

Let us take good care of what has returned

Wolankeyutomone Kisi Apaciyewik Fund

Photo by Mi'kmaq Nation Cultural Department

Request for Proposals

APPLICATIONS DUE
Sunday, January 31, 2027

WABANAKI COMMISSION
ON LAND AND STEWARDSHIP

The Wabanaki Commission on Land and Stewardship is accepting proposals for the 2027 Wolankeyutomone Kisi Apaciyewik Fund, which seeks to repair, rebuild, and sustain Wabanaki relationship, kinship, and access to place by directly helping Wabanaki people and institutions to fulfill their care-taking responsibilities of lands and waters across Wabanaki Traditional Territory, in what is now known as Maine.

Overview

2027 Funding Cycle

The Wabanaki Commission on Land & Stewardship is now accepting applications to the Wolankeyutomone Kisi Apaciyewik ("let us take good care of what has returned") Fund, which seeks to repair, rebuild, and sustain Wabanaki relationship, kinship, and access to place by directly helping Wabanaki people and institutions to fulfill their care-taking responsibilities of lands and waters across Wabanaki Traditional Territory, in what is now known as Maine.

The Fund is a Wabanaki-led, participatory grantmaking program that provides unrestricted funding to Wabanaki tribal governments, Wabanaki NGOs, and Wabanaki citizens.

Funding Period

Grants received from the Wolankeyutomone Kisi Apaciyewik Fund are flexible 1-2 year awards starting from the grantee award notification date, based on the needs of the grantee.

Award Notification

The Commission anticipates making award notifications for the 2027 application year at the end of April.

Eligibility

In addition to the eligibility requirements below, tribal government departments, nonprofits, and individuals who received funding in 2026 are not eligible to apply for funding again until 2028. *Applicants who applied in 2026 but did not receive funding are still eligible to apply in 2027.*

- ✓ **Wabanaki Tribal Governments:** any of the five federally recognized tribal governments in what is currently known as Maine.
- ✓ **Wabanaki NGO or fiscally sponsored organization:** A non-governmental organization or non-profit organization with a majority of Wabanaki individuals that make up the board of directors, staff leadership, and community organizers *(51% or more combined).*
- ✓ **Wabanaki Individual**: A citizen of one of the five federally recognized Wabanaki tribal governments in what is now known as Maine *(proof of citizenship required)*.

Funding Levels (Total Amounts)

All grantees receive the full funding amount allocated to their funding level. Ensure your budget narrative accounts for full funding.

- **Wabanaki Tribal Governments:** $75K
- **Wabanaki NGO or fiscally sponsored organization:** $50K
- **Wabanaki Individual:** $25K

Funding Focus Areas

The Commission is committed to funding people and organizations who do ***one or more*** of the following:

- Build involvement around land and culture, and bring elders and community members together around traditional uses of land and stewardship
- Create opportunities around cultural healing and Wabanaki connections to land
- Support Wabanaki access to places using appropriate access-building strategies (e.g. policy work, knowledge sharing, education about current opportunities)
- Help Wabanaki people who want to make their livelihoods through relationship with land (such as through guiding, canoeing, harvesting, hunting, etc.)
- Incorporate tribal language education in land stewardship activities
- Recognize the importance of our spiritual relations with one another, places connected to our ancestors and their activities, and our non-human relations

How to Apply



Photos by Mi'kmaq Nation Cultural Department, Sipayik Environmental Department, and Nolan Altvater (Passamaquoddy)

The deadline for completed applications is Sunday, January 31, 2027 by 11:59PM EST.

1. **Confirm your eligibility:**
   Please confirm you or your organization meet the eligibility criteria listed in the RFP above. Please contact us if you are unsure whether you are eligible.

2. **Ensure your work aligns with our focus areas:**
   Successful applications will describe how core aspects of their work align with ***one or more*** of the focus areas listed in this RFP.

3. **Review the "FAQs for Applicants" page on our website:**
   There may be questions that have already been answered that will help you submit your application faster.

4. **Complete and submit your application:**
   Your application can be submitted in the following ways:

   (1) Online Application: Visit our website to access the online application.

   (2) Fillable PDF: Use the fillable PDF linked on our website and email the final document and supporting materials to apply@dawnlandreturn.org.

   (3) Video Recording: Schedule a Zoom call with the Collaborative Fund Manager to record your responses over video.

Access the Application

Do you have additional questions or want to schedule a Zoom call? Please contact the Collaborative Fund Manager below for support.

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