



## **DIRECTIONS**

All applicants must register before accessing the grant application portal. Even if you've registered in the past for any NDN grant opportunity, you must still register by completing the eligibility quiz.

## **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are required for any application to be considered. Failure to include any of the documents will result in an automatic declination due to an incomplete application.

### **1. INCOME VERIFICATION**

A copy of your or the head of your household's most recent U.S. Individual Tax Return (include the first two pages of Form 1040).

If no 1040 or state income tax return is available, then the following documents are acceptable:

- If employed: the most recent pay stub
- If self-employed: the most recent year-to-date profit and loss statement
- If recipient of Social Security benefits: the most recent Social Security benefits letter
- If unemployed: the most recent copy of your state Unemployment Income benefits letter

### **2. REPUTATION & COMMITMENT TO WELLNESS**

Reputation reflects the integrity of our actions and our responsibility for our family and community relationships. As part of its review process, NDN Collective reserves the right to collect additional background information about applicants who may be invited as a grantee. This could include a check of public records and a formal or informal check of references within your community.

You will be **required** to upload **3 Letters of Support** that speak to your **reputation, confirm your commitment to wellness** (or how you are working towards wellness), **and believe in your wealth building plan**. Letters from relatives are acceptable, however at least one letter must be from someone other than a relative (Simply listing names and phone numbers is not acceptable).



**Collective Abundance Fund Application Questions**

**Family Information. Please tell us about yourself, your family or who you share your home with.** Grant awards are intended to support Indigenous individuals and families residing in the tri-state (MN, ND, SD) region. Family information provides an overall picture of your current living situation and family circumstances.

1. a.) Please tell us about your family or who you share your home with. Please include general information that describes the makeup of your household and current family conditions. For example, you may include information on the care of additional family members outside of the home, or significant debt that impacts household obligations.  
(3000 character count)

- b) How many people are in your household (individuals living with you 50% or more of the time or anyone who spends at least 183 nights in your home in a year)?  
(number of adults, children, other dependents)

Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children \_\_\_\_\_ Dependents \_\_\_\_\_

- c) What is your annual household income \_\_\_\_\_

- d) Please indicate whether you or your household currently or expect to receive public county or tribal assistance.

Yes, currently receive assistance       No, but I expect to apply in the future

No, I do not receive and do not expect to apply

Check all that apply (optional)

Food and Nutrition (e.g., SNAP, TANF, WIC, free or reduced school lunches, FDPIR)

Housing (e.g., rental assistance, housing vouchers, Section 8 housing)

Income Assistance (e.g., BIA General Assistance, Supplemental Security Income, EITC)

Health Care (e.g., MNCare, Medicaid, CHIP)

Child Care Assistance

Energy Assistance (e.g., LIHEAP)

Education Assistance (Pell grants, Head Start program)



A grant award through the Collective Abundance Fund may impact a household's current and/or future eligibility for public assistance programs and services. Please describe how you will address the potential loss of benefits (if applicable). (3000 character count)

### **Wealth Building Plan and Activities**

Wealth building goals present your individual/family's overall intention and what you hope to accomplish (projected outcomes). Your goals speak to the transformative change you expect and are consistent with NDN's Indigenous wealth definition:

*Indigenous wealth is described as a quality of life and mindset that encircles family and community well-being and the care of relationships (self, family, extended family, community, land, environment), and a spirit of generosity. Money is a tool to support basic needs (e.g., safety, food, shelter, education) and bring financial security and self-determination so that one can live a "good life," abundant in social and cultural*

2. a.) What is your overall wealth building goal?

Guiding Questions: Where do you see yourself and your family if you were awarded this once in a lifetime opportunity? What will you make happen that transforms you and your family and that reflects Indigenous wealth and a "good life" of abundance? (3000 character count)



b.) Select no more than two goals that will help you move towards your overall wealth building goal.

**WEALTH BUILDING GOAL #1:**

\*Select only 1 Goal