

Native Language

Mentor
Apprentice
Program

What is the Mentor-Apprentice Program?

- The Mentor-Apprentice model was developed in California specifically for American Indian language revitalization.
- The program consists of one-on-one immersion learning between a fluent speaker (mentor) and a learner (apprentice).
- Apprentices are responsible for driving their learning, including preparing lessons, using outside resources to supplement language study, and completing reporting and assessments.
- Our program goal is to reach 260 hours of immersion sessions for each team- about 8 hours a week.

What is the commitment?

At least 8 hours a week in-session

Apprentice will spend additional time prepping and reviewing

Cohort 1 will run from August 2022-June 2023

Cohort 2 will run from August 2023-June 2024

Impact and Benefits

- Increase number of adult speakers
- Language use in the home and on the land
- Connection to community and identity
- Healing and trauma reduction
- Increase level of speaking and understanding
- Monthly stipend for Mentors and Apprentices
- Open opportunities to work on Alaska Native language reclamation



Handbook



Curriculum



Sample activities



Doyon Languages
Online

Availability of Program Resources

The Application

- Apprentice Information
- Mentor Information
- Letter of Support
- Acknowledgement of Commitments

Apprentice Information

First Name *

Last Name *

Indigenous Name (if applicable)

Address 1 *

Address 2

City *

State *

Zip Code *

Phone *

Alternate Phone Number

Email Address *

Doyon, Limited shareholder? *

- Yes
 No

Descendant of Doyon shareholder? *

- Yes
 No

Age *

- 18 - 29
 30 - 39
 40 - 49
 50+

Tribal Affiliation(s) (enter none if you do not have one)

Home Community/Communities *

Current Community/Communities of Residence *

Language Background (select all that apply) *

- Benhti Kokhut'ana Kenaga' (Lower Tanana)
 Deg Xinag
 Denaakk'e (Koyukon)
 Dihthaad Xt'een Iin Aandëeg' (Tanacross)
 Dinak'i (Upper Kuskokwim)
 Dinjii Zhuh K'yaa (Gwich'in)
 Hän
 Holikachuk (Doogh Q'inag)
 Iñupiaq
 Nee'aanëegn' (Upper Tanana)

Language You Intend to Apprentice In *

- Benhti Kokhut'ana Kenaga' (Lower Tanana)
 Deg Xinag
 Denaakk'e (Koyukon)
 Dihthaad Xt'een Iin Aandëeg' (Tanacross)
 Dinak'i (Upper Kuskokwim)
 Dinjii Zhuh K'yaa (Gwich'in)
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Please provide a short biography of yourself. You may also upload your resume below. *

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0/150 words

You may upload your resume below.

Choose File No file chosen

Why do you want to be an apprentice in this program? *

0/150 words

What is your comfort level in speaking your language? *

0/150 words

What is your comfort level in understanding your language? *

0/150 words

Please describe any previous language projects or activities you have been involved with. *

Describe the relationship with your mentor. How long have you known each other? *

0/150 words

Where do you intend to hold mentor-apprentice sessions? *

0/150 words

For in-person sessions, how will you maintain COVID-19 safety? *

0/150 words

If you must meet virtually, what is your and your mentor's comfort level with technologies, such as Zoom? *

0/150 words

Do you have a smartphone? *

- Yes
- No

How will you contribute to community language learning after your apprenticeship? (For example, becoming a mentor, teacher or lesson developer.) Which community/communities will you serve? *

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0/150 words

What other professional and personal commitments do you have in the next year? For example, are you a part-time or full-time student? Do you have a part-time or full-time job? *

0/150 words

Engaging in language work can be joyful and healing, but it can also be an emotional struggle. How will you engage in language learning while maintaining a healthy relationship with the work? *

0/150 words

What are your long-term language goals? *

0/150 words

Mentor Information

Please collaborate with your mentor in advance to obtain the information needed to complete this section of the application.

Your Mentor's First Name *

Last Name *

Indigenous Name (if applicable)

Address 1 *

Address 2

City *

State *

Zip Code *

Phone *

Alternate Phone Number

Email Address

Doyon, Limited shareholder? *

Yes

No

Descendant of Doyon shareholder? *

Yes

No

Age *

Under 40

40 - 49

50 - 59

60 - 69

70 - 79

80+

Tribal Affiliation(s) (enter none if your mentor do not have one)

Home Community/Communities *

Current Community/Communities of Residence *

Language Your Mentor Will Mentor In *

- Benhti Kokhut'ana Kenaga' (Lower Tanana)
- Deg Xinag
- Denaakk'e (Koyukon)
- Dihthaad Xt'een Iin Aandëeg' (Tanacross)
- Dinak'i (Upper Kuskokwim)
- Dinjii Zhuh K'yaa (Gwich'in)
- Hän
- Holikachuk (Doogh Qinag)
- Iñupiaq
- Nee'aanëegn' (Upper Tanana)

Please provide a short biography of your mentor. You may also upload a resume below. *

0/150 words

You may upload your mentor's resume below.

No file chosen

Please share your mentor's motivations for participating in this program. *

0/150 words

Please describe any previous language projects or activities your mentor has been involved with. *

Does your mentor have a smartphone? *

- Yes
- No

What other professional and personal commitments does your mentor have in the next year? This may include a part-time or full-time job, or going to school. *

0/150 words

Letter of Support

Your application must include a letter of support from a community member or organization. The letter:

1. Must be from a community member or organization that can speak to the apprentice's interest and dedication to the language.
2. Cannot come from the mentor with whom the apprentice is applying. *

No file chosen

Acknowledgement of Applicant Commitments

I understand that by filling out and submitting this application, if I am selected for this program, I will commit to: *

- Attending four weekend-long mentor-apprentice training sessions
- Attending monthly mentor-apprentice team check-ins
- Preparing for the mentor-apprenticeship to the best of my ability, including the possible completion of a Doyon Language Online course
- Keeping track of all hours I've participated in mentor-apprentice learning and submitting reports in a timely manner
- Audio recording my mentor-apprentice sessions (with occasionally video recording)
- Consenting to a video, audio and photograph media release
- Conducting myself in a professional and respectful manner throughout the program, especially showing respect and patience to my mentor
- Providing my mentor with all important updates and keeping good communication with Doyon Foundation
- Completing 260 hours of mentor-apprentice sessions (approximately 5-10 hours a week) in one year, to the best of my ability, by the end of the program
- I furthermore confirm that I have provided my mentor with the Mentor Application Consent Form (provided below) and have guided them through this application process, providing them with all the necessary information and support.

I declare that the information in this application is accurate and complete. I understand that if this application is approved, funding will be used only for the mentor-apprentice purposes specified in this application.

Apprentice applicant's virtual signature *

[clear](#)

Date *



Acknowledgement of Mentor Commitments

Please [download the mentor consent form](#), and either print and deliver or email to your mentor. The mentor must review, sign and return the form.

Completed mentor commitment forms may be uploaded below. If uploading the completed form is not possible, it can be returned via:

- Email to millerl@doyon.com

- Mailed to Doyon Foundation, Mentor-Apprentice Program, 615 Bidwill Ave., Suite 101, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

No file chosen

Reasonable Accommodation: Any applicant who is experiencing a disability within the meaning of the Americans With Disabilities Act or other applicable state, federal or local law, who wishes to request a reasonable accommodation should contact Lucy Miller at 907.459.2048.

Title VII Compliance: In accordance with applicable law and Doyon Foundation policy, preference in selection of the MAP Consultant will be given to qualified Alaska Natives from the Doyon Region, or other Alaska Natives. Other than as allowed or required by the terms of the ANA grant or applicable law, Doyon Foundation complies with Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other applicable Alaska State and local civil rights laws; and does not discriminate in the selection of candidates based on race, religion, country of national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or transgender status, age, disability, status as a veteran or any other classification protected by law.

Save Progress

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Questions!

Contact

- **Lucy Miller**, Project Manager: 459-2015, millerl@doyon.com
- **Allan Hayton**, Language Revitalization Program Director: 459-2162, haytona@doyon.com
- **Doyon Foundation**: 459-2048, foundation@doyon.com