Region 9 Education Cooperative
143 El Paso Road
Ruidoso, NM 88345

Phone: (575)257-2368
Fax: (575)257-2141
http://www.rec9nm.org

# R9 REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) 21009

## Curriculum for Indigenous Communities

This is a Request for Application (RFA) and does not constitute an award. This RFA is intended to allow New Mexico Higher Education Institutions (including tribal colleges and universities), non-profits, tribes, and REC and non-governmental organizations (NGO) to submit an application to work with tribes to develop high quality professional development and or language curriculum for Indigenous communities.

## Purpose

**NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NMPED) VISION**

Provide a culturally and linguistically responsive education to all students in New Mexico to prepare them socially, emotionally, and academically for success in college, career, and life.

NMPED is calling for New Mexico Higher Education Institutions (including tribal colleges and universities), non-profits, tribes, regional education cooperatives (RECs), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in cultural affairs, to partner with New Mexico museums and historical societies that are dedicated to understanding and conveying multiple perspectives representative of the diverse history of the original peoples of NM, including its sovereign tribal communities. The New Mexico Higher Education Institutions, non-profits, tribes, RECs, and NGOs must have experience working with the development of indigenous curriculum and or in having experience of high quality professional development for K-12 teachers in alignment with the New Mexico Indian Education Act (IEA), Section 22-23a-1 et seq. NMSA 1978:

**In consideration of the Curriculum for Indigenous Communities**

All proposed work must be in compliance with the Indian Education Act and be culturally and linguistically responsive. Applicants with practical experience in the areas cited above would be able to conceptualize, describe, and provide examples of the following in their application responses:

A. Ensure equitable and culturally relevant learning environments, educational opportunities and culturally relevant instructional materials for American Indian students enrolled in public schools.
B. Ensure maintenance of Native languages.
C. Provide for the study, development and implementation of educational systems that positively affect the educational success of American Indian students.
D. Ensure that NMPED partners with tribes to increase tribal involvement and control over schools and the education of students located in tribal communities.
E. Provide the means for a relationship between the state and urban American Indian community members to participate in initiatives and educational decisions related to American Indian students residing in urban areas.
F. Ensure that parents; tribal departments of education; community-based organizations; NMPED; universities; and tribal, state and local policymakers work together to find ways to improve educational opportunities for American Indian students.
G. Ensure that tribes are notified of all curricula development for their approval and support.
H. Encourage an agreement regarding the alignment of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and state assessment programs so that comparable information is provided to parents and tribes.

I. Encourage and foster parental involvement in the education of Indian students.

| Goals |
|---|
| 1. Develop curriculum, activities and/or resources that are culturally and linguistically responsive and fulfills the purpose detailed above in this RFA for any of 22 nation/tribes or pueblos in New Mexico by June 11, 2021.<br><br>2. Create a plan for embedded high quality professional development for culturally and linguistically responsive curriculum by June 11, 2021. |
| **Include Budget Information**<br>For fiscal year 2021, NMPED intends to award up to a total of $1.8M in smaller increments; if the RFA is approved, award amounts will be made based on the cost proposal and timeline submitted with the application. |

| Timeline | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Action** | **Responsible Party** | **Due Dates** |
| Issue RFA | Region IX | January 5, 2021 |
| Submission of applications | Potential Applicants | February 5, 2021 |
| Evaluation of applications and final selection | Review Panel | February 8-12, 2021 |
| Award Letter | Region IX/Potential Applicants | February 12, 2021 |

## Eligibility

**The Eligible entities in NM that have:**

- a proven track record of working with citizens, students, businesses, K-12 educational institutions, non-profits, philanthropic organizations, etc., entities to further the appreciation of the diversity inherent in NM's rich cultural, historic, and linguistic Native American backgrounds;
- established in their own operating values, mission, and/or goals a quest to further the discussion and application of values and tenets responsive to the rich cultural, linguistic, heritage, and community diversity of the Nations, Tribes and Pueblos in the state of NM; and
- established practices in furthering the causes of restorative practices, equity-based practices, and representing accurate historical backgrounds in daily practice.

