



OUR LANGUAGES

Grant Handbook

Learning ~ Sharing ~ Documenting



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This guide helps applicants align proposals with our newly redesigned grant model.

This structure introduces smaller, more targeted awards with flexible timelines and improved accountability mechanisms.



MISSION & VISION

Mission

Provide educational, career, and cultural opportunities to enhance the identity and quality of life for Doyon shareholders and descendants.

Vision

To empower current and future generations by supporting education and career pathways, and to honor culture and language.

Values

- **Community**
Working together to support, mentor, and develop the next generation of leaders
- **Culture & Language**
Honoring who we are, where we come from, and our traditional ways of life.
- **Integrity**
Acting with honesty, transparency, and accountability.
- **Quality**
Striving for excellence through focus, innovation, and measurable results.

KEY GRANT RULES



- **Eligibility**

- Doyon region tribes; Alaska Native-led nonprofits, societies and community groups; Doyon Shareholders or Decendants; Individuals working with Doyon communities.
- Projects must work with one or more of the ancestral languages of the Doyon region; Benhti Kokhut'ana Kenaga' (Lower Tanana), Middle Tanana, Deg Xinag, Denaakk'e (Koyukon), Dihthaad Xt'een lin Aandëeg' (Tanacross), Dinak'i (Upper Kuskokwim), Dinjii Zhuh K'yaa (Gwich'in), Hän, Holikachuk, Inupiaq and Nee'aanèegn' (Upper Tanana).

- **Award Range**

- \$500 to \$5,000

- **Timeframe**

- Complete all projects within 6 months
- Awards are distributed in two cycles: July - December and January - June

- **Selection**

- Applications will be reviewed and scored by the Language Advisory Council.
- Award consideration will focus on the project's long-term impact and budget. Strong preference for projects being done within the Region.

- **Eligible Costs**

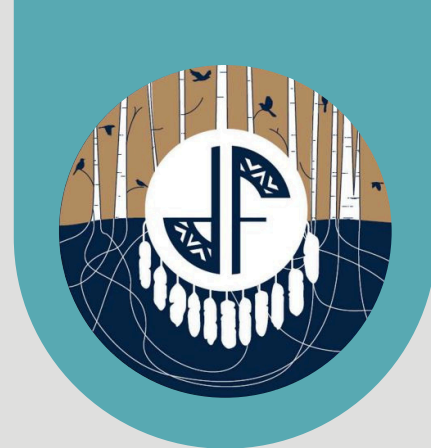
- Funds only pay for language-specific items

Example: pay a language teacher at a larger cultural camp, not for general operating costs

- **Reporting**

- All grantees are required to submit a reporting form and relevant supplemental materials at the end of the project.

GOALS OF GRANTMAKING



Learning

Building the knowledge and fluency of individual speakers and teachers.



Sharing

Disseminating knowledge across communities and generations.



Documenting

Recording and preserving linguistic data for future generations.

FOUR CORE FUNDING STREAMS



Your project must fit one of these areas:

Capacity Building

Activities that focus on developing individual or group capacity; including teaching, travel to conferences, workshop attendance, or language class tuition.

Example: Paying for a native speaker to train local teachers in your school.

Community Projects

Localized projects designed to bring together community members for language learning such as camps, classes, or regular immersion sessions.

Example: Renting a hall to host a weekly language-only dinner.

Immersive Learning

One-on-one or small group mentorship models that promote intergenerational learning, often pairing fluent speakers with learners.

Example: Paying for a native speaker to mentor a small group of learners using immersion

Language Documentation

Efforts to preserve linguistic knowledge such as creation of books, place name research, songs, and audio or video recordings.

Example: Buying audio equipment to record Elders.

EXAMPLE APPLICATION

Goal: Learning

Funding Stream: Community Project

Activity: OTHER - Language learning through song

Start date: *9/1/26

End date: *12/15/26

Writing Impactful Descriptions

Write 1 - 2 sentences explaining your goals.

- **Language Reclamation:** Focus on how you will bring the language back to youth.
 - Draft: "We will teach our youth."
 - Stronger: "**Our Elders will teach the traditional songs to 15 youth twice a week to create new speakers. Students will create new songs to share with the community.**"
- **Long-Term Impact:** Focus on the future.
 - Draft: "People will learn words."
 - Stronger: "**These recordings will create a permanent digital library for future generations to study.**"

People directly benefited from your project: 15 youth and 3 elders

Funding Request: \$1,585.00

Provide a clear, line-by-line list of exactly what you will buy with awarded funds.

