

**The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), Interior Business Center (IBC)
Acquisition Services Directorate (AQD)**

an agent for

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations
Kapapahulia Native Hawaiian Climate Resilience Program



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A. Program Description

A1. Authority

This notice is an initial announcement of a funding opportunity administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, Interior Business Center, Acquisition Services Directorate (AQD) as part of the U.S. Government Interagency Agreement between the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations (ONHR) and AQD.

[Inflation Reduction Act, P.L. 117-169, Title VIII Sec. 80002 Native Hawaiian Climate Resilience, 136 Stat. 2088.](#)

Assistance Listing

15.098 – Native Hawaiian Climate Resilience Program

A2. Background, Goal, and Priorities

Background

In Hawai‘i, sea level rise and ocean acidification have resulted in coastal flooding, erosion, and coral bleaching, causing negative impacts to nearshore fisheries, coastal communities, and traditional Native Hawaiian practices (e.g., salt cultivation and fishpond maintenance). Increased temperatures have led to coral bleaching and loss of native bird species and caused extensive drought that has exacerbated wildfire potential, increased damage by feral ungulates, caused loss of native plant species, and increased potential for soil erosion. Extreme weather events have caused extensive flood damage to homes, businesses, roads, and agricultural lands. In addition to these direct effects, climate change impacts in the continental U.S. and elsewhere in the world have led to supply chain disruptions and other economic impacts, policy shifts, immigration, and public health concerns that also affect Hawai‘i and the Native Hawaiian Community (NHC).

This NOFO draws upon and is intended to be consistent with several White House and Department of the Interior orders and policy directives, including those related to:

- Environmental Justice (E.O. [14096](#)) which acknowledges and seeks to serve the NHC as an underserved and overburdened people in Hawai‘i;
- Integration of Indigenous Knowledge – [OSTP/CEQ Memorandum](#) and [Guidance](#) that recognizes Indigenous Knowledge, including ‘Ike Hawai‘i (Hawaiian knowledge), as

one of the many important bodies of knowledge that contributes to the scientific, technical, social, and economic advancements of the United States and to our collective understanding of the natural world;

- Interagency Memorandum of Understanding for the Protection of Indigenous [Sacred Sites](#) which involves the early consideration of the protection and access to Indigenous sacred sites in agency decision-making – including sites considered sacred to the NHC;
- Interagency [Memorandum of Agreement on Native Languages](#) which includes the preservation and usage of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i (Hawaiian language) by federal agencies; and
- The [National Climate Resilience Framework](#), which establishes and articulates a national direction for climate resilience and provides objectives and principles for building a climate-resilient nation.

These policies and directives, coupled with current international, national, and regional climate assessments indicate that resilience through awareness, adaptation, and transformation is necessary in response to the effects of climate change.

Native Hawaiians have long recognized that culture and tradition connect people, families, and the NHC to one another and to the lands, waters, and all environmental manifestations that encompass Hawai‘inuiākea (the expanse of the Hawaiian archipelago). This understanding has created an important relationship with environmental nuances, processes, and changes, whether localized extreme weather events or larger climatic shifts. Ancestral ingenuity and adaptation in the face of environmental change was memorialized within mo‘okū‘auhau (genealogies), mo‘olelo and ka‘ao (traditions, histories, and stories –often referred to as Indigenous Knowledge).

This knowledge and understanding is demonstrated through traditional cultural practices over many generations, including, but not limited to: food cultivation, the arts, science and observation, voyaging and celestial navigation, language, religion, family care, health and medicine, natural resource conservation, and site preservation. These types of practices connect Native Hawaiians to the natural, physical, and spiritual environment in a manner that requires attention to change and the ability to respond, adapt, and evolve as necessary and appropriate to preserve the integrity of the Community at-large.

As the NHC stands on the front lines of climate impacts, the relationships and knowledge that are held as a collective are integral to achieving and sustaining resilience in the face of climate change. As the late Dr. Noa Emmett Auwae Aluli, MD, once said, “*The health of our lands (‘āina), is the health of our people (kānaka ‘ōiwi), is the health of our nation (lāhui).*”

Program Goal

To assist the NHC in preparing the Kō Hawai‘i Pae‘āina (the Hawaiian archipelago) for its voyage into a changing climate, ONHR has established the Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience Program. The name Kapapahuliau seeks to provide the imagery and foundation (papa) of a

voyaging wa‘a (canoe) and crew experiencing the changes (huli) in wind and currents over time (au), and adjusting sails or direction accordingly while maintaining a course to the targeted destination. It embodies a process of learning and transforming by recalling Native Hawaiian ancestral ingenuity in adaptation and provides a foundation for the ONHR to support the NHC to learn and take actions to prepare for threats and hazards, adapt to changing conditions, and withstand and recover rapidly from adverse conditions and disruptions.

The goal of ONHR’s Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience Program is to enhance the ability of the Native Hawaiian Community to navigate the effects of climate change in ways that maintain the integrity and identity of the Native Hawaiian people while also maintaining and enhancing their capacity for coping, adaptation, and transformation.

Program Guiding Principles

In compliance with Congress’ requirement in the Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169, Sec. 80002) to conduct climate resilience and adaptation activities that serve the NHC, Kapapahuliau is centered around the following five Guiding Principles for which actions are carried out to support the overall Program Goal:

- Aloha ‘Āina (love for the land): The Hawaiian Islands and its environment are essential to NHC identity.
Native Hawaiians have lived in Hawai‘i since time immemorial, developing an epistemology, culture, values, and society rooted by the distinct physical and spiritual relationships to ‘āina (the land, that which sustains) for which they are from. The cosmogonic genealogy and creation chant, Kumulipo (source of primordial darkness), reflects this understanding and anchors Native Hawaiians to Hawai‘i by emphasizing a familial and reciprocal relationship to this land and its environment - where “*Hawai‘i cares for us as we take care of Hawai‘i*”. For Native Hawaiians, ‘āina is the lifeblood and center of identity, way of life, and culture and, as such, cannot be replicated anywhere else on Earth. Therefore, preservation of the Hawaiian Islands in the face of climate change is essential and vital to the identity of Native Hawaiians and resilience of the NHC.
- Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHO) currently represent the collective NHC.
The United States recognizes and respects that improved outcomes and resolution of challenges affecting the NHC and its resources and interests are best achieved when informed and implemented by the Community itself. Through numerous statutes addressing vital functions, activities, needs, and concerns of a vibrant, self-determining community (e.g., health, cultural preservation, burials, economic development, education, etc.), Congress involved NHOs in their respective areas of expertise as the appropriate representatives of the NHC.

For this funding opportunity, ONHR reinforces this principle of self-determination and values NHOs as best suited to strengthen Native Hawaiian climate resilience. It is

further understood that there is considerable diversity among NHOs with respect to their mission, location, relationships with others, and operational or administrative capacity. Therefore, applicant eligibility is limited to NHOs (as defined in Section C below) and three categories of financial assistance are available to support and build capacity among a broad array of NHOs facing climate change related issues.

