

DOI Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

Heritage (Tourism) Opportunities in Hawai‘i (HŌ‘IHI) Grant Program

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) D22AS00295

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM THE PRE-PROPOSAL INFORMATION SESSION

May 12, 2022

Note: Questions and Answers have been lightly edited for clarity and conciseness.

Question 1: Can a Native Hawaiian LLC apply?

Answer: It depends. The LLC needs to meet the definition of a Native Hawaiian organization as specified in the NATIVE Act (P.L. 114-221) Sec. 3(3): “Native Hawaiian organization” means a nonprofit organization—(A) that serves the interests of Native Hawaiians; (B) in which Native Hawaiians serve in substantive and policymaking positions; and (C) that is recognized for having expertise in Native Hawaiian culture and heritage, including tourism.

Question 2: Is there a recommended format for the project goal, objectives, outcome indicators, outputs, etc.?

Answer: There is no standardized template for the project narrative. Interested applicants should be mindful of the requirements in the project narrative to ensure there is a logical relationship between the statement of need, identification of project goals and objectives, and the work plan, schedule, and budget.

Question 3: Is assistance with scoping a project considered technical assistance?

Answer: Interested applicants will need to formulate the scope of their project proposal independently. Technical assistance for this Notice of Funding Opportunity is limited to information available to all applicants (e.g., completion of standardized forms in Grants.gov, etc.).

Question 4: The Notice of Funding Opportunity indicates that grants will be awarded by August 31st. If so, would September 1st be the earliest a project could start if awarded?

Answer: August 31st is an estimated date for awards. Actual awards and subsequent start dates are dependent upon the completion and execution of all grant award documents.

Question 5: Is there someplace where interested applicants can review examples of previous projects awarded under NATIVE Act grants?

Answer: Since this is the first year the HŌ‘IHI Grant Program is being implemented, there are no examples available. Interested applicants are encouraged to review the HŌ‘IHI Program objectives identified in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Question 6: As of now, is this program just a one-off and non-recurring?

Answer: This is the first year in which ONHR is implementing the HŌ‘IHI Grant Program. However, it is the second year that ONHR has partnered with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in

providing funding to Native Hawaiian organizations for NATIVE Act purposes. Continued implementation of the HŌ‘IHI Grant Program is dependent upon appropriations from Congress.

Question 7: If the proposed traditional cultural practice activity is not site specific, is it necessary to provide a geographical representation of where visitors will be conducting their activities?

Answer: No; however, if such information lends itself to better understanding the proposed activities, or regulatory compliance actions or permits that may be needed before project activities may begin, then it may be worth including such information in the project narrative.

Question 8: For questions about filling out the forms in Grant.gov (e.g., SF-424 form), who can I contact for assistance?

Answer: Assistance can be obtained from the DOI Interior Business Center point of contact listed in the Notice of Funding Opportunity: Matthew Reichert, Grant Management Specialist; Email: matthew_reichert@ibc.doi.gov; Phone: (703) 914-3710. Assistance may also be obtained from Tribal Tech representatives: Christine Celentano, Project Manager; Email: ccelentano@tribaltechllc.com Phone: (720) 588-2178; and Makana Reilly, Technical Assistance Coordinator – Hawai‘i; Email: makana@wopilallc.com; or through their on-line Technical Assistance Intake Form at: <https://www.bia.gov/service-page/technical-assistance>

Question 9: Are letters of support required or needed?

Answer: Letters of support are not required under this Notice of Funding Opportunity. However, if the project proposal involves additional partner organizations or individual subject matter experts, identification of those organizations or individuals needs to be included in the project narrative. A letter of commitment from those organizations or individuals, though not required, could be a means of demonstrating their involvement in the project. Letters of support are also an excellent way to show community support for a project.