

Collaborative Capacity Program for Forests & Communities

Proposals due
Friday, July 12, 2024
11:59pm (MDT)



**National Forest
Foundation**

Photo by Tiffany Folkes

Our Team



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Webinar Overview

Today's webinar will provide:

- A broad overview of the program
- Details on the funding priorities for the Collaborative Capacity Program for Forests & Communities (CCP)
- Review proposal requirements and evaluation criterion
- Q&A



Background & Program Overview



What is the National Forest Foundation (NFF)?

- Congressionally chartered in 1991
- NFF works in close partnership with the USFS nationwide.
- NFF inspires people to get personally involved in caring for the 193 million acres of public lands that make up our National Forest System



How Do We Work?

- Direct site-based work
- Reforestation
- Conservation finance
- Grant programs
- Facilitate collaborative efforts
- Fellowship opportunities
- Inspire people to get personally involved through volunteering and donating



Photo by NFF



NFF's Conservation Awards Program

Since 2001 we have:

Provided
\$110M in
award funds

Funded
3,027
projects
nationwide

Conservation
outcomes
valued at
\$301M

On-the-ground
conservation and restoration

Capacity building of
collaborative groups



NFF's Conservation Connect Program



**Place-based
Collaboration**



**Regional &
National
Facilitation**



**Capacity
Building**

We bring people together to find shared solutions to our nation's most pressing forest stewardship challenges.



A photograph of a forest path. The path is narrow and made of dirt, leading through a dense forest. The trees are tall and thin, with some large, moss-covered logs on the ground. The atmosphere is misty and green, suggesting a temperate forest. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

Collaborative Capacity Program for Forests & Communities





Provides **resources**, invests in **skills and tools**, and supports **activities** that make Tribal co-stewardship and collaboration for forest stewardship successful.





An evolving tool and field of practice

Collaborative forest stewardship is when people work together to find shared solutions to complex forest management challenges, like extreme wildfire, climate change stressors, and concerns about sustainable recreation.



Equitable Decision Making and Inclusive Processes



Funding Available for CCP

\$2.5 million over three rounds

Round 1 application deadline:
July 12, 2024 11:59pm MDT

~25% for Region 6 (Oregon &
Washington)

~25% for Tribal Applicants
Pathway



Tribal Applicants Pathway

- Federally recognized Tribal governments and Tribal organizations are eligible for the Tribal Applicants Pathway
- Several ways that federally recognized Tribes engage with the Forest Service, including government-to-government consultation, collaboration, and formal agreements, such as co-stewardship agreements



All Applicants Pathway

- Nonprofit organizations, local government entities, state-recognized Tribal governments, and colleges and universities are eligible for the All Applicants Pathway
- If your organization or collaborative group does not meet this eligibility criteria requirement, it must utilize an eligible fiscal sponsor.



FUNDING for Tribal Applicants and All Applicants Pathway

Budget & Timing

- Awards range from ~\$10k to a maximum of \$150k
- Performance period will begin in September 2024
- Awards may run up to two years



Match

- Cash and in-kind match are encouraged, especially with requests over \$50k, in 2024 funding round
- Match is not a factor in project evaluation



Eligible Use of Funds for Tribal Applicants and All Applicants Pathway

- Must support collaboration or collaboration-based activities that aim to benefit National Forest System lands
- May not be used for on-the-ground project implementation activities
- Direct costs to support collaborative elements and activities

What's a Good Fit?



Good Fit for CCP

Efforts that focus on equitable and inclusive collaboration among multiple partners and/or between federally recognized Tribes and the Forest Service + that aim to benefit National Forest System lands.



Poor Fit for CCP

- Advocacy or litigation
- Equipment purchases for individual organizations
- Projects that are on-the-ground implementation only
- Operating costs not associated with collaborative efforts



What Makes a Competitive Proposal?

- Strongly fits overall program objectives:
 - Clearly describe the connection between investments in collaborative capacity and a long-term strategy that benefits National Forest System lands
 - Clearly describe geographically relevant communities
- Focus on the quality of the whole proposal
- Strongly address **all** evaluation criteria



Hypothetical Proposal

Grantee: Great Lakes Collaborative Forest Stewardship Network

Title: Building collaborative skillsets for equitable forest stewardship across the Great Lakes Region



Hypothetical Proposal



Grantee: Houston Sustainable Recreation Coalition

Title: Increasing sustainable and equitable recreation access from the Bayou City to the National Forests of East Texas



Hypothetical Proposal

Grantee: Tule River Tribe

Title: Co-Stewardship agreement
with Sequoia National Forest and
Tule River Tribe