- Climate threats and impacts require multi-sector and multi-generational approaches.
It is well understood that climate change has resulted in a range of impacts across a multitude of marine and terrestrial environments affecting habitats, resources, and communities within them. These impacts have a broad reaching effect on the NHC and its integrity and will likely intensify (if unmitigated) through the remainder of this century – affecting multiple generations of Native Hawaiians. Better understanding of the multitude of impacts across the Hawaiian Islands, across different sectors, and over different time scales will provide a broader approach for appropriate adaptation and transformational activities to occur. Therefore, project proposals from NHOs involving a range of sectors or subject areas important to Native Hawaiians (e.g., cultural preservation, traditional foods, arts, health and well-being, socio-economic issues, policy, technology, education, etc.), as well as those involving youth engagement, are encouraged.
- Native Hawaiian climate resilience must incorporate cultural knowledge systems and ingenuity.
There is a Hawaiian proverb (‘ōlelo nō‘eau), “*Ua lehulehu a manomano ka ‘ikena a ka Hawai‘i* – Great and numerous is the knowledge of the Hawaiians”, that reflects the immense multitude of Indigenous Knowledge that exists for Native Hawaiian ways of life. Application and usage of kilo (observations), loea (ancestral ingenuity), and ‘ike kūpuna (traditional knowledge) in the face of environmental change were memorialized within mo‘okū‘auhau (genealogies), oli (chants), mo‘olelo and ka‘ao (traditions, histories, and stories), and other forms of Indigenous Knowledge over centuries across the pae‘āina (Hawaiian archipelago). NHO applicants are therefore expected to utilize such Indigenous Knowledge systems in their project proposals as application and integration ensures pilina (connection), continuity, and resilience of the NHC.
- Kuleana (Right & Responsibility) to advance NHC resilience through dialog and shared learning.
Grant-funded projects are often conducted independently and the results or outcomes of the activity have little dissemination beyond the grantor and grantee. Thus, knowledge gained and lessons learned by the grantee are not readily available to others facing similar circumstances. The ‘ōlelo nō‘eau “*E lauhoe mai nā wa‘a; i ke kā, i ka hoe; i ka hoe, i ke kā; pae aku i ka ‘āina* - Paddle the canoes together, bail and paddle, paddle and bail; and land will be reached”, is a reminder that if everyone works together with a will, the destination or goal will be reached. Further, this Hawaiian proverb recognizes that the voyage is long and expresses a kuleana for applicants to include shared learning, youth engagement, and/or outreach as a part of their projects in order to increase NHC resilience to climate change. Additionally, opportunities will be created by ONHR for dialog, reporting, and shared learning among Kapapahuliau financial

assistance recipients and their participation in such convenings will be required as a condition of award.

Climate Resilience Priorities and Financial Assistance Categories

Within the context of the overarching Program Goal and Guiding Principles, the Kapapahuliau Program has been designed with three (3) Climate Resilience Priorities and three (3) Financial Assistance Categories to support NHOs needing financial assistance to conduct adaptation and/or resilience activities that can have an impact on how the NHC moves into the future with respect to climate change. Given the role the pae‘āina plays in the health and culture of Native Hawaiians, efforts must be focused on or conducted in Hawai‘i.

The Kapapahuliau Program seeks to support projects from an array of disciplines across all priority areas and financial assistance categories. A description of the Program Priorities and Financial Assistance Categories are provided below.

The Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience Program Priorities are:

1. Coping with Past and Present Climate Change Related Impacts (Coping Response)
 - Activities eligible for funding may include but are not limited to: repair and recovery of structures or cultural sites, responding to inadvertent discoveries of Native Hawaiian burials in coastal areas (iwi kūpuna), environmental restoration, invasive species removal, endangered species protection, Native Hawaiian youth programs for climate change and Indigenous Knowledge, and mental health care and counseling related to climate impacts.
 - Examples of climate change related impacts include such things as: floods, wildfire, coastal erosion, sea-level rise, habitat/ecosystem disruption, extreme heat, and extreme weather events.

2. Adaptation to Climate Change (Adaptation)
 - Adaptation refers to changes in current understanding and practices in anticipation of, or preparation for, future climate change-related events. It enhances the ability of the NHC to absorb, withstand, respond to, and/or recover rapidly from disturbances linked to extreme weather events and climate hazards. Adaptation is often described as an iterative process involving a cycle of adaptation actions.
 - If applying under this Priority, applications should involve one or more of the following actions.
 - Increased awareness of, or learning about, climate change via training, workshops, or conferences;
 - Risk or vulnerability assessments and planning studies to prepare for climate change impacts;
 - Implementation of adaptation plans and strategies through on-site work, youth, and community engagement; and/or
 - Monitoring and evaluation of past adaptation actions, including research, analysis, and knowledge sharing for new adaptation actions.

3. Creating Opportunities for Innovation, Transformation, and Systemic Change (Transformational)
 - These types of activities may involve innovation, systemic change, and novel or “out-of-the-box” thinking with respect to addressing climate change impacts to the NHC. Examples might include, but are not limited to, policy research and analysis, technological advancements, resource management, sustainability, self-governance, co-stewardship, economic opportunities, or health and wellness; as well as Native Hawaiian innovation in culture, arts, media, technology, knowledge, health, energy, or education.

This funding opportunity includes the following three (3) distinct and exclusive financial assistance categories:

1. Kiakahi (Individual NHO) – Named for a single-masted sailing canoe, Kiakahi applicants are those who propose a single project resulting in outcomes that support the applicant and the constituents it serves.
2. ‘Auwa‘a (NHO Collaboration) – Named for a fleet of sailing canoes, ‘Auwa‘a applicants are those that represent a group of identified partners collaborating on a joint project with shared outcomes. The NHO applicant for an ‘Auwa‘a award is considered the lead organization responsible for reporting and cost accounting requirements for the collaborative partnership. Collaborations may be comprised of partner organizations that serve the needs and interests from:
 - A particular area [e.g., ahupua‘a (land tract), moku (district), mokupuni (island)];
 - An association of member organizations; and/or
 - A particular community of practice [e.g., agriculture, aquaculture, arts, health, etc.].
3. Ho‘okele (NHO Grant-Maker) – Named for the helmsman or navigator of a canoe, Ho‘okele applicants are those who have the administrative capacity and experience to provide financial and technical assistance to sub-recipient NHOs (sub-recipient NHOs must meet the same eligibility requirements as recipient NHOs) from underserved or disadvantaged communities that need assistance but often lack the administrative capacity to be successful in a competitive grant environment. Sub-recipient NHOs may be from:
 - A particular area [e.g., ahupua‘a (land tract), moku (district), mokupuni (island)];
 - An association of member organizations; and/or
 - A particular community of practice [e.g., agriculture, aquaculture, arts, health, etc.].

