and responsibilities for the successful implementation of the proposed project or program to operationalize the project narrative's intent and goals.

RFA #22-92400-00008 NMPED Recruiting and Retaining High Quality Teachers and Administrators and Administrators for Native American schools and communities, When would the actual grant begin

All grants will start 7/1/22 and would end 6/30/23

RFA #22-92400-00008 NMPED Recruiting and Retaining High Quality Teachers and Administrators and Administrators for Native American schools and communities, Does the recruitment plan include travel to school districts in New Mexico such as lodging, meals, etc. in the budget?

If the applicant is wanting to include recruitment, and travel to school districts in New Mexico such as lodging, meals, etc. in the budget, you would place this into your plan and budget.

RFA # 22-92400-00007, Concerning (1) the immersion school initiative, the RFP states: "... the Five competitive grants are available in the amount of \$200,000 each, annually for five years." Does this mean (assuming continued funding by the state legislature) that the budgeted amount is \$200,000 per year for a possible total of \$1,000,000 over five years?

This is correct, pending the availability of funding allocated by the New Mexico State Legislature.

RFA # 22-92400-00007, Concerning (3) the language fellows initiative, the RFP states: Salary must be commensurate with that of a Level I licensed teacher. Four competitive grants are available in the amount of \$500,000 each, annually for five years." Does this mean that all ten participants in the program will receive a salary? Does this mean (assuming continued funding by the state legislature) that the budgeted amount is \$500,000 per year for a possible total of \$2,500,000 over five years?

This is correct, continued funding is based on state legislation, if the tribal entity is not able to get ten participants, we will adjust funding based on participants and programs.

RFA#22-92400-00008, NMPED Recruiting and Retaining High Quality Teachers and Administrators, What are you looking for in the component "Number of teachers and or administrators served" under the Program Narrative Components.

Based on your program, how will you be incentivizing, for example paying for the tuition of 5 students to attend X number of master courses or how you are designing your application in which you would state the number of students affected by those incentives.

Does a Pueblo, Tribe or Nation have to apply for the IEA funding that the PED makes available, along with that, will it hurt future chances of funding since it looks like the tribe doesn't need the funding?

With the new funding available under the ELTP- Tribal and Rural Community Based RFA, and the allocations for tribes, being \$525,000. we understand that this funding will allow tribes to build capacity for staff along with the programs needed for the Tribal Education Departments and libraries along with knowing most Tribal Education Departments and libraries are currently manned by one person and may not be able to apply for more funding due to capacity. A Pueblo, Tribe or Nation does not have to apply for the IEA funding that is made available unless they choose to apply and implement the program(s) and follow the requirements of the program(s) as stated in the grant agreement.

RFA#22-92400-00008, NMPED Recruiting and Retaining High Quality Teachers and Administrators, Who is considered to be an authorized representative for the form on page 8 of the RFA

The authorized representative would be the authority to accept the funding.

RFA#22-92400-00009"Support Documents" portion of the application. What type of documents should be submitted in this section?

In this section you would upload an operational plan to include staffing capacity and the signed assurance document. The operational and staffing plan should highlight specific roles and responsibilities for the successful implementation of the proposed project or program to operationalize the project narrative's intent and goals. (or your schools operational plan that includes staff roles). The assurance page needs to be signed, there should be a link at the top of the application in SharePoint to print the assurance form.

RFA#22-92400-00009, what is the actual submission date

The submission date is May 6, 2022, at 4:00 pm

NM Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative RFA# 22-92400-00007, Can organizations apply for more than one strategy area

Yes, you can apply for more than one strategy area.

pg 2 - paragraph 2 - who determines "...innovative, effective instruction..." Also, what criteria are being used to determine this?

Request for Application (RFA)-Indian Education Act RFA # 22-92400-00009, The review committee determines "innovative, effective instruction" based on what is listed in the Indian Education Act: "B. Academic and other programs may include, within the context of the Indian Education Division's development or selection of culturally relevant curricula and instructional materials as provided in Subsection E of Section 22-23A-5 NMSA 1978:

(1) innovative programs designed to meet the educational needs of educationally disadvantaged Indian students;"

as the criteria.

pg 2 - paragraph 3 - how is the term "Ecosystems" defined in relation to Indigenous language revitalization?

Request for Application (RFA) New Mexico Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative RFA # 22-92400-00007, Ecosystems recognize the interrelated nature of multiple pathways, entities and strategies that support and promote Indigenous Language Revitalization.

pg 2 - paragraph 4 - is "...assessing the status of Indigenous Languages in NM..." supposed to be focused by each applicant on their own tribe/community? Or, are applicants being asked to assess the status of all "Indigenous Languages in NM?"

Request for Application (RFA) New Mexico Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative RFA # 22-92400-00007, Applicants are being asked to assess the status of their own community and the target language(s) for their proposed project. Please refer to page five question e) under Native American Language Immersion Programs- "What is the current status of your community's language and what impact do you plan to achieve through this initiative?" Applicants do not have to assess the status of all "Indigenous Languages in NM".

pg 2 - re: Strategy Area #1 - Is this strategy meant to prioritize charter a/o tribal contract schools? What immersion schools are to be considered? What does participation "in a community of practice (CoP)" require of the grantees? How will the "CoP" benefit the grantees? Who will be providing the technical assistance to grantees and how often? Will this require additional time and tasks not written into the grantees plans? Do grantees get to select where/who/when they will receive technical assistance for their unique work?

