



Protecting Native Places 2025 Application

About Protecting Native Places

Recognizing the interconnectedness of efforts to protect Indigenous culture and the natural world, NATHPO in partnership with the Mellon Foundation, has again endowed Protecting Native Places (PNP) to support NATHPO Member THPOs in these important efforts. This year, we are excited to have a new partner in Mellon, which allowed us to grow PNP for 2025!

NATHPO and our partners recognize Tribal historic preservation and resource management has traditionally been underfunded and has often excluded the involvement of Native peoples. Through this fund, we aim to help change that. PNP is here to support THPOs to do the things **you** need to do. PNP supports the full range of THPO needs, including formal duties under the National Historic Preservation Act as well as all the other necessary and important work THPOs do. Specifically, we seek to assist THPO efforts to ensure cultural sites are protected and you have the necessary funds to do the work you deem important.

The Details

- **Amount:** \$1,000,000 will be awarded as \$40,000 grants.
 - This is on a 1st come, 1st served basis (only one application per Tribe)
 - We will only accept twenty-five applications
- **Eligibility:** NATHPO Full or Associate members with dues paid and in good standing are eligible for Protecting Native Places. If you have questions about your membership status or have questions or concerns about invoicing, please contact Accounting@nathpo.org with 'Membership Question' in the subject line.
- **Timeline:**
 - Application submittal opens May 5, 2025.
 - Application submittal closes September 30, 2025, OR after we accept 25 applications whichever comes first.
 - Please note: If you require Tribal Council approval, please note that on your application with approximate timing for approval.
 - NATHPO staff and Board will evaluate applications and select awardees.
 - Notification of award on or before: September 30, 2025
 - Grants will be disbursed on or before October 6, 2025.
 - The period of performance will be one year after you receive the funds.
 - Final THPO interviews will be conducted on or before September 2026.

Application package **MUST** include the following items, or it will be deemed incomplete:

- Application questions fully answered
- Paid 2025 NATHPO dues
- Tribal W-9
- Completed Contact and Payment Information Form (below)

Additional considerations:

- You are **not required** to submit a Tribal Resolution to receive this grant.
- Applications should be drafted and implemented consistent with your Tribe's protocols.

How to Apply

We understand your time is extremely valuable and we have worked to make applying for this grant, as well as reporting, as easy to manage as possible. To apply, simply answer the following questions in up to 500 words each and email them to PNPGrants@nathpo.org. Please copy NATHPO Executive Director, Dr. Valerie J. Grussing at valerie@nathpo.org and NATHPO Director of Operations, Melissa Madrigal, at melissa@nathpo.org.

Question 1: What cultural resource management and protection is your THPO office involved in? Examples of this work may include incorporation of traditional knowledge, on-the-ground restoration and stewardship, or efforts to influence land management plans or policies. Please briefly list a few of the projects and/or efforts your office is working on.

Question 2: If you receive PNP, how would your THPO office use it to protect and manage Tribal cultural resources and places? Please include a general budget for your project or purchases. Ideas from the NATHPO Board for PNP uses include:

- Purchase new or updated equipment (computers, scanners, video equipment, etc.)
- Purchase relevant software (GIS, project management, etc.)
- Staff training and/or travel
- One-time project-based work (digitizing old records, developing strategic plans, documenting sites)
- Supplements for staff or interns

Final Reporting Process

At the end of the grant period, reporting will be accomplished via a short interview with NATHPO and the recipient THPO. This eliminates the need for additional paperwork for recipient THPO offices. It will also be an opportunity to visit and for both parties to identify what worked and what improvements may be made in the future. Here are the details:

- Final reporting will occur in an interview format via virtual meeting with the recipient THPO offices and NATHPO staff.
- NATHPO will schedule these meetings based on the THPO's expected timeline but will occur approximately 1 year after award received by the THPO Office.
- During the interview, NATHPO will record the answers to these questions and that information will be the final reporting.
- NATHPO requires at least 2 photos to be submitted prior to the THPO interview with caption, photo credit, and release; to possibly be used in reporting to Mellon and on NATHPO's website. *A photo release is required for each person in the photos (below) to be included with the photos before the final interview.*

Acknowledgements

NATHPO would like to thank the Mellon Foundation for their efforts in making Protecting Native Places a reality. Our mission is supporting THPOs and their work in Protecting Native Places and it is a dream come true for NATHPO to be able to offer our membership this opportunity.

To our members, our gratitude for your continued support is beyond words. We thank you for the opportunity to serve the THPO community and hope Protecting Native Places will be helpful in the sacred work you do each day. Our goal is to offer this grant annually for THPOs like you.

The opportunities ahead are many and we look forward to seeing what you do!

Protecting Native Places Questions



Question 1: What cultural resource management and protection is your THPO office involved in? Please briefly list a few of the projects your office is working on (*500 words or less*). Add an additional sheet, if necessary.

Question 2: If you receive PNP, how would your THPO office use it to protect and manage Tribal cultural resources and places? Please include a general budget (*500 words or less*). Add an additional sheet, if necessary.

PNP Contact & Payment Information



THPO Contact Information

Name: _____ Title: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Finance Contact Information

Name: _____ Title: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Payment Method

For *check*, please provide the name to use on the check & address where check should be mailed:

Name: _____
Address: _____

For *ACH*, please provide the name & address on the account where funds should be deposited:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Bank Name: _____

ACH Routing Numbers: (please verify with your bank that you are providing the ACH Routing Number):

ACH Routing Number: _____
Account Number: _____
Account Type: _____
Business or personal: _____

Is your Tribe a 501(c)(3)? Yes No

PHOTO RELEASE FORM



I hereby grant permission to National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) to use the photographs and/or video of me taken on (date: _____) at (location: _____) in publications, news releases, online, and in other communications related to the mission of NATHPO.

(Signature of Adult, or Guardian of Children under age 18*)

Name	
Email	
Phone	
Address (optional)	

*Photos of children must have explicit permission of a legal guardian.

Thank you!