Using the visualization of a grid of intersecting Climate Resilience Priorities and Financial Assistance Categories, nine (9) different options for project proposals can be considered. These options and a few examples are provided for reference below:

1. Kiakahi / Coping Response:
 - An NHO that stewards a cultural site repairing damage caused by a recent storm event.

2. Kiakahi / Adaptation:
 - A Hawaiian Homestead Association conducting a vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan for their homestead.
3. Kiakahi / Transformational:
 - An NHO involved in technology development exploring generative artificial intelligence applications for climate resilience related Indigenous Knowledge preservation.
4. ‘Auwa‘a / Coping Response:
 - An NHO-led partnership of Native Hawaiian social and health care providers offering counseling and mental health assistance to a particular island or region affected by a climate-related impact such as drought, fire, or floods.
5. ‘Auwa‘a / Adaptation:
 - An association of youth-oriented NHOs involved in educating Native Hawaiian youth on traditional agriculture, invasive species threats, food & water security, and participating in volunteer program to enhance cultivation and eradicate invasive species affecting their food crops.
6. ‘Auwa‘a / Transformational:
 - A collaboration of NHOs conducting policy research to further the establishment of community-based resource management areas to better conserve and protect key subsistence foods and cultural resources.
7. Ho‘okele / Coping Response:
 - An NHO with grant-making capacity and expertise in post-disaster recovery seeking to support NHO in the affected area(s) with restoration and redevelopment actions that address Native Hawaiian social, cultural, knowledge, and economic interests.
8. Ho‘okele / Adaptation:
 - An NHO with grant-making capacity and expertise in coastal habitats and shoreline processes seeking to support NHO sub-recipients needing training and technical assistance to monitor the effects of sea-level rise, coastal erosion, and coral bleaching on the areas and resources they work with.
9. Ho‘okele / Transformational:
 - An NHO with grant-making capacity and expertise in indigenous knowledge and epistemology seeking to support NHOs involved in Native Hawaiian primary and secondary education curriculum development to preserve cultural traditions and explore knowledge creation as climate change affects Hawai‘i and its resources.

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimated Total Funding

\$20,000,000

B2. Award Amount

Maximum Award

Category 1: Kiakahi (Individual) – \$1,000,000

Category 2: ‘Auwa‘a (Collaborative) – \$2,000,000

Category 3: Ho‘okele (Grant-Maker) – \$ 5,000,000

Minimum Award

Category 1: Kiakahi (Individual) – \$100,000

Category 2: ‘Auwa‘a (Collaborative) – \$500,000

Category 3: Ho‘okele (Grant-Maker) – \$ 2,000,000

B3. Anticipated Award Funding and Dates

Anticipated Award Date

August 1, 2024

B4. Anticipated Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards

Category 1: Kiakahi (Individual) – 6 - 10 (Estimated Average Award: \$500,000)

Category 2: ‘Auwa‘a (Collaborative) – 6 - 10 (Estimated Average Award: \$1,000,000)

Category 3: Ho‘okele (Grant-Maker) – 3 (Estimated Average Award: \$3,500,000)

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type

G – Grants (for Categories 1 and 2 / Kiakahi and ‘Auwa‘a awards). Substantial involvement is **not** expected between the ONHR and the recipient when carrying out the activities contemplated in the agreement.

CA – Cooperative Agreements (for Category 3 / Ho‘okele awards)

The recipient should expect the ONHR to have substantial involvement in the project. Prior to submitting an application, applicants are encouraged to contact prospective NHO sub-recipients where the work is proposed to take place to discuss proposed projects in order to determine eligibility under the ONHR priorities and criteria described in this NOFO. Substantial involvement may include, but not be limited to, such things as:

1. Collaboration between the ONHR and applicant/primary recipient in carrying out management, development, implementation, operation, monitoring and evaluation of the proposed work;

2. Training and technical assistance for sub-recipient personnel;
3. Review and approval by the ONHR of one stage of work prior to the start of the next stage;
4. Review and approval by the ONHR of modifications or sub-awards prior to their award;
5. Participation in selecting recipient project staff; and/or
6. Ability to immediately halt work because of failure to meet agreement objectives.

B6. Funding Limitations and Award Amounts

The funding periods and amounts referenced in this solicitation are subject to the availability of funds at the time of award, as well as the DOI priorities at the time of the award. Publication of this solicitation does not obligate DOI to award any specific grant or to obligate all or any part of available funds. Future funding is subject to the availability of appropriations and cannot be guaranteed. DOI may cancel or withdraw this solicitation at any time.

C. Eligibility Information

C1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants

25 – Others (see text field entitled “Additional Information on Eligibility” for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility For this financial assistance opportunity, applicants for all Financial Assistance Categories (Kiakahi, ‘Auwa‘a, and Ho‘okele) must meet the following definition of, and criteria for, a “Native Hawaiian Organization.”

“Native Hawaiian Organization” or “NHO” means a non-profit organization — (A) that principally serves or benefits the Native Hawaiian Community, (B) that is composed primarily of Native Hawaiians, who also control or serve in substantive leadership and decision-making roles; and (C) that has demonstrated expertise in Native Hawaiian heritage, economic development, health and well-being, self-governance, or natural and cultural resources management. Native Hawaiian Community means the distinct Native Hawaiian indigenous political community that Congress, exercising its plenary power over Native American affairs, has recognized and with which Congress has implemented a special political and trust relationship. Native Hawaiian means any individual who is a descendant of the aboriginal people who, prior to 1778, occupied and exercised sovereignty in the area that now constitutes the State of Hawai‘i.

All applicants are required to include in their application submission, per Section D. below, an attestation or certification signed by a duly authorized NHO representative (such as the Executive Director, CEO, or Board of Directors) acknowledging that the NHO meets the definition and criteria of an NHO specified above. For Category 2 (‘Auwa‘a) and 3 (Ho‘okele)

awardees, all partners NHOs and subawardees, respectively must indicate and include such an attestation.

Registration or placement on the List of NHOs maintained by ONHR is not a pre-requisite or requirement for submitting an application, nor does it confer eligibility as an NHO in lieu of the attestation or certification per Section D.

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

Cost sharing, as in matching funds for the project provided by other sources other than this grant, is not required for this funding announcement. Any voluntary cost sharing or matching does not impact application review and evaluation and must be consistent with the requirements of 2 CFR 200.306.

C3. Other

Excluded Parties: AQD conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award. AQD cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this federal program.

C. Eligibility Information

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Eligible Applicants

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C3. Other

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D. Application and Submission Information

This Notice of funding REQUIRES registration in SAM.gov and Grants.gov. DO NOT WAIT! Register in SAM.gov and Grants.gov as soon as possible. Finalizing these registrations could take a month or more. You do not want a late registration to prevent you from being able to properly and timely submit your application through Grants.gov. Additional information about the SAM.gov Unique Entity Identifier is included in section D3 below.