Budget Example

- **People/Staff:** Elder honorarium (teaching 12 hours)
Cost: \$75 per hour x 12 hours = \$900.00
- **Supplies:** Audio Recorder with microphone
Cost: \$120 per item = \$120.00
- **Supplies:** Digital SD cards (5 cards)
Cost: \$22 per SD card x 5 SD cards = \$110.00
- **Supplies:** 17 student workbooks (15 students, 1 Elder, 1 Coordinator)
Cost: \$15 per workbook x 17 workbooks = \$255.00
- **Other:** Rental space
Cost: \$25 per day x 8 days = \$200.00
- **Total Requested:** \$1,585.00

Tribe is providing \$2,200; with \$400 as in-kind donation for rental space to continue meeting twice a week for two months. Remaining funds of \$1800 will be used for the Elder honorarium.

- **People/Staff:** Elder honorarium (teaching 24 hours)
Cost: \$75 per hour x 24 hours = \$1,800.00
- **Other:** Rental space (in-kind donation from Tribe)
Cost: \$25 per day x 16 days = \$400.00

FAQ SHEET



When can I apply for an Our Language grant?

- There are now two cycles annually:
 - Applications open in May for the **July to December** cycle.
 - Applications open in November for the **January to June** cycle.

How will applicants be chosen?

- Applications will be reviewed and scored by the Language Advisory Council, and evaluated on the appropriateness of the funding request relative to project scope and encouraging cost-efficiency.

How much is the award amount?

- The award amount has changed from a fixed \$5,000 award to a range of **\$500 - \$5,000**, depending on actual needs.
- Funds will be distributed according to each applicants budget plan to ensure accountability and alignment with grant objectives.

Which communities are in the Doyon Region?

- **Yukon River Area:** Galena, Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato, and Ruby.
- **Upper & Middle Yukon/Porcupine Rivers:** Beaver, Birch Creek, Chalkyitsik, Circle, Fort Yukon, and Stevens Village.
- **Tanana River Area:** Dot Lake, Healy Lake, Northway, Tanacross, Tok, Manley Hot Springs, Minto, Rampart, and Tanana.
- **Koyukuk River Area:** Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles, Evansville, Hughes, and Huslia.
- **Lower Yukon/Innoko Rivers:** Anvik, Grayling, Holy Cross, and Shageluk.
- **Kuskokwim River Area:** McGrath, Nikolai, Takotna, and Telida.

What can I spend the funds on?

- Funds must be spent on language revitalization efforts that contribute directly to the development of **language proficiency**, **resources**, or **teaching capacity**.
- Allowable expenses must meet the criteria for language revitalization efforts within the four core funding streams of **Capacity Building**, **Community Projects**, **Immersive Learning**, or **Language Documentation** with focus on language-specific components of projects. *General operating costs will be deprioritized.*
- Travel awards will be paid directly to the vendor by Doyon Foundation. *For example, an airline ticket will be purchased by Doyon Foundation.*
- If applying for a Language course at a UAA institution, **only the class tuition** is eligible for coverage. Additional school fees and books cannot be paid.

When is my report due?

- Reporting will be based on individual projects, with a final report due at the end of the project. Larger projects may require periodic check-ins to provide status updates or share immediate challenges.

If I've applied before, can I apply again?

- **Yes**, if you previously received funding and are in compliance (submitted your reporting), you may apply multiple times.

Can I apply for two projects in one cycle?

- **No**, you cannot have multiple projects in one cycle. For example, the same person cannot apply for a language project in one community and for language course tuition in the same cycle.

GETTING STARTED

If you are interested in doing a language project but don't know where to start, here are some guiding questions to help ensure your project is impactful and meets community needs and resources. Answer the questions in the spaces below or on a separate piece of paper.

Who in your community is able to provide language teaching or support?

What are the community's views or attitudes toward the language?

If the language is still spoken, where is it spoken? At home, school, church, etc...

What are the primary barriers to language learning or access in your community?

Who would your target audience be?

What language resources or programs currently exist?

Who has the time and capacity to lead and support a project?