## Application

The on-line application can be started, saved and submitted. Offerors will be asked to provide the following general parameters for the above:

Submit a detailed project plan for the **Curriculum for Indigenous Communities** incorporating information provided above.

- If you are submitting as a consortium of institutions, all institutions should submit one application for all joint work. If one of those institutions will submit for additional work that will not be part of a consortium then that project should be submitted in a separate application.
- If your project would include utilizing other New Mexico based institutions such as research centers, cultural centers, or non-governmental organizations, this should be clearly outlined in your plan and costs should be indicated in the budget submission. It will be the responsibility of the awardee to negotiate and develop agreements with those other entities throughout the project under the direction of your identified contact liaison and in in concert with the REC and the PED.

Plan should include:

- An overall cost proposal, budget narrative and timeline. The expenditure of funds must be clearly tied to the activities described in the narrative sections of the application.
- A clear and thorough description of how the instructional/academic content of proposed curriculum, activities, and/or resources are culturally and linguistically responsive.
- Budget priorities must be centered on curriculum development, activities and/or resources that are culturally and linguistically responsive and fulfills the purpose. Income from other sources, including in-kind support from the LEA or the community **may** be identified, but are **not required**.
- Description for the use and compensation of personnel to be paid by grantee for the work described in this RFA. This can include details about cost-sharing (in-kind contributions) or the budgeted amount needed for assigning personnel such as graduate assistants or others to support project completion.

- Plan should include details about all grantees' personnel that will be assigned responsibilities for project completion as well as the proposed budgeted amount needed for that identified personnel. All personnel will be expected to interface with REC staff and PED staff throughout the project with at least one person designated as a contact liaison to support collaboration across all entities.
- Plans should include details about a project manager for the overall process who will coordinate and collaborate with the identified contact liaisons form higher education institutions as guided by PED personnel.
- A suggested schedule for convening working groups for each grade level K-12 with a narrative of what would be completed at each convening. Section should identify projected dates of convenings and demonstrate that project is completed by June 11, 2021.
- **Samples** of agendas, including schedule for virtual synchronous and asynchronous work sessions, and other documents described herein should be provided for consideration.
- Explanation of process from draft to final documents and how documents will be aligned in a K-12 format.
- Description of suggested participation of nations, tribes and pueblos in the process during the writing sessions.
- Include a reference list with titles, links for texts, research, etc. that would be utilized
- Plan shall include grade levels that will be covered in the indigenous curriculum and topics, dates for the development and implementation and if it will be used for on-line learning and if it will include cultural competency professional development.

Notes:

- REC IX will complete the payments.
- All documents will remain the property of NMPED as open-source materials for the service of all public institutions.
- Awardee is responsible for formalized drafts of curriculum and formatting should have consistent architecture throughout.
- Due to current health orders, all submissions should include the use of a virtual meeting platform.

**Award**

1. Multiple awards may be awarded. (Single Contract)
2. Region IX will execute a Professional Services Agreement with the awardee.
3. The awardee will provide Region IX Education Cooperative and the New Mexico Public Education Department (NM PED) the evaluation information provided in the application. (Provide goals and projected timeline)
4. The awardee will not discriminate against anyone regarding race, gender, national origin, color,

disability, or age.

5. The awardee will maintain appropriate fiscal and program records and fiscal audits of this program may be conducted by Region IX Education Cooperative or NMPED as a part of their regular audits.
6. All records of the program will be retained for five years and access to those records will be available for the purposes of review and audit.
7. If any findings of misuse of these funds are discovered, project funds will be returned to Region IX Education Cooperative.
8. This award is on a reimbursement basis with the final invoice submitted to Region IX Education Cooperative by June 24, 2021.
9. This award is a single year award and will expire June 30, 2021.

Interested parties can complete the on-line application at: R9 RFA 21009 Curriculum for Indigenous Communities