D1. Address to Request Application Package

For more information, visit the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations website at: www.doi.gov/hawaiian/climate-resilience or contact Brad Ka‘aleleo Wong, Kapapahulia Climate Resilience Project Manager at: bradley_wong@ios.doi.gov.

D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

All applicants seeking financial assistance in one of the three categories in this funding opportunity (Kiakahi, ‘Auwa‘a, or Ho‘okele) are required to submit the following forms and

documents in accordance with the instructions provided below. Please review this section carefully, especially for ‘Auwa‘a and Ho‘okele applicants, as there are “Additional Requirements” for the Project Narrative and Budget Justification and Narrative.

Application Forms and Documents:

- Application for Federal Assistance ([SF-424](#))
- Project Abstract Summary ([OMB Form #4040-0019](#))
- Project Narrative
- Additional Project Narrative Requirements for ‘Auwa‘a Applicants
- Additional Project Narrative Requirements for Ho‘okele Applicants
- Budget Justification and Narrative
- Additional Budget Narrative Requirements for ‘Auwa‘a Applicants
- Additional Budget Narrative Requirements for Ho‘okele Applicants
- Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs ([SF-424A](#))
- Attestation or Documentation Confirming Eligibility
- Certification Regarding Lobbying
- SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities ([SF-LLL](#))
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- Partnership Letters of Commitment (‘Auwa‘a applicants only)
- Letters of Support (Optional)
- Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
- Single Audit Reporting Statement
- Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

All applications for financial assistance under this funding opportunity must be submitted through Grants.gov. All standardized forms (SF-424, OMB Form #4040-0019, etc.) are available in Grants.gov, [SF-424 Family | GRANTS.GOV](#).

The Project Cover Sheet, Project Narrative, and any supporting documents shall be saved in an Adobe Acrobat .pdf file format and submitted electronically through the [Grants.gov](#) website no later than the submittal deadline noted in Section D4. See Section G for additional details regarding application submission and Grants.gov registration.

Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

Applicants must submit the appropriate Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. The required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. The SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance must be completed, signed, and dated. Do not include any proprietary or personally identifiable information. Please note: Enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in the “Federal” funding box on the SF-424 Application form. Include any other federal sources of funding in the “Other” box and provide details on those federal source(s) and funding amount(s) in the required Budget Narrative (see the “Budget Narrative” section below).

Project Abstract Summary (OMB Form #4040-0019)

Please complete and submit with your application package the Project Abstract Summary Form (OMB Form #4040-0019). The Project Abstract section should summarize the project purpose, activities to be performed, expected deliverables or outcomes, intended beneficiaries, and if applicable, any sub-recipient activities. Please also include the intended Kapapahuliau program priority/priorities being addressed and the award category you will be applying for. This information will be transmitted to USAspending.gov and be viewable by the public for successful applicants receiving funding awards.

Project Narrative

Project Cover Sheet (Not to exceed 1 page)

1. Project Title
2. Native Hawaiian Organization applicant name
3. Financial Assistance Category sought (Section A2. Kiakahi, ‘Auwa‘a, or Ho‘okele)
4. Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience Program Priority(s) being addressed (Section A2.)
5. Project Partner Organizations (‘Auwa‘a applicants only)
6. Project Duration (May not exceed 60 months)
7. Budget Summary: Total federal funds requested, total project cost, and cost-sharing (if applicable, although not necessary)
8. Project Location(s) in Hawai‘i

Project Summary, Goals, and Objectives

1. Describe the project location(s) in Hawai‘i and the audience the project is seeking to assist, demonstrating the needs of that area and audience for this project. Share any information about relevant history or any changes that have occurred over time as it relates to climate change. Include any relevant maps.
2. Summarize the purpose and overall mission of the project.
3. Describe the project’s goals and objectives and how they align with the specific Kapapahuliau Program Priority being addressed. The project goals and objectives must be specific, measurable, and realistic (attainable within the project’s proposed project period). Please refer to “Project Monitoring and Evaluation” section below for expectations on using these goals.
4. Explain how the project’s outcomes will address the overall goal of Kapapahuliau to increase resilience of the NHC to the effects of climate change.
5. Describe how Native Hawaiian cultural knowledge systems, practices, methodologies, or ways of knowing are integrated into the project to address the current challenges of climate change and/or provides support for resilience. This can be integrated into project aspects as a part of the foundation of program design/structure, content, education, research, implementation of activities, and/or other processes.
6. Describe shared learning, youth engagement, and/or outreach with community conducted as a part of the project, and how it assists in supporting NHC resilience to climate change. Additionally describe any external sharing and communication beyond the primary audience.

Workplan, Project Activities

1. Prepare a work plan in the form of a timeline which includes proposed project activities that relate to the overall project goals. Include all relevant milestones and outcomes. The proposed project activities description must be detailed enough for reviewers to make a clear connection between the proposed activities and the project costs. Activities are the specific actions to be undertaken to fulfill the project objectives and reach the project goal(s).
2. Include any resulting tables, spreadsheets, or flow charts within the body of the project narrative (do not include as separate attachments). The timetable should not propose specific dates but instead group activities by months for each month over the entire proposed project period. As a reminder, the project duration may not exceed 60 months.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Project Evaluation here is defined as the systematic collection and documentation of information about your project's outcomes in order to improve the project's effectiveness, guide judgments about its impact, and/or inform decisions about future programming or funding.

1. Prepare a monitoring and evaluation plan for the project. Building on the stated project goals and the priorities of Kapapahuliau, describe how the project/program will assess its goals and how the evaluation plan will be implemented. Evaluation plans may be quantitative and/or qualitative and may include evaluation tools, pre- and post tests, and/or surveys. Include or describe any available questionnaires, surveys, or other assessment tools to be used for project evaluation. Describe how findings will be fed back into decision making and project activities throughout the project period.

Qualifications

1. Summarize any previous or on-going efforts by your NHO (or other organizations or individuals associated with your NHO) that demonstrates the NHO's capacity for conducting the activities or tasks identified in the proposed work. Explain the successes or challenges of past efforts and how your proposed project builds on or overcomes them.
2. Provide a description to show that your NHO is understanding of the issues of climate change, and its impact on the Native Hawaiian Community.
3. Identify (name and title/position) and provide resumes for all key NHO personnel who will be conducting work on the proposed project and their respective roles and responsibilities.
4. Identify any contractors and/or outside subject matter experts (not part of your NHO) who will be working with your NHO on this project and describe their respective roles and responsibilities to enhance the project.

Site Access/Control and Federal Environmental & Historic Preservation Compliance (Required for Kiakahi and 'Auwa'a applicants only -- Ho'okele applicants may skip to "Additional Project Narrative Requirement for Ho'okele Applicants")

1. If the proposed project is location dependent and involves environmental restoration work or focused on traditional cultural practices at a particular site, provide relevant information and supporting documentation to demonstrate your NHO's property ownership, lease, permit, or authorization from the property owner to provide access and conduct project activities.

