

Good Relatives Collaborative Grant

2026 Grant Application Overview

The Good Relatives Collaborative Grant application period opens **Monday, March 2, 2026, at 7:00 AM MST / 8:00 AM CST** and closes **Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 5:00 PM MST / 6:00 PM CST**.

Grants are awarded based on eligibility requirements and responses to the Letter of Application guiding questions. Applications will be reviewed and selected by an all-Native American community review panel comprised of individuals from Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

2026 Funding Opportunities

In 2026, the Good Relatives Collaborative will award:

- **8 grants of \$50,000**
- **8 grants of \$100,000**

Organizations may apply for **only one** funding opportunity. **Previous Good Relatives Grant recipients are eligible to apply.**

Eligible applicants must:

- Be Native-led nonprofit organizations with an annual operating budget under \$2.5 million
- Located in and serve Native communities in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, or Native Nations within the same geography.
- Geographic eligibility will be determined by your physical address and your IRS Letter of Determination or Incorporation documentation.
- Meet all eligibility requirements outlined below

Good Relatives Collaborative Native-Led Definition

To qualify as Native-led:

- At least **60% of the Board of Directors** must identify as Native American
- The Executive Director/CEO must identify as Native American

Eligibility Requirements

Grants will be awarded to **Native-led nonprofit organizations** that meet the following criteria:

Organizational Requirements

- Located in Minnesota, North Dakota, or South Dakota
- Serve Native communities within this geography
- Recognized as a:
 - 501(c)(3) public charity
 - Government entity (including schools or tribal governments)
 - Tribal program incorporated under Section 7871 of the Internal Revenue Code

Organizations without nonprofit status must have a **current fiscal sponsorship agreement** with a qualifying 501(c)(3) public charity or government entity.

Letter of Application Guiding Questions

Applicants are encouraged to reflect on the following themes when drafting their letter. You may focus on the questions most relevant to your work.

1. Being a Good Relative

- How does your organization reflect Indigenous values of relationship, reciprocity, and responsibility?
- What does being a “good relative” mean in your community?
- How does your work embody and advance those values?

2. Community & Impact

- What is the story of your organization?
- What inspired its creation, and what change are you working toward?
- Who do you serve?
- How is your work rooted in community leadership and needs?
- What impact have you made so far?
- How would this funding deepen or expand your impact?

3. Reciprocity & Sustainability

- How do you build relationships with others doing complementary work?

The logo for Good Relatives Collaborative features a stylized, light-colored geometric shape resembling a star or a flower with four points, centered behind the text. The text "GOOD RELATIVES" is in a large, bold, black sans-serif font, and "— C O L L A B O R A T I V E —" is in a smaller, teal-colored sans-serif font below it, with spaces between the letters.

GOOD RELATIVES

— C O L L A B O R A T I V E —

- How do you practice reciprocity within your organization and community?
- How do you incorporate community feedback?
- How will you sustain your work beyond this grant?

Applications will be reviewed by an all-Native American community panel.

Letter Format & Submission Instructions

- Letters may not exceed **80,000 characters**
- Format is flexible (narrative, storytelling, bullet points, or another format that reflects your voice)
- We strongly encourage drafting your letter in a Word document first
- Copy and paste the final version into the application text box before submission

Applications must be submitted by **Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 5:00 PM MST / 6:00 PM CST.**

Late applications will not be accepted, as adherence to the stated deadline ensures an equitable review process for all applicants and upholds the accountability and integrity of the grant funding program.