



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Howie Morales
Lieutenant Governor

STATE OF NEW MEXICO INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Wendell Chino Building, 2nd Floor
1220 S. St. Francis Dr.
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Phone (505) 476-1600
<https://www.iad.nm.gov/>



Josett D. Monette
Cabinet Secretary

Aurora Valdez
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Funding Agency:	New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (“IAD”)
Opportunity Title:	Tribal Community Garden
Total Funding Available:	\$229,200.00
Application Open Date:	August 11, 2026
Preference Priority Date:	August 31, 2026 at 5:00PM MST
Application Close Date:	Continuous until funding is expended
Period of Performance:	Date of executed agreement to June 30, 2027
Contact Person:	Karmela Martinez, Operations Manager Phone: (505) 479-2627 Email: karmela.martinez@iad.nm.gov

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the 2026 General Appropriations Act of the New Mexico Legislature, Chapter 67, Section 4(F), IAD receives recurring funds to support projects that benefit Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes (“NPTs”) in New Mexico. IAD has dedicated a portion of the funding to **Tribal Community Garden** projects. This Notice announces the availability of that funding.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this funding is to strengthen food sovereignty, community wellness, environmental stewardship, and cultural knowledge through community-led gardening initiatives. Funding will support Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes in establishing or expanding community gardens that provide education, hands-on gardening experience, gardening resources, and long-term sustainability.

Projects should increase access to healthy foods by encouraging community members to engage in gardening while preserving traditional agricultural knowledge, encouraging intergenerational learning, and building local systems that continue beyond the grant period.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

IAD has established the following application requirements for NPTs for this funding:

1. Complete the attached Tribal Community Gardens Application.
Applications must:

- a. Identify and address how the NPT will use the Tribal Community Garden funds to establish or expand tribal community gardens and how those resources will benefit your tribal community and/or Native American people in New Mexico.
 - b. Specify how you intend to expend awarded funds on or before June 30, 2027.
 - c. Include an itemized budget.
 - d. Include a letter of support from Tribal Leadership.
2. **Capital projects will not be considered.**

FUNDING USES

Funding may be used to establish or expand community gardens and related education that increase local food production, encourage gardening, and build sustainable food systems, including, but not limited to:

- Plan, develop, expand, or enhance community gardens.
- Purchase seeds, seedlings, soil, compost, mulch, gardening tools, irrigation supplies, fencing, raised beds, greenhouses, hoop houses, and other garden infrastructure.
- Conduct educational workshops and hands-on training on gardening, soil health, composting, water conservation, seed starting, food preservation, nutrition, healthy cooking, and other topics that support community food production.
- Provide participants with starter kits, seeds, tools, educational materials, or other resources to apply what they have learned in the community garden.
- Develop seed stewardship activities, including seed saving, seed collection, seed libraries, or seed exchanges that promote long-term sustainability and community access to locally adapted seeds.
- Support youth leadership, elder engagement, volunteer activities, school or community partnerships, and other efforts that strengthen community participation and long-term stewardship.
- Create educational materials, demonstration gardens, or other resources that enable the project to continue beyond the grant period

APPLICATION REVIEW CRITERIA

Successful awards will be assessed on their ability to meet most of the criteria listed below:

1. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the population being served.
2. Provide an organized plan to support an emerging program or expand an existing program.
3. Provide a budget with justification related to the project plan.
4. Provide a project timeline and budgetary obligations will meet Performance Period.

DELIVERABLES

Upon award, grantees will be required to fulfill the following deliverables:

- Participate in progress calls or meetings with a program monitor from IAD.
- Ensure project funds are expended by June 30, 2027.
- Submit quarterly reports detailing the progress and outcomes of the program. Quarterly reports should include information regarding the progress on the project and if necessary, how IAD can support the grantee in expending all funds.

- Submit requests for reimbursement with detailed invoices, receipts and other supporting documentation on a monthly basis, or as expenses are incurred. Please note that purchases or expenditures made before the date of the IAD Purchase Order will not be reimbursed.
- Submit a final report which includes an assessment of the stated need, impact made by grant funds, and challenges met during the project.
- Comply with all conditions of the Intergovernmental Agreement.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please submit all completed applications and supporting documents electronically to:
Karmela.martinez@iad.nm.gov.