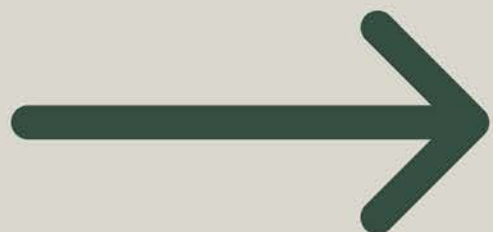


# Indigenous Youth Building Resilient Communities

Call for Project Proposals: 2026 Indigenous Youth Fellowship





**Cultural Survival** is pleased to announce the 2026 Call for Proposals for the **Indigenous Youth Fellowship program**. This initiative aims to **strengthen cultural identity** and **enhance leadership skills** among Indigenous youth. Since its launch in 2018, the program has awarded over **157 fellowships**, positively impacting more than **350 Indigenous youth** worldwide.

The fellowship provides **financial support** for youth-led projects that benefit Indigenous communities, along with **opportunities for leadership development**. Fellows are encouraged to amplify community voices and bring attention to local issues within global dialogues through their projects.



# Program Overview



- **Award Amount:** \$2,500 – \$5,000 USD (depending on the scope of the project)
- **Project Duration:** between 3 and 6 months
- **Execution Period:** March – September 2026



## Fellowship Details





# Stage

- Open Call for Proposal Concepts
- Deadline to Submit Proposal Concepts
- Notification of Selected Concepts
- Deadline to Submit Full Proposals
- Final Notification of Selected Fellows
- Awarding Stage
- Fellowship Projects Begin

# Date

- September 1, 2025
- September 30, 2025 (11:59 PM ET)
- October 30, 2025
- November 21, 2025
- December 12, 2025
- January–February 2026
- After March 1, 2026



# Timeline





# Eligibility Criteria

This year's fellowship will support **Indigenous youth** (individuals or groups) leading **multidisciplinary, creative, and community-driven projects**.

Applicants must:

- Be an **Indigenous youth** or **group of youth** between the ages of **18 and 28**
- **Be committed to working with Cultural Survival** and **meeting deadlines**
- Be **preferably fluent** in or **interested in learning** an Indigenous language
- **Not a former Cultural Survival Youth Fellow**

Fellows will work closely with **Cultural Survival staff** and a **local mentor**, who will voluntarily offer guidance, encouragement, and feedback throughout the project. We prioritize **gender balance** and actively encourage applications from **women** and **2SLGBTQ+** youth. Geographic diversity will also be considered in the selection process.



In addition to the global open call, we especially welcome applications from the following regions:

- **The Americas:** with a focus on Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras, El Salvador, Belize, Argentina, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Chile, Paraguay, Brazil, and Guyana.
- **Asia:** with a focus on Bangladesh, Mongolia, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, and India
- **Africa:** with a focus on Chad, Cameroon, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, DRC, Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Uganda, and Angola.



# Eligible Regions for 2026



# Project Proposal Requirements

- Be **3–6 months in duration** and **implemented during** the March–September 2026 execution period
- Focus on **one or more** of the following themes:
  - **Climate Change Solutions**
    - Climate crisis and disaster preparedness and response
    - Environmental protection and biodiversity
    - Maintenance of ecosystem services
    - Strengthening local resilience and local traditional knowledge, place-based solutions.
  - **Culture and Languages**
    - Strengthen culture bearers and language leaders
    - Cultural and artistic expression
    - Revitalization and protection of knowledge systems
  - **Lands and Livelihoods**
    - Solidarity-based models on Indigenous economies and food sovereignty
    - Land defense, land titling, and traditional ways of managing natural resources.
    - Transmission of knowledge through the management and protection of traditional lands and territories.
    - Indigenous rights and gender diversity
    - Revitalize governance structures and cultural traditions in urban and rural areas.



Eligible activities may vary depending on the theme and can include **capacity building, workshops, structure building, multimedia and media projects**, or other forms of **community engagement and knowledge sharing**.



Submit a **proposal concept** through the **Google Form** by **September 30, 2025, at 11:59 PM ET**. Selected applicants will be notified via email by October 30, 2025, with instructions to submit a **full proposal** and **detailed budget** for the second round. Final fellowship selections will be announced in **December 2025**, and the award disbursement process will begin in January 2026. Projects may begin **anytime after March 1, 2026**.

Please ensure that the email address provided in your application is valid, regularly checked, and that your inbox is not full.  
**Applications cannot be edited once submitted.**

Applicants also have the option of submitting a **5-minute video or audio recording** in response to the questions on the form. This can be uploaded directly within the same Google Form.

### **Languages Accepted**

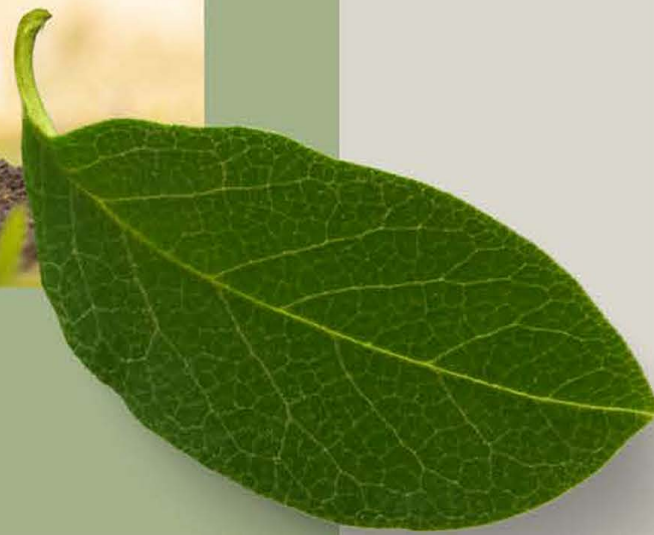
We accept applications in: English, Spanish, Portuguese, Nepali, Sunuwar, Hindi, Afrikaans, and French.

# How to apply





# Resources



- [Google Form Link](#)
- [Download Informational Packet](#)
- [Frequently Asked Question](#)



# Cultural Survival



**[www.cs.org](http://www.cs.org)**