Tribal Energy Education Grant
2027 Request for Applications

The Bonneville Power Administration, headquartered in Portland, Oregon, is a nonprofit, self-funded federal power marketing agency under the U.S. Department of Energy that sells wholesale electricity from 31 federal dams and one nuclear plant to 142 electric utilities. BPA also owns and operates more than 15,000 circuit miles of high-voltage power lines and 261 substations and provides transmission service to more than 400 customers. BPA provides nearly a third of the electricity generated in the Northwest to millions of consumers and businesses in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, western Montana and parts of California, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. BPA's mission is to provide a safe, efficient, economical and reliable power supply for the region.

BPA provides about one-third of the electric power generated in the Northwest – primarily from reliable, dispatchable and flexible hydroelectric resources – and operates three-quarters of the region's high-voltage transmission grid. BPA's environment and land programs mitigate the effects of the federal hydropower and transmission systems, prevent environmental impacts and provide compliance with a host of environmental laws. More information about BPA can be found at www.bpa.gov.

Grant Program Goals and Objectives

The Bonneville Power Administration's Tribal Energy Education grant provides funding assistance to federally recognized tribes to advance awareness and understanding of the Federal Columbia River Power and Transmission systems and BPA programs. The grant also aims to strengthen BPA's government-to-government relationship with federally recognized tribes in its service area.

BPA is requesting proposals that support tribal education programming related to energy education. Proposals should be designed to strengthen the participants' awareness and understanding of areas such as electrical generation and transmission, energy conservation, hydropower, and other BPA program areas. Applications are due **Jan. 29, 2027.** Individual grant awards will not exceed $50,000.

Eligibility Criteria

- Application must be submitted by a federally recognized tribe within BPA's service area.
- Applications must demonstrate how the grant will be used for energy educational programming related to areas under the scope of BPA's mission such as transmission, energy conservation, hydropower/power generation, and other programs supporting BPA's mission.
- Proposed project must be implemented between **June 1-Sept. 30, 2027.**
- Tribes may submit more than one application; however, if multiple applications are ranked for selection, only the application with the higher score will be considered.

- Applications will be excluded from consideration if the applicant is found to be debarred, suspended or otherwise ineligible to receive federal funding.

Instructions for Applicants

Complete the Tribal Energy Education grant application and submit it to BPA Tribal Affairs at tribalaffairs@bpa.gov by **Jan. 29, 2027.** Please ensure your application is complete before submission. Incomplete applications may be disqualified.

This Request for Applications and Grant Application documents can be found on the BPA Tribal Affairs website.

Applicants **must** include the following information in the application template:

1. Contact information
2. Grant title
3. Program description
    - Include how the program supports tribal energy education programming.
4. Goals and objectives
5. Schedule/timeline
    - Estimated start and completion dates. Program must take place between June 1 – Sept. 30, 2027.
6. Describe how the proposed project will educate participants about the Federal Columbia River Power and Transmission systems as well as about BPA's mission and programs.
7. Statement of need
    - Why the proposed project is needed and how the requested funding is beneficial.
8. Total participants served
9. Cost share description (if applicable, cost share not required)
10. Total project budget (see Excel budget template)
    - Include the dollar amount of BPA assistance requested.
    - Provide itemized budget details with cost descriptions.
        - The line-item description should include quantity, cost or hourly rate, number of hours, etc.
    - Travel costs should be broken down to meet federal travel guidelines. Provide details on the number of miles, hotel and per diem costs at the federal rate using https://www.gsa.gov/travel-resources.
    - Amounts, descriptions and sources of other contributions/cost share
        - Cost share is not required. Applications with cost share do not receive preference.
11. Copy of the most current approved federal indirect rate (if it is included as part of the budget)
12. Copy of most recent Single Audit (unless the tribe's federal expenditure is less than $750k per year)

Unless publicly available or required to be made available under the Freedom of Information Act, information submitted by applicants will be used for evaluation only and will not be disclosed outside of BPA without the applicant's approval.