Photo by iStock



Letters of Support

Tribal Pathway

- Letter of support from Tribal leadership
- If awarded, a Tribal resolution is also required

All Applicants Pathway

- Letter of support from Forest Service
- If an applicant includes Tribal organization(s) in the collaborative proposal, applications must include letter of support from the partnering entity



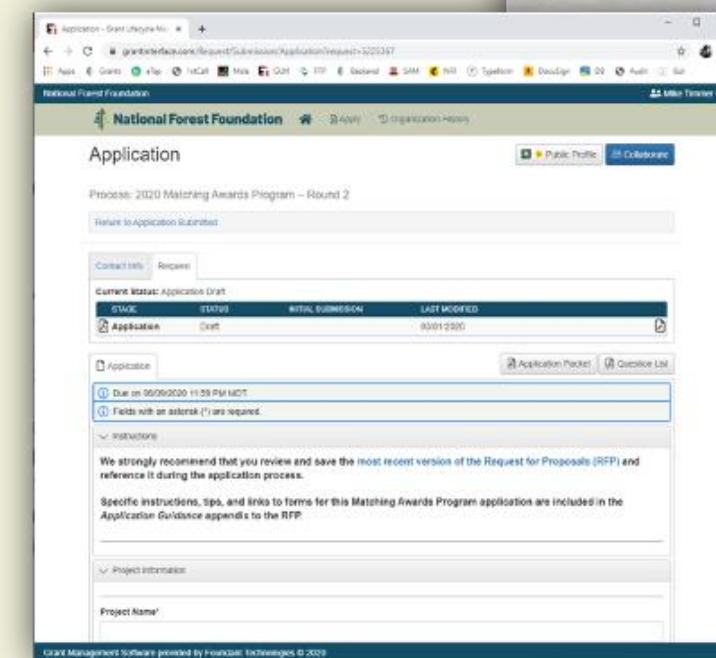
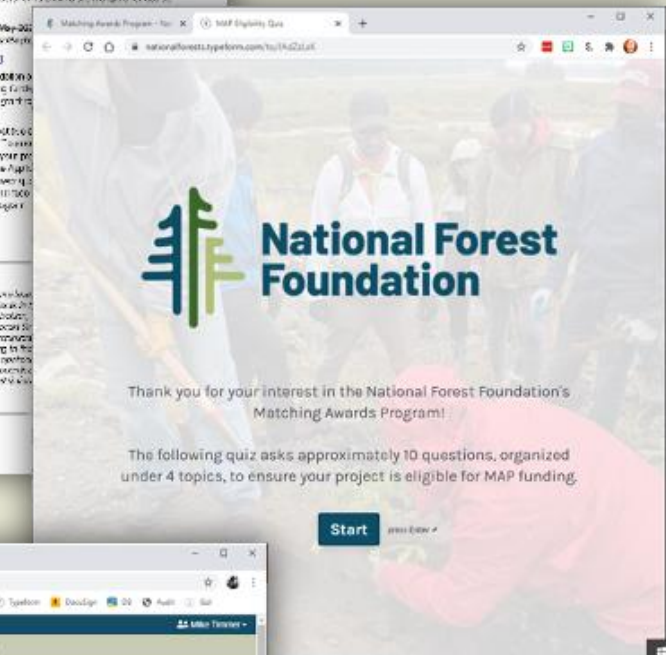
Application Process

Thoroughly review RFP

From RFP, access and complete pre-screening questionnaire

Initiate an application using the password available upon completion of questionnaire

Submit online application



Evaluation Criteria & Application Review

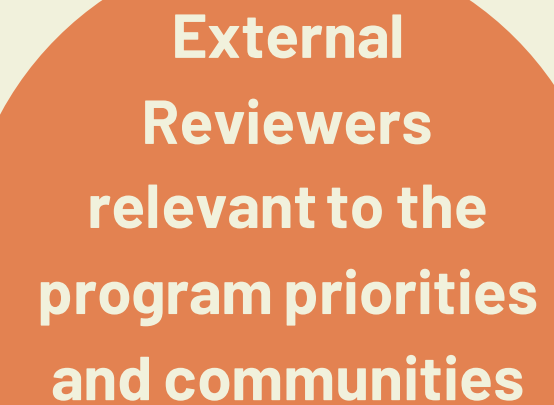
Proposals are reviewed by:



NFF Staff



USFS Staff



External
Reviewers
relevant to the
program priorities
and communities

Evaluation Criteria are listed in RFP and all criteria are weighted equally



Questions?

**Application Deadline:
July 12, 2024 11:59 MDT**

**Contact Information:
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