



Green Horizons Project Request for Applications

Welcome to the **Sovereign Equity Fund’s (SEF) 2025 Green Horizons** Request for Applications (RFA). SEF is proud to partner with the Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF) to administer the Green Horizons Project, a funding opportunity for Tribal governments that provides capital and capacity building to promote environmental sustainability in Native agricultural and food systems. The mission of the Green Horizons Project is to accelerate existing efforts that provide support for Tribal agricultural producers implementing sustainable practices on their farm(s) and/or ranch(es).

Request: \$40,000 for 12 months

Opens: March 1, 2025

Closes: June 15, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. Alaska Time

Apply Here: www.sovereignequityfund.org/greenhorizons

Eligibility

Green Horizons is an opportunity targeted for state and federally recognized Tribal governments. To determine eligibility, we reference the Federal Register’s list of federally recognized Tribes and each state’s list of state recognized Tribes. The lead applicant must be a Tribal government. To be considered the lead applicant, an entity must serve as the project lead/key personnel for the project, have oversight of the budget, and be the primary contact with SEF throughout the duration of the grant. Tribal governments may choose to partner with other entities including but not limited to 501(c)(3) organizations, educational organizations, and community/grassroots coalitions. Any prospective applicant with questions about eligibility should contact SEF to discuss their situation.

Opportunity

The Green Horizons RFA will fund Tribal governments to assist Tribal producers with implementing sustainable agricultural practices. This opportunity is best suited for Tribes that have an existing program and would like to amplify their impact with additional resources. We encourage projects that integrate traditional ecological knowledge while addressing any of the following elements of sustainable agriculture:

- Soil Health: Implement practices that improve soil fertility, structure, and/or vitality
- Water Use: Adopt practices that increase water efficiency and/or protect water quality
- Climate: Establish practices that reduce carbon emissions and/or sequester carbon

SEF seeks proposals that are collaborative, creative, and community oriented, and work toward rapid deployment of sustainable agricultural practices. The range of outputs acceptable for this category include agricultural/ecological restoration, program delivery, and capacity/skill building. Grant funds may be used for personnel, direct, and indirect expenses that contribute to projects on the ground. Although projects must be led by a Tribal government, the scope of work is not limited to only serving the Tribal members of that government. Each applicant is asked to identify the population of service that fits within the project vision. SEF’s objective is to provide funding for Tribal governments to amplify the reach of their existing sustainable agriculture work.

Evaluation

SEF will work with reviewers who have direct experience in sustainable agricultural practices. The reviewers will use standardized evaluation criteria to ensure a transparent, consistent, and thorough review of all applications. Points will be awarded according to how clearly, completely, and compellingly an applicant responds to the questions in the seven categories below.

	Points	Description
Vision	10	What is your vision for promoting sustainable agriculture in your service region? What have you been doing to realize that vision?
Contribution	20	How do you seek to contribute to that vision with this funding over the grant period? Are the practices you will promote relevant for your land and producers?
Plan	20	How will your project plan (i.e., objectives, activities, milestones, and outputs) lead to the intended contribution? How feasible is your plan?
Team	20	What experiences and expertise do the key personnel bring to the project? What capacity does the tribe have to support the project?
Budget	20	How will you use the grant funds to make your contribution?
Sustainability	5	How will your project contribute to long-term agricultural and/or environmental improvements beyond the grant period?
Evaluation	5	How will you measure your intended contribution and adjust the project plan along the way to best serve the community?

Process

Application Milestones	Date (2025)
Opens	Saturday, March 1
Closes	Sunday, June 15 at 11:59 pm Alaska Time
Review period	June - July
Decisions announced	August
Grants begin	Wednesday, October 1

The 2025 Green Horizons RFA **opens on Saturday, March 1** and **closes on Sunday, June 15 at 11:59 pm Alaska Time**. Only applications submitted through the online portal by the due date will be considered for funding. The online portal is operated by Foundant Technologies, a private company providing grantmaking software. Please refer to the Foundant Tutorial on our website for instructions on how to create a new account, apply for funding, view your applicant dashboard, access follow up forms, utilize the collaborator tool, manage applicant users, and more. We will post Frequently Asked Questions and update them as new questions come in to our team.

Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

SEF staff, reviewers, and board members have signed Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality statements and are pledged to ensure that all applications and related information are received and reviewed in compliance with SEF Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality requirements. SEF takes seriously its responsibilities in these two key areas and will take all precautions necessary to ensure that there are no real or perceived conflicts of interest among staff, reviewers, or board members when reviewing and making final determinations on projects selected for funding. SEF also takes seriously its responsibilities to keep all application materials confidential.

Grantee Responsibilities

If selected for funding, grantees will sign a grant agreement detailing the terms of the award and a media release form to allow SEF to spotlight their work publicly. SEF will work with Tribal governments to safeguard sensitive material. Grantees are required to provide quarterly updates and a final report with narrative and budget information.

Contact

Prospective applicants may reach out for technical assistance via email or phone call. It may take up to three (3) business days for a thorough response to your message. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Email: grants@sovereignequityfund.org