



# NATIVE AMERICAN AGRICULTURE FUND

2024 REQUEST FOR  
APPLICATIONS WEBINAR

# HOW TO ASK QUESTIONS



- Submit questions via the Questions box
- We will do our best to answer all questions in the time allotted
- Additional resources will be provided following the Q&A session for those that are not able to have their questions answered today





# ABOUT NAAF

*Keepseagle v. Vilsack* settlement

Private charitable trust created in 2018

Expires in 2038

## NAAF Grants

Fast Track 2021

2019 - RRF 2022

2020 2023



**Tulsa, Oklahoma**

NAAF's 2023 Grantee Convening



# MISSION

*To provide business assistance, agricultural education, technical support, and advocacy services to Native American farmers and ranchers to support and promote their continued engagement in agriculture.*



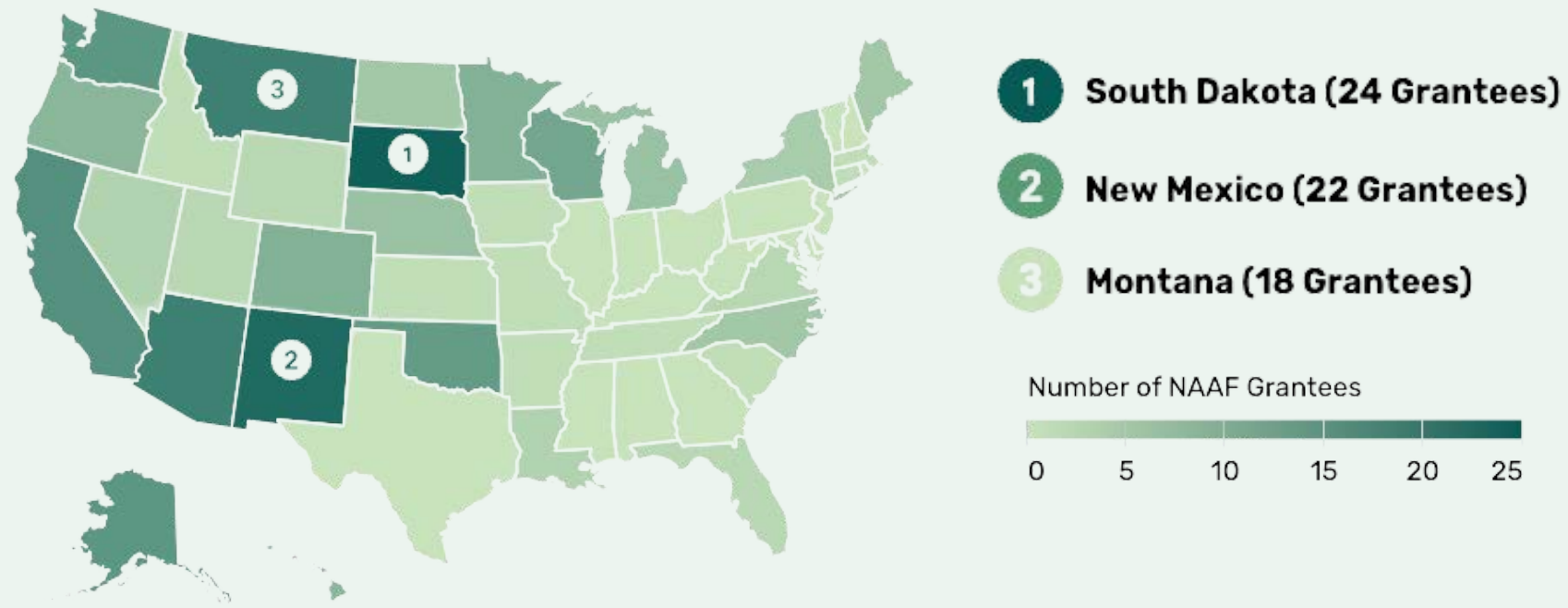
**Kingston, Washington**

Courtesy of Port Gamble S'Klallam Foundation



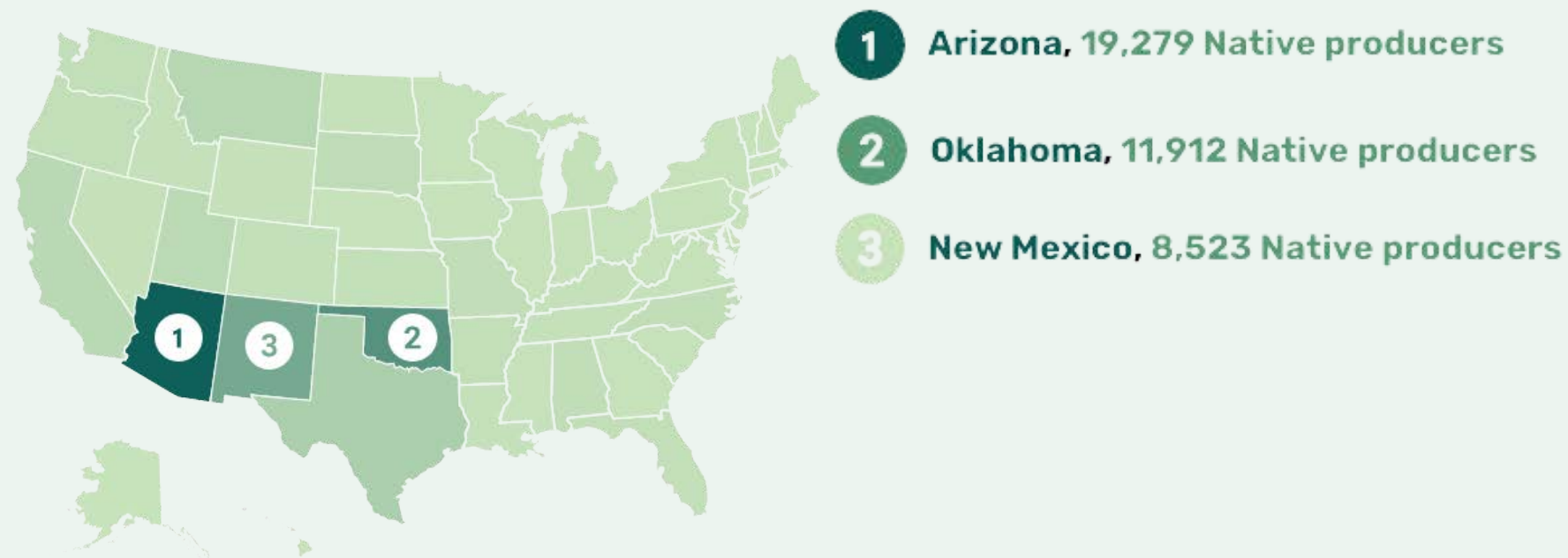
# NAAF GRANTEES FROM 2019-2023

## TOP THREE STATES WITH NAAF GRANTEES



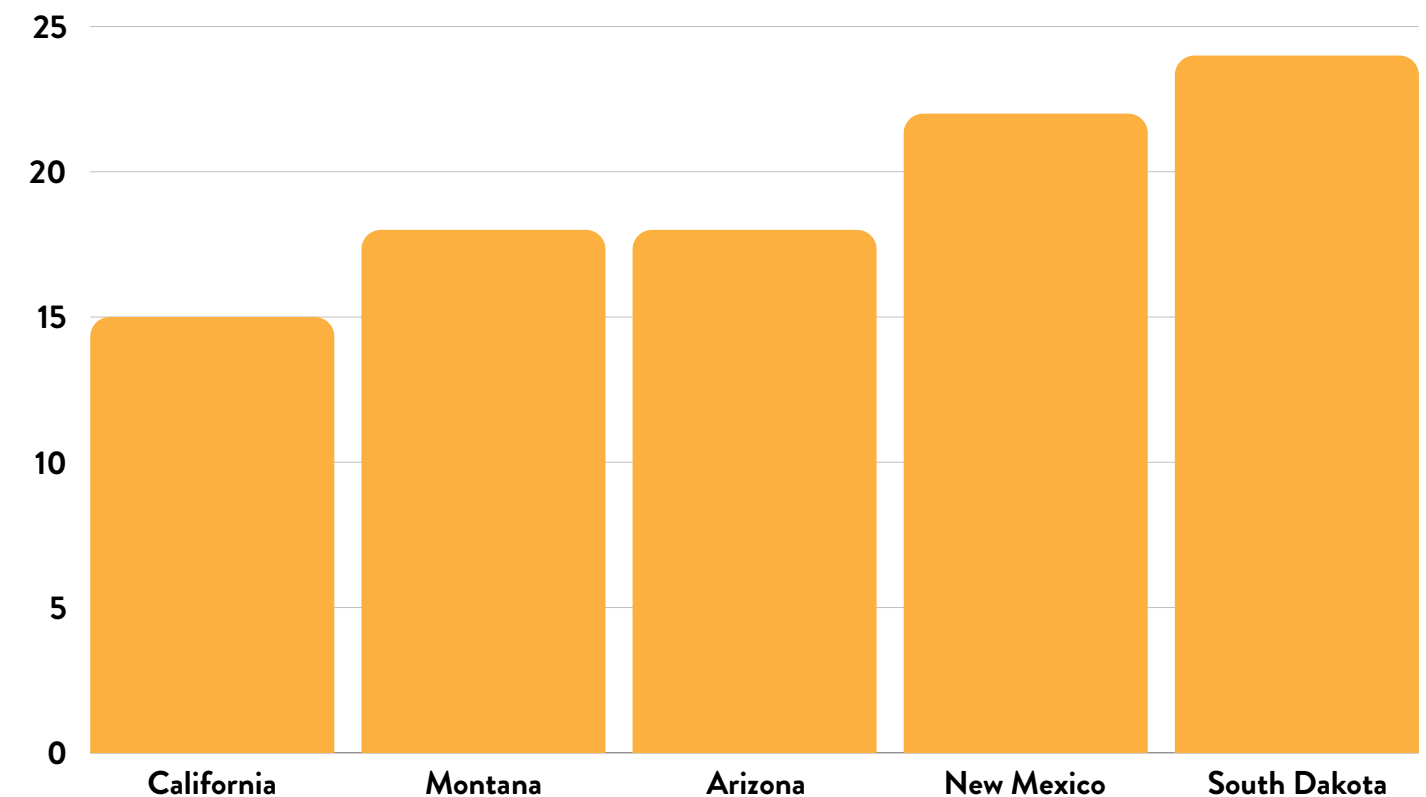
NAAF has funded \$67,000,000 in grants from 2019-2023 to Tribes, Non-Profits, Educational Institutions, and Community Development Financial Institutions