2. In addition, and in order to comply with federal regulations [e.g., National Environmental Policy Act, Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)], please answer “Federal Natural and Cultural Resource Compliance Questions” listed below. If applicable, indicate if any federal compliance actions have been completed/attained prior, and attach any supporting documentation.
3. Federal Natural and Cultural Resource Compliance Questions – Please include answers to the following questions:
 - a. Additional information on project location: Please provide Moku, ahupua‘a, address, TMKs, current landowner(s)
 - b. Is this project currently funded by another federal award? If yes, provide any relevant information.
 - c. Will the project directly involve environmental restoration, cultural site restoration, or ground disturbing activities (e.g., excavation, land clearing, grubbing, grading, invasive plant removal, native planting, etc.)? If so:
 - i. Describe those locations, activities, and methods. Please be specific;
 - ii. Describe whether there is a potential to disturb endemic or native wildlife, habitats, or other important natural or cultural resources;
 - iii. Describe any best practices that have been taken to prevent or reduce disturbance or damage to resources. (Examples could include following an approved restoration plan, following specific best management practices, operating under supervision of a knowledgeable, trained leader, having only authorized people use power equipment, notifying experts of any special finds or circumstances that arise, etc.).
 - iv. Will project activities occur on federally-designated critical habitat for threatened/endangered species? Or are there known threatened/endangered species that frequent the project site?
 - v. If applicable, are there any Native Hawaiian burial plans associated with the site?
 - vi. Does the project involve activities at a known historic site(s) listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places or are there Hawaiian traditional cultural properties/wahi pana located within the project area or nearby? If so, are there any known archaeological studies or surveys that have been completed for the site?
 - vii. Are you aware of any previous correspondence with the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) regarding the land parcel(s)? (Yes, No, I don’t know)

Additional Project Narrative Requirements for ‘Auwa‘a Applicants

‘Auwa‘a applicants are considered as lead NHO representing the collaborative partnership and will be responsible for overall performance, cost accounting, reimbursement, and reporting for partner organizations. In addition to the information provided in the Project Narrative described above, all ‘Auwa‘a applicants are required to provide the following information as part of their Project Narratives:

Partner Organization Roles and Responsibilities

1. Identify all partner organizations that comprise the ‘Auwa‘a application.
2. Describe the roles and responsibilities of each partner organization.
3. Describe activities to be conducted by each partner organization and how the outputs or results of such activities contribute to the overall goals and objectives of the project.

Partner Organization Coordination and Oversight

1. Describe how coordination among partner organizations will occur and how monitoring and oversight will be provided to ensure that the overall project goals and objectives are achieved.
2. Include in the description plans for troubleshooting, technical assistance, or other corrective actions to ensure that the overall project milestones are being met.

Additional Project Narrative Requirements for Ho‘okele Applicants

In addition to the information provided in the Project Narrative described above, all Ho‘okele applicants are required to provide the following information as part of their Project Narratives:

Additional Workplan and Activities Information:

1. Describe in detail the organization’s plans for a sub-granting process. At a minimum, this shall include:
 - a. Application process for financial assistance;
 - b. Accounting and oversight of sub-grant process and sub-awards;
 - c. Sub-recipient compliance with federal accounting, conflict of interest, and lobbying requirement; and
 - d. Grant management and performance reporting.

Additional Qualifications Information

1. Describe your organization’s capacity and plans for providing technical assistance to sub-recipients.
2. If applicable, describe the organization’s familiarity and ability to fulfill federal regulations compliance [e.g., National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)].
3. Describe your organization’s experience working on climate change related issues affecting the geography or topical area of interest, including but not limited to: sea-level rise; marine and terrestrial temperature change; extreme weather events (e.g. flooding, wildfire, drought, etc.); socio-economic impacts; and human health impacts.
4. Qualifications and Relevant Work Experience in Providing Community Funding:
 - a. Description of current or past work experience in administering a grant funding program in the respective region/area of interest.
 - b. Demonstration of robust contact and relationships with the NHC and related organizations within the geography/community of interest. This may include the number of NHOs in a cooperative or partnership; the diversity of subject matters affected by climate change; in-reach to relevant NHOs who understand the needs of their respective community.

- c. Identify (name and title/position) all key NHO personnel who will be conducting work on the proposed project and their respective roles and responsibilities.

Budget Narrative and Justification

Itemized Budget Narrative Proposal

1. Provide an itemized budget narrative (preferably in an Excel spreadsheet) on all cost categories clearly identifying all estimated project costs. The budget narrative should describe the total funding needed to accomplish the objectives described in the project narrative, accounting for all costs within the entire award period. These budget items should further align with the Work Plan tasks and other project activities identified in the Project Narrative. Cost categories can include, but are not limited to, the object classes included on the SF-424A: Personnel, Fringe Benefits, Travel with estimation methodology and justification, Equipment (generally items over \$5,000), Supplies, contractual costs with a description of procurement method, and Other. These Object Classes are described in the Form Instructions document available on grants.gov. The sum of funds requested under these Object Classes should be described as Total Direct Costs. Unit costs shall be provided for all budget items including the cost of work to be provided by contractors, partner organizations, or sub-recipients. The budget narrative submitted with the final application should match the dollar amounts included on all required standard forms.

Budget Justification

1. In addition, applicants must include an accompanying budget justification which explains how each categorical cost in the Budget Narrative is derived and with sufficient detail to enable reviewers to determine if costs are 'allowable and reasonable' according to the cost principles referenced in 2 CFR 200, Subpart E. Reviewers will evaluate project costs by reviewing your budget narrative.

Required Grantee Travel and Attendance at an Annual Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience Program Grantee Meeting

Grantees will be required to have one to two individuals who work directly on the project attend an in-person annual DOI/ONHR-sponsored grantee 3-day meeting in Honolulu, Hawai'i during each year of their grant award. Tentatively, annual meetings will be convened during the month of August with the inaugural meeting in 2025. Grantees with multi-year awards will be required to attend the annual meeting for each year of their award period of performance.

1. Applicants must include costs in the budget to cover this requirement.
2. Travel costs must not exceed \$2,500 per person per annual conference.
3. Applicants should follow their own travel policies to budget for this 3-day meeting.
4. Additional funds for these expenses will not be available once grant is awarded.
5. In the event the meeting is converted to a virtual meeting due to timing or if there is a venue change, any unexpended funds may be repurposed in the grant with proper grant approvals.

Additional Information on Budget Requirements

1. The costs required for organizational operation that cannot be easily associated with an individual project or program should be described as Indirect Costs. Organizations with a

federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) should include a copy of the approved NICRA in Supplemental Materials.

