



NCN Leadership Program 2017 - 2018 Mini Grant Request for Proposals

The Native CDFI Network (NCN) invites NCN Native CDFI Members to apply for a limited number of mini grants to support the development of core Native CDFI skills that include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Financial Management
2. Fundraising
3. Marketing & Communications
4. Community Facilities
5. Federal, State and Tribal Policy

Program Background:

The NCN Leadership Program provides NCN Native CDFI Member grantees with up to \$5,000 mini grants, training, mentoring and coaching. The Leadership Program is a member-tailored face-to-face and online NCN program that offers grantees a unique educational experience to develop core Native CDFI skills using tested and proven tools along with mentoring and coaching as needed. The first cohort will have 5 grantees. Grantees will be announced at the NCN Annual Meeting October 12-13th in Washington DC, and their grants will be featured in a dynamic roundtable format for participants to inform and learn from in a peer-peer learning environment.

In addition to the NCN Leadership Program, sustained peer-to-peer networking is provided for grantees. Grantees who complete the NCN Leadership Training Program the opportunity to join NCN Alumni, which provides:

- A forum for NCN Alumni to communicate with each other and facilitate the creative exchange of ideas and problem solving through supportive group discussion.
- An opportunity to exchange and share useful and relevant Native CDFI leadership information.
- A platform for job listings, events, and announcements.

Program Description:

NCN Native CDFI Members may request up to \$5,000 to cover costs associated with building core skills. This could include hiring a consultant, attending a training, purchasing software, etc. Funds will also be used to cover grantee travel and lodging costs associated with attending the NCN Annual Member Meeting in 2018. NCN does not provide overhead support or indirect costs to grantees. Grantees will also receive training, mentoring and coaching from NCN staff, partners or their peers to accomplish their



core skill building goals. The NCN awards committee will review the proposals and make funding decisions with guidance from NCN partners.

Eligibility:

All current, dues-paid NCN Native CDFI Members are eligible to apply.

Expectations:

Grantees are expected to fulfill the following requirements:

- Build the skills articulated in the proposal.
- Remain an NCN member in good standing for the duration of the grant.
- Make a presentation on the outcomes of the grant at the NCN Annual Member Meeting in 2018, using grant funds for their travel and lodging costs.
- Submit a mid-term and final grant report to NCN.

Proposal Components:

Proposals consists of three parts: cover sheet, narrative and budget.

1. Cover Sheet – the proposal must include a cover sheet with the proposed title, contact information of requester (name/title/affiliation, address, phone, email), and a short project description (200 words max).
2. Narrative – The narrative (2-4 pages) should include the following information:
 - a. Statement of grant objectives.
 - b. Grant personnel and consultants.
 - c. Description of specific core skill building activities.
 - d. Statement of anticipated outcomes.
 - e. Plan for evaluation of outcomes.
 - f. Proposed timeline.
 - g. Additional material may be included as appendices, is essential to explaining the proposal.
3. Budget – Please specify the costs to be incurred.

Proposal Deadline: September 1, 2017

**Submit Proposals as one PDF document by email to Kim Pate,
kim.pate@nativecdfi.net**