## NATIVE PRODUCERS THROUGHOUT THE US



According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture

## TOP FUNDED STATES INCLUDE: (BY TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTEES)





# 2024 RFA - YOUTH OVERVIEW







# ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

- 501(c)(3) organizations
- Educational organizations
- Community Development  
Financial Institutions
- Tribes and their  
instrumentalities

**Bismarck, North Dakota**

Courtesy of United Tribes Technical College



# IMPORTANT NOTICE



To ensure accountability and timely reporting, existing grantees who are not in compliance, such as those behind on quarterly, annual, and final reporting and updates relating to past grant awards and projects, will be ineligible to apply for 2024 funding.

- We also commit to working closely with each grantee who needs help bringing their existing projects into compliance.



NAAF encourages start-up nonprofit organizations that have applied for 501(c)(3) status from the IRS but not yet received a favorable determination to apply through a fiscal sponsor who can also provide important technical support for proposed project activities.

If fiscal sponsors are used, the fiscal sponsor must be an eligible 501(c)(3) organization and should follow the guidance in NAAF's fiscal sponsor information.

Note: The relationship between grantees and the fiscal sponsor is not managed by NAAF and are the sole responsibility of the grantee.



# IMPORTANT: FISCAL SPONSOR

**Ravenswood Market Stand**

Courtesy of Port Gamble S'Klallam Foundation



# NAAF 2024 RFA

- ALLOWABLE USE OF FUNDS
- COLLABORATORS, COOPERATORS, LEVERAGING
- UNALLOWABLE USE OF FUNDS
- ADDRESSING ACCESS TO CAPITAL
- LIMITATION ON INDIRECT COSTS
- INITIAL REVIEW ON ELIGIBILITY
- COST SHARING OR MATCHING FUNDS
- ELIGIBILITY OF PREVIOUS GRANTEES





# ACCESS TO CAPITAL

- Access to capital was at the core of the Keepseagle case
- A conversation on access to capital is available on our website
- Applications that don't address access to capital will not be funded in 2024

**Ramona, California**

Courtesy of Mesa Grande



# YOUTH PROGRAMMING



All Applicants for Youth Programming are required to use the separate application portal created only for Youth Programming.