2. Organizations without a NICRA may claim the 10% de minimis rate for calculating indirect charges on the Modified Total Direct Costs (see [2 C.F.R. 200.1](#) for definitions). Refer to Section D6 of this announcement for more information about indirect costs. These totals should also be recorded on the [SF-424A](#).
3. Award costs shall be organized by fiscal year. If Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience funding will be used to complete part of a larger project, a budget overview for the entire project should be provided to demonstrate how the Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience funding request relates to the overall project budget and is needed for successful project implementation.
4. ONHR will review budget information in recommended applications to determine if costs are allowable, allocable, reasonable, necessary, and realistic. If available, submit budget estimate supporting documentation such as quotes, estimating methodology, historical costs, screen shots of commercial pricing, and copies of contractual agreements.
5. If a project has been submitted for funding consideration elsewhere, the amount(s) requested or secured from other funding sources, and whether the funds requested/secured are federal or non-federal, should be included. Applicants must indicate if federal funds, non-federal funds, or a combination of both are being used as a match or leverage. Please see the “Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement” below for additional information and requirements.

Additional Budget Narrative Requirements for ‘Auwa‘a Applicants

- As stated previously, ‘Auwa‘a applicants are considered as lead NHO representing the collaborative partnership and will be responsible for overall performance, cost accounting, reimbursement, and reporting for partner organizations. In addition to the information provided in the Budget Narrative described above, all ‘Auwa‘a applicants are required to provide the following additional information:
 - A breakdown of costs for each partner organization based upon their respective proposal.
 - Work Plan tasks, activities, and milestones.
 - A payment and accounting plan describing the process for monitoring partner organization performance, expenditures, and accounting; and for timely reimbursement for such expenditures.

Additional Budget Narrative Requirements for Ho‘okele Applicants

- Ho‘okele applicants, as grant-makers, are required to pass-through a minimum of 80% of their award to sub-recipients. The budget narrative should provide the expected pass-through amount and a detailed breakdown of the remaining administrative costs to be incurred by the applicant.
- Ho‘okele awardees will need to require their sub-recipients to attend the annual conference as part of their budget and workplan for financial assistance.

Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)

In addition to the above budget information, applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424 Budget Information form. For non-construction programs or projects, applicants must complete and submit the SF-424A, “Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs” form.

All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. Federal award recipients and sub-recipients are subject to federal award cost principles in [2 CFR 200](#).

Attestation or Documentation Confirming Eligibility

Applicants applying for financial assistance under this funding opportunity are required to provide an attestation or certification in writing from their governing body that the applicant organization meets the definition of, and criteria for, a “Native Hawaiian Organization” as defined in Section C2 above and that they are authorized to apply for financial assistance.

Registration or placement on the Department of the Interior Native Hawaiian Organization List maintained by ONHR is not a pre-requisite or requirement for submitting a application, nor should it be considered as the only justification for eligibility.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in federal funding must certify to the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, [Appendix A](#)-Certification Regarding Lobbying. If this application requests more than \$100,000 in federal funds, the Authorized Official’s signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity’s certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A.

SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

In accordance with [2 CFR 200.450](#) Lobbying and pursuant to the provisions of [31 U.S.C 1352](#), if an applicant employs a lobbyist or performs lobbying or influencing activities they are required to complete and submit a SF-LLL.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.112](#) applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

Applicability.

- This section intends to ensure that non-federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to federal financial assistance agreements.
- In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by sub-recipients, the conflict-of-interest provisions in [2 CFR 200.318](#) apply.

Notification.

- Non-federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with [2 CFR 200.112](#).

- Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by sub-recipients.

Restrictions on lobbying.

Non-federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to [43 CFR part 18](#) and [31 U.S.C. 1352](#).

Review procedures.

The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict-of-interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.

Enforcement.

Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in [2 CFR 200.339](#), Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR part 180).

Partnership Letters of Commitment (for ‘Auwa‘a applicants only)

All ‘Auwa‘a applicants are required to provide letters of commitment with their partner organizations to confirm their participation, role, and contribution towards the overall project outcomes. Letters must be submitted by ‘Auwa‘a applicants as part of their application package by the submission deadline in Grants.gov. The letters of commitment should include information about the role and activities each partner will play in the establishment and implementation of the project workplan as well as any resources the partner will provide. The letters of commitment must be signed by an authorized representative of the partnering organizations. Generic letters of support or recommendation are not letters of commitment and will not be considered.

Letters of Support (Optional)

The submission of letters of support or recommendation as part of an applicant’s package is optional and not required. Such letters will be viewed for informational purposes only and not be considered as part of the applicant’s application evaluation and scoring under Section E. below.

Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) – (if applicable)

The federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your organization’s cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the Interior Business Center by phone 916-930-3803 or using the IBC Email Submission Form (<https://ibc.doi.gov/ICS/contact-us>). See the IBC Indirect Cost & Contract

Audit Services Website (<https://ibc.doi.gov/ICS/icrna>) for more information. Please refer to [2 CFR 200.414](#) for Indirect Cost information including information on de minimis rates for qualifying organizations.

Single Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending \$750,000 USD or more in federal award funds in the applicant's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System](#). U.S. state, local government, federally recognized Indian tribal government, and non-profit applicants must state if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#) website.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

Applicants must provide a statement indicating if there is any overlap between this federal application and any other application for federal funding, whether directly from a federal agency or administered through an intermediary, or funded project, in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. This obligation continues after this federal application is submitted, unless and until this federal application is denied. If no such overlap or duplication exists, state, "There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other applications for federal funding or funded projects, including in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel". If any such overlap exists, provide a complete description of overlaps or duplications between this application and any other federally funded project or application in regard to activities, costs, and time commitment of key personnel, as applicable. Provide a copy of any overlapping or duplicative application submitted to any other potential funding entity and identify when that application was submitted, to whom (entity name and program), and when you anticipate being notified of their funding decision. The statement and the description of overlap or duplication, when applicable, may be provided within the application or as a separate attachment to the application. If at any time an applicant is awarded funds that would be overlapping or duplicative of the funding requested from ONHR, the applicant must immediately notify the AQD point of contact. Any overlap or duplication of funding between the proposed project and other active or anticipated projects may impact selection and/or funding amount.

D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration and Unique Entity Identifier: This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register in SAM.gov prior to submitting a federal award application and obtain a [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\)](#), which replaces the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet in April 2022. A federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their

SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their federal award(s).

Register with the System for Award Management (SAM): Applicants can register on the [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) website. The “Help” tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. The Grants.gov “[Register with SAM](#)” page also provides detailed instructions. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities will be assigned a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity’s IRS information. There is no cost to register with SAM.gov. There are third-party vendors who will charge a fee in exchange for registering entities with SAM.gov; please be aware you can register and request help for free. If applicable, foreign entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

D4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications

Thursday, February 29, 2024, 6:59 p.m., Hawai‘i Standard Time (HST)

Pre-Submittal Information Session

ONHR will host two 90-minute video conferences for interested applicants to receive an overview of the Kapapahuliau Native Hawaiian Climate Resilience Program and to ask questions about the funding opportunity. The first video conference will be held on Wednesday, November 29, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. Hawai‘i Standard Time (HST). The second video conference will be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 12:00 pm HST. The video conference log-in information will be posted on the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations website at: www.doi.gov/hawaiian/climate-resilience two weeks prior on November 15, 2023 and November 29, 2023. Additional informational sessions may be held on an as-needed basis. Conference materials and responses to questions will be posted to the same ONHR website one week after they have been conducted.