Proposal Evaluation

An internal BPA selection committee of subject matter experts, that does not include Tribal Affairs staff, will evaluate applications based on the evaluation criteria below.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated on each of the following criteria and rated on a scale of 1-5.

- **Criteria 1:** Application clearly explains the project goals and objectives.
- **Criteria 2:** Application provides a clear and reasonable approach to accomplishing the project within the performance period.
- **Criteria 3:** The proposed activity is clearly linked to energy education and related to BPA's mission and programs.
- **Criteria 4:** Application clearly describes how the proposed project will educate participants about the Federal Columbia River Power and Transmission systems, and BPA.
- **Criteria 5:** Provides clear statement of need including how the requested funding will be beneficial to program participants.
- **Criteria 6:** The application clearly provides budget details on how funds will be effectively used to serve program participants and meet program objectives.

Terms and Conditions of Award

BPA may fund all or part of a proposed project. Because this is a grant, grantees may request a 90-day advance payment by submitting Standard Form 270 to the Tribal Affairs Contracting Officers Representative if awarded.

- To view BPA's financial assistance terms and conditions, visit BPA's Financial Assistance Instructions Manual page and select "BFAI 23-1 - Full Text of Parts 1-8 and Appendices."
- Selected applicants are required to coordinate with BPA to finalize the statement of work and budget, discuss invoicing procedures and establish reporting requirements prior to the award.
    - **Documents required for the grant that are not finalized in a timely manner put the recipient at risk of not being awarded.**
- Award recipients are required to file a progress report halfway through the project, followed by a required statement of completion and final report at the end of the performance period.
- As appropriate, recipients are required to acknowledge BPA funding in public materials such as press releases, websites, handouts, signage, etc. Additionally, grantees are

required to coordinate with BPA Tribal Affairs prior to any press releases.
- The BPA Tribal Energy Grant awards recipients a one-time grant. It does not establish an ongoing funding commitment.
- The grant for the performance period will not be extended past Sept. 30, 2027.

Deliverables (Submitted no later than 30 days after the end of the performance period)

- Final report
    - A written report on grant activities completed.
    - Description of how the project educated participants about BPA's mission and programs (*If requested, BPA Tribal Affairs staff may be available to participate as part of the energy education program*).
    - If applicable, a copy of any publicity on the project (e.g., tribal newspaper articles, social media, video, etc.)
    - Final reports may be subject to FIOA and BPA may use quotes, content or photos from the final report(s) to highlight projects.
- A final federal financial report shall be submitted at the completion of the award agreement. Financial accounting should be consistent with the approved budget.
    - Complete a Federal Financial Report form (SF 425).
- Photos with captions of program activities and quotes from program participants or the program manager about the benefits of the program must be sent to your BPA Tribal Affairs contact by **Sept. 10, 2027.** Images and quotes may be utilized by BPA for public facing documents/digital media.

Schedule

- Applications will be accepted until **Jan. 29, 2027**.
- Applicants who are selected will be notified by **Mar. 11, 2027**.
- Selected applicants are required to coordinate with BPA to finalize the statement of work and budget, discuss invoicing procedures, and reporting requirements prior to award.
    - **Documents required for the grant that are not finalized in a timely manner put the recipient at risk of not being awarded.**
- Tribal Affairs anticipates awarding between two or three grants.
- Project implementation must take place **June 1, 2027 – Sept. 30, 2027**. Work must be completed by **Sept. 30, 2027** – performance periods **will not be** extended.
- Grantees will have 30 days after the end of the performance period to submit a final report. Grantees will be ineligible to apply on the next grant cycle if there are outstanding terms, conditions and deliverables incomplete by the due dates.

Point of contact

- Contact Tribal Affairs at 503-230-7685 for questions.
- Send completed applications to tribalaffairs@bpa.gov.