Project Types: hands-on food production, support for FFA, 4H, or other youth groups, youth-led community projects, youth ag councils, scholarships, online youth ag activities.



Available pool -  
\$1,000,000  
Minimum - \$20,000  
Maximum - \$200,000



## **NOTE - BIE SUPPORTED OR CONTROLLED SCHOOLS**

NAAF is interested in investing in programs that provide information and guidance to Native youth interested in choosing food and ag as their future career choice, as well as specifically reaching out to Native students who attend these schools.

For the first time, Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools will be allowed to apply for funding.







**Hesperus, Colorado**

Courtesy of Fort Lewis College

# EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION REMINDERS

## BROAD DEFINITION

- Covers all those under Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) of the IRS Code, including K-12 and post-secondary institutions, such as
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)
  - Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions (NASNTIs), and
  - other institutions (must have history and experience in serving Native farmers and ranchers)

## FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- FRTEP involvement required at universities with the agents



# INSTRUMENTALITIES

Instrumentalities of tribes (state or federally recognized) can mean any number of things. Tribal governments have the latitude to determine which entities are instrumentalities of their governments; NAAF only needs proper documentation of that status. If an organization wishes to be considered as an instrumentality of a Tribal government, the organization must secure and submit an authorizing document from their tribal government to that specific effect. A statement from an organization other than a tribal government will not suffice for this purpose.



**Kaunakakai, HI**

Courtesy of Sustainable Molokai





# TRIBES - IMPORTANT REMINDERS

## LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

Required - no exceptions

## INDUSTRIAL HEMP

Feasibility or market studies only



# **SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY WAIVER**

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**Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF) is a private charitable trust created by the 2010 settlement of the Keepseagle v. Vilsack class-action lawsuit. The final settlement agreement provided for the distribution of grants to federal and state recognized Tribal governments and their instrumentalities. NAAF recognizes that Tribes are immune from suit or action as a sovereign government and that sovereign immunity is vital to the functioning of Tribes, and all of its subdivisions and subordinate bodies. The waiver of a Tribe's immunity from suit or action is occasionally required when entering into certain transactions.**

**Cont.** →



# SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY WAIVER

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The court-approved Trust Agreement that created NAAF contains a provision that requires Tribal governments to provide a limited waiver of sovereignty immunity in order to receive NAAF grant funding. The reason for this requirement stems from NAAF serving as a fiduciary of the trust funds with a duty to protect its funds from fraud or gross mismanagement.

For grant purposes, acceptable waivers of Tribal sovereign immunity are limited to the amount of the NAAF grant and to the duration of the grant relationship.

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# SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY WAIVER

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If a Tribe or Tribal entity wants to accept NAAF grant funding, it must work with the Tribe's legal counsel to adopt a waiver of sovereign immunity related to NAAF AND a resolution for the Tribal governing body.

- Tribal governments and instrumentalities must provide waivers and resolutions within three (3) months of receiving the NAAF grant award.
- Failure to submit an executed waiver and accompanying resolution in a timely manner will result in forfeiture of any award amount.
- Both documents can be pre-approved by NAAF to expedite the effort. Getting your documents pre-approved will save time during the application and post-award period.



# EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Impact on Access to Capital (25% weight)
- Proposed Results/Outcomes (25% weight)
- Farmer and Rancher Demand (20% weight)



- Team/Organizational Capacity and Collaborators (10% weight)
- Evaluation (10% weight)
- Innovation and Replicability (10% weight)





# APPLICATION REVIEW

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## COMPONENTS

- Outcome/Results Based Projects
- Access to Capital
- Budget and Budget Narrative
- Grantee Meeting
- Intermediary Funds
- Resume of Key Personnel
- Cover Letters
- Support Letters (optional)





COMPONENTS CONT.