Request for Application (RFA) New Mexico Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative RFA # 22-92400-00007, No, this strategy is not prioritizing "charter a/o tribal contract schools". All eligible entities listed on p. 2 "Local education agencies (LEAs), including state-chartered charter schools and locally chartered charter schools serving significant numbers of Native American students, schools identified by the Bureau of Indian Education as tribally controlled, urban Native American serving organizations, non-profit organizations , higher education departments, and tribal colleges for the purpose of supporting innovative, effective instruction for tribally based and Urban Indigenous language programs may apply. The community of practice will offer best practice sharing and collaboration among the grantees. A technical assistance provider will be selected through an RFA process. Grantees should allocate time to participate in the Community of Practice based on their organization's capacity. Grantees may select a Technical Assistance provider using their funds to assist with their project in addition. The community of practice will be provided by the Indian Education Division.

pg 2 - re: Strategy Area #2 - What if an applicant has a language program other than an immersion program? Will they be considered if they are strengthening their program?

Request for Application (RFA) New Mexico Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative RFA # 22-92400-00007, The RFA will support language programs that are providing immersion practices or want to receive professional development in immersion methodology.

pg 2 - re: Strategy Area #3 - These grantees will receive the largest amount of funds for the year(s); it seems many of the decisions about how this will be most effective would be left to tribes/communities to determine as they look at their tribal/community resources; but there seems to be a predetermined way to implement the Mentor/Apprentice. Wouldn't the speaker resources be the main factor and determine the number of mentees that could be accommodated, etc. The M/A approach is not a "class" and the requirement of two mentors with 4+ apprentices seems to be taking it away from being an effective M/A environment?

Request for Application (RFA) New Mexico Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative RFA # 22-92400-00007, to establish or support an existing Mentor Apprentice Indigenous Language program that increases the number of fluent speakers within a specific community. Programs must have at least two Mentor Teachers and support two cohorts of four or more apprentices who will dedicate two full years to pursuing fluency in the target language over the period of the grant. Upon completion of the fellowship, participants must complete the 520 certification process and serve in an educational setting. Salary must be commensurate with that of a Level I licensed teacher. Four competitive grants are available in the amount of \$500,000 each, annually for five years. Additionally, we recognize the importance of community in language learning and language models. In addition to one-on-one learning, a minimum of four apprentices would work together as a community and two mentors would support in creating opportunities for shared learning.

pg 2-3 re: Strategy Area #4 - how does the NMPED define or determine "high quality curriculum, instruction and assessment" for tribal or community based immersion schools? What factors are considered?

The NMPED will support the development of curriculum, instruction and assessment as determined by the Tribe and/or community based immersion school as to what is high quality.

pg 3 re: the payment structure on a reimbursement basis; doesn't this eliminate the consideration of programs that are new without the funds to operate on a reimbursement basis, and those with limited funds for reimbursement? Or, is this requirement meant to limit new programs or organizations?

Under HB2, it requires the Secretary and Assistant Secretary to “develop a methodology to allocate the [\$15M] general fund appropriation to tribal education departments, tribal libraries, Native American language programs, to school districts and charter schools based on operational needs and student enrollment.”

Requests for Reimbursement (RFR) is a method that state agencies use and are only processed for expenditures that have been incurred. RFAs that are issued are not intended to limit funds for reimbursement or meant to limit new programs or organizations.

pg 3 re: "multi-year awards" and wondering why they are being designated if a commitment of funding support, at least from NMPED, can't be made?

Please refer to page 3, under funding it currently reads "Current and continued funding for this project is dependent upon annual legislative appropriations and program performance, as determined by the PED."

Under Length of funding "Annual funding is dependent upon annual legislative appropriations. Multi-year awards will be dependent upon state appropriations annually and progress in meeting project outcomes and goals"

PED will request an appropriation for FY24, similar to FY23's. Based on legislative appropriations this does not mean IED will be appropriated the same amount of funding.

pg 3 re: objectives and outcomes; is the quality to be determined by the tribe/community or NMPED? Who gets to define the improvement and using whose standards?

The applicant would determine the objectives and outcomes and how they will measure their success.

pg 5-6 re: data to be collected; wouldn't these be determined by the tribe/community? Or, are what is presented as samples in the RFA to be considered as the determinants?

Examples are provided for applicants as an example for their reference from the data that is included in the Tribal Education Status Report (TESR). The applicant should determine the data that they will provide and any data that is provided in alignment with the TESR as appropriate to their project.

pg 5-6 re: NALC; is this synonymous with 520 certification or some other certificates that we need to be aware of?

Yes, the Native American Language and Culture Certificate (NALC) is the 520 certification.

22-10A-13. Native American language and culture certificates.

The state board [department] may issue a Native American language and culture certificate to a person proficient in a Native American language and culture of a New Mexico tribe or pueblo who meets criteria established by the state board. A baccalaureate degree is not required for the person applying for this certificate. The Native American language and culture certificate shall be issued and renewable in accordance with procedures established by the state board.

pg 7 - Who is going to be on the "evaluation committee?" Don't need names, but are they NMPED staff? IEAC members? IHE faculty? experienced Indigenous Language providers? etc. Who?

A review panel of at least three NMPED staff will assess and score each application independently. Then, the review panel will convene to discuss the merits of the applications. A series of policies and assurances are in place to maintain a fair, objective process based on material facts in the applications and without conflicts of interest