Technical Assistance for Applicants

Applicants needing technical assistance regarding the preparation of their application may contact those listed in Section G1 as the Grant Management Administrator and in Section G2 for Program Administration. They may also go to <https://www.doi.gov/hawaiian/climate-resilience> for additional technical assistance resources.

Application Due Date Explanation

Complete application packages, including all required forms, must be submitted electronically to the Grants.gov website **no later than 6:59 p.m., Hawai‘i Standard Time (HST)**, on the listed application due date in Section D4 above.

D5. Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required for applications submissions from a U.S. state or local government prior to submission. Applicants must contact their State’s Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state’s process under .

D6. Funding Restrictions

Indirect Costs: Organizations

The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your organization’s cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the Interior Business Center by phone 916-930-3803 or to [IBC Email Address](#). See the [IBC Website](#) for more information. Please refer to [2 CFR 200.414](#) for all indirect cost information.

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

Applications will be evaluated according to the following merit criteria, with the relative weights shown in parentheses. Applications may earn a maximum of 100 points. Each criterion also includes the factors the reviewers will consider, determining how well an application meets the criterion. We encourage applicants to make explicit connections to the evaluation criteria in their applications. Applications that best address these criteria will be most competitive and final selection recommendations will be made from the review panel ranking.

<u>Evaluation Criteria</u>	<u>Point Breakdown</u>
Summary, Project Goals, and Objectives	Maximum Points: 45
Is the project location(s) and intended audience for the project accurately described?	2
Are the needs articulated and justifiable in the project proposal, and do they address the specific climate-related issues and enhance NHC climate resilience?	3
Do project goals support the overall purpose and mission of the project?	3
Are the proposed project goals/objectives clear, specific, measurable, and realistic?	2
Do project goals/objectives align with and support the Kapapahuliai Guiding Principles and Program Priorities?	7

Will the project outcomes advance the overall goal of Kapapahuliau – to enhance the ability of the NHC to navigate the effects of climate change in ways that maintain the integrity and identity of the Native Hawaiian people while also maintaining and enhancing their capacity for coping, adaptation, and transformation?	8
Does the proposal describe how Native Hawaiian cultural knowledge systems, practices, or methodologies are integrated into project concepts, activities, etc?	3
How well is ‘ike Hawai‘i (Native Hawaiian knowledge systems) integrated into the project in a way that addresses the current challenges to climate change and/or provides support for resilience, therefore deepening pilina (relationships) to ancestral memory within the NHC?	7
Does the project proposal detail any shared learning, youth engagement, and/or outreach with community beyond the initial target audience?	5
Do the outreach and engagements methods help to enhance understanding or resilience to climate change for the NHC?	5
<u>Work Plan and Project Schedule:</u>	Maximum Points: 15
Realistic & Practical - Is the project work plan reasonable and practical in relation to the overall purpose and priorities of the funding opportunity and given the proposed amount of work and coordination?	5
Clear & Supports Goals - Are project activities clearly articulated and support the overall project goals and the overall goals of Kapapahuliau?	5
Timeline - Is there a clear and realistic timeline with identified milestones and outputs that support activities and the overall project goals?	5
<u>Program Monitoring and Evaluation</u>	Maximum Points: 10
Does the monitoring and evaluation plan support the stated project objectives and evaluate project effectiveness in achieving the desired outcomes?	5
Does the monitoring and evaluation plan describe how it will be implemented within the project?	5
<u>Qualifications</u>	Maximum Points: 10
Does the applicant/project team possess, or propose hiring, persons/entities with the necessary experience and training to successfully carry out the scale and scope of the work?	3
Does the applicant demonstrate an understating of the impacts climate change has on the NHC?	2
Does the applicant include an attestation from its governing body and does it provide clear justification that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria for an NHO?	5
<u>Budget Narrative and Budget Justification (Cost-sharing is not considered in this criteria)</u>	Maximum Points: 20

Does the budget request properly allocate funds, making good use of available resources to implement and achieve the stated project goals and objectives?	6
Do a majority of the requested funds that are within the salaries and fringe category, benefit those personnel who are directly involved in implementing the proposed project and/or are directly related to specific products or outcomes of the proposed project?	3
Are funds allocated to non-contracted content experts, Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and knowledge holders, or other individuals that play supportive roles within the project with considerations that reflect their time commitment and contributions to capacity?	2
Are unit costs provided within the itemized budget?	2
Are the costs associated for shared learning, youth engagement, and/or outreach with the Community accounted for in the project's budget?	2
Does the Budget Justification explain how each categorical cost in the Budget Narrative is derived and in sufficient detail to determine if costs are 'allowable and reasonable'?	5

Project applications will be evaluated as follows:

- Submissions will be screened upon receipt for eligibility and for conformance to the announcement provisions.
- Screened applications will be independently reviewed and scored against the criteria by a panel of at least 12 individuals with relevant Native Hawaiian cultural, scientific, technical, educational, community engagement, and other subject matter expertise relevant to this NOFO. These reviewers may include federal and state agency personnel, representatives from non-governmental organizations, and individuals with relevant subject matter expertise. Any reviewer with a real or perceived conflict of interest regarding one or more applicants will be asked to not score or participate in discussions of those applications.
- Reviewer rankings and comments will be provided to the ONHR Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience Project Manager, who will share the collective rankings with the full panel and promote discussion to develop a consensus. The list of ranked projects with the panel's preferred selection will be forwarded to IBC for evaluation and final selection per Section E2 below.
- The successful applicants will be notified by ONHR of the IBC intent to award. This is an informal notification, provided to the applicant as a courtesy. Final awards are contingent upon all appropriate legal and administrative reviews and processing. Final discretion on funding decisions remains with the AQD at IBC. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified and provided with reviewer comments on their application.

Prior to participating in any review or evaluation process, all staff and peer reviewers, evaluators, panel members, and advisors must sign and return to the program office point of contact the "Department of the Interior Conflict of Interest Certification" form. For a copy of this form, contact the Service point of contact identified in the Agency Contacts section below.

E2. Review and Selection Process

Prior to award, AQD will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, AQD may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed, to eliminate any duplication of effort, or AQD may choose not to fund the selected project.

AQD may not make a federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time AQD is ready to make an award, AQD may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. AQD can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, AQD will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in [2 CFR 200.206](#). AQD documents applicant risk evaluations using DOI's "Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment" form. Prior to approving awards for federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), AQD is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. AQD will consider this information when completing the risk review. AQD uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in [2 CFR 200.208](#) should be applied the award.

E3. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

It is anticipated that prospective recipients will be notified of selection on or about Friday, June 28, 2024. Final awards are contingent upon all appropriate legal and administrative reviews and processing, with complete packages anticipated to be awarded on or about Friday, August 30, 2024.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

Upon being selected for the award, successful applicants will receive a notification of the selection of their application for funding. AQD will notify the applicant selected for award on or about Friday, June 28, 2024. A notice of selection is not an authorization to begin performance on an agreement. This notice will detail the next steps in the awarding process. Once all clearances and reviews have been conducted, a cooperative agreement or grant will be sent for signature.

Work cannot begin before the non-federal entity receives a fully executed copy of the grant/cooperative agreement which contains the signature of the Agreements Officer. Any pre-award costs incurred prior to the receipt of a signed agreement or written notice signed by a Financial Agreements Officer authorizing pre-award costs is at the applicant's own risk. A

signed grant/cooperative agreement signed by a Financial Agreements Officer is the only authorizing document to begin performance.

Organizations whose applications have not been selected will be advised as promptly as possible.

F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the “[DOI Standard Terms and Conditions](#)” for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

Data Availability

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.315](#):

(a) All data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, valuation products or other scientific assessments in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual, resulting from a financial assistance agreement is available for use by the Department of the Interior, including being available in a manner that is sufficient for independent verification.

(b) The Federal Government has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, produced under a federal award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, for federal purposes, including to allow for meaningful third-party evaluation.

F3. Reporting Requirements

Financial Reports

All recipients must report award expenditures every 6 months using the [SF-425, Federal Financial Report](#), or a separate reporting form which ONHR and the IBC may provide in its place. All recipients must submit a **final** financial report using the above SF-425, Federal Financial Report due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award. The only exception to the interim financial reporting requirement is if the recipient is required to use the SF 270/271 to request payment and requests payment at least once annually through the entire award period of performance. All financial reporting requirements will be detailed in the Notice of Award and are due as specified above and in the Notice unless the awarding program approves a due date extension.

Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. ONHR will provide a template for reporting this information after awards have been made. Recipients shall

provide a Performance Report on a semi-annual basis summarizing progress made over a 6-month period. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. Performance Reports are due as specified above and in the Notice of Award, unless the awarding program approves a due date extension.

Annual Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience Program Grantee Meeting Attendance

All recipients are expected to attend the annual Kapapahuliau Climate Resilience Program Grantee Meetings. At these meetings, recipient participants will need to be prepared to provide a presentation of their current project performance. Presentations will need to summarize details such as the project goals and objectives; progress made towards completing the objectives and reaching identified milestones; challenges or difficulties encountered; lessons learned or recommendations; project results or outcomes; and reflections on the impact of the project towards the Kapapahuliau Program goal of increasing the resilience of the Native Hawaiian Community to the effects of climate change. Presentations and associated discussions at annual meetings will be recorded and used for reporting and program evaluation purposes. Meeting location and format are subject to change based on planning decisions leading up to the events.

Significant Development Reports

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates which have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify AQD in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The recipient should also notify AQD in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Real Property Reports

Recipients and sub-recipients are required to submit status reports on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the federal government retains an interest. The required frequency of these reports will depend on the anticipated length of the federal interest period. AQD will include recipient-specific real property reporting requirements, including the required data elements, reporting frequency, and report due dates, in the Notice of Award when applicable.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Recipients must notify the program immediately in writing of any conflict of interest that arises during the life of their federal award, including those reported to them by any sub-recipient under the award. Recipients must notify the ONHR in writing if any employees, including sub-recipients or personnel, are related to, married to, or have a close personal relationship with any federal employee in the federal funding program or who otherwise may have been involved in the review and selection of the award. The term employee means any individual engaged in the performance of work pursuant to the federal award. Recipients may not have a former federal employee as a key project official, or in any other substantial role related to their award, whose participation put them out of compliance with the legal authorities addressing post-government employment restrictions. See the [U.S. Office of Government Ethics website](#) for more information on these restrictions. IBC will examine each conflict-of-interest disclosure based on its particular facts and the nature of the project and will determine if a significant potential

conflict exists. If it does, IBC will work with the recipient to determine an appropriate resolution. Failure to disclose and resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies IBC may result in any of the remedies described in [2 CFR 200.339 Remedies for Noncompliance](#), including termination of the award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the federal award. Non-federal entities that receive a federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in [2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters](#) are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.339 Remedies for [Noncompliance](#), including suspension or debarment.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

G1. Grant/Cooperative Agreement Administrator

For questions regarding this NOFO, contact:

First Name: Tristan

Last Name: Harley

U.S. Department of the Interior, Interior Business Center, Acquisition Services Directorate, 381 Elden Street, Suite 2000A, Herndon, VA 20170

Telephone: 571-560-6489

Email: aqd-fa.onhr@ibc.doi.gov

G2. Program Administration Contact

For questions regarding this NOFO, contact:

First Name: Brad Ka'aleleo

Last Name: Wong

Address: U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Native Hawaiian Relations, 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 3-122, Box 50165, Honolulu, HI 96850

Telephone: 808-518-9844

Email: bradley_wong@ios.doi.gov

G3. Application System Technical Support

For **Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages**, contact:

Name: Grants.gov Customer Support

Telephone: 1-800-518-4726

Email: Support@grants.gov

For GrantSolutions technical registration, submission, and other assistance contact:

GrantSolutions Customer Support

1-866-577-0771

Help@grantsolutions.gov

Applications that fail to meet the application due date will not be reviewed and will receive no further consideration. You are strongly encouraged to submit your application a minimum of 3-5 days prior to the application closing date. **Do not wait until the last day in the event you encounter technical difficulties**, either on your end or with grants.gov. Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours to notify you of a successful submission.

In addition, if you are the applicant submitting your application in Grants.gov, you must (1) be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and (2) register yourself with Grants.gov as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following Grants.gov web page: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>.

After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only.) If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

Further, if you continue to experience technical difficulties in the Grants.gov system and are unable to electronically submit your application by the application deadline, please contact the Grant/Cooperative Agreement Administrator listed in Section G1 of this notice and provide a written explanation of the technical problem you experienced and the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. IBC will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: We will not consider your application for further review if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

If for any reason (including submitting to the wrong funding opportunity number or making corrections/updates) an application is submitted more than once prior to the application due date, AQD will only accept your last validated electronic submission, under the correct funding opportunity number, prior to the Grants.gov application due date as the final and only acceptable

application.

Unsuccessful submissions will require authenticated verification from <http://www.grants.gov> indicating system problems existed at the time of your submission. For example, you will be required to provide an <http://www.grants.gov> submission error notification and/or tracking number in order to substantiate missing the cut off date.

Grants.gov will automatically send applicants a tracking number and date of receipt verification electronically once the application has been successfully received and validated in <https://www.grants.gov/>.

H. Other Information

Payments: Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), unless approved for a waiver by AQD. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's International Treasury Services (ITS) System. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer (EFT). AQD will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.