# IMPORTANT NOTE

THERE ARE NOW ONLY 12 AND  
24 MONTH PROJECTS

We have decided to eliminate 18-month projects. Instead, grantees now have the choice to pursue projects lasting either 12 or 24 months. Please note that all grants retain the flexibility to complete their projects ahead of schedule.





# BUDGET NOTES

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- NAAF's Indirect Limit is 15%  
- no exceptions
- Applicants must follow the budget guidelines and use required templates
- Applicants must abide by request minimums and maximums as listed in each category





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# CRITICAL DEADLINES

**NAAF 2024  
GENERAL &  
YOUTH RFA  
CLOSES:**

May 1, 2024 at  
11:59 PM CT

**REMINDER:**

There is no  
opportunity to edit  
the application after  
the deadline



# FOUNDANT - ONLINE APPLICATION

- Returning applicants: logon with existing credentials
- New applicants: click "Create New Account" button to access application

## Logon Page

Email Address\*

The Email Address\* field is required.

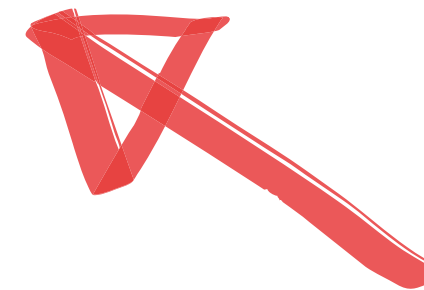
Password\*

The Password\* field is required.

Log On

Create New Account

[Forgot your Password?](#)



**Welcome to the Native American Agriculture Fund's Online Portal**

**New Users:** Please "Create New Account" to complete the registration process and create your logon credentials. Completing this step will enable you to enter the application site and begin your application.

**Existing Users:** If you have already created an account, please enter your credentials and log in. If you forgot your password, please use the "forgot your password" link to the left to reset your password.

**Not Sure?** If you think that you or someone within your organization or tribe may have already registered in the system, do not create a new account. Please contact [grants@nativeamericanagriculturefund.org](mailto:grants@nativeamericanagriculturefund.org) to confirm the correct login information and receive your username and password.

**Before you create an account be sure to review the following documents on our website:**

- The Trust Agreement
- The Application Instructions
- The full Request for Funding Application Questions

<https://nativeamericanagriculturefund.org/grants/>



# FOUNDANT - APPLICANT DASHBOARD

Native American Agriculture Fund



Apply

## Applicant Dashboard

Public Profile

Applicant:



Organization:



[Contact Email History](#)

*i* If your organization information does not appear correct, please click the edit (pencil) icon.

Active Requests **0**

Historical Requests **1**

*i* You do not have any Active Requests. Click [Apply](#) to begin the application process.



# FOUNDANT - HOW TO APPLY



Apply



Apply

Quick Search

2024 Request for Applications - General & Youth

Accepting Submissions from 03/01/2024 to 05/01/2024

Apply


Apply here to seek Targeted Funding for 501(c)(3) organizations, educational organizations, CDFIs, and Tribes/instrumentalities. This includes general focus and special focus areas (Climate and Regenerative Agricultural Practices and Additional and Additional CDFI and Native CDFI Support).

Preview



# FOUNDANT - APPLICATION





Native American Agriculture Fund **SANDBOX**

 [Home](#) [APPLY](#)


Application [c. ★ Public Profile](#) [Copy Previous Answers](#)


Process: 2024 Request for Applications - General & Youth


Contact Info Request Documents **0**

Applicant:   Organization:  

[Contact Email History](#)

[Application](#) [Question List](#) 

 Due by 05/01/2024 11:59 PM CDT.

 Fields with an asterisk (\*) are required.

Introduction





# QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION





# CONTACT US

Email

[grants@nativeamericanagriculturefund.org](mailto:grants@nativeamericanagriculturefund.org)

Phone/Voicemail

479-445-6226



# SAVE THE DATES

## Schedule of 2024 NAAF RFA Webinars

- Thursday, March 28th from 2-4 PM CT
- Thursday, April 9th from 2-4 PM CT
- Thursday, April 25th from 2-4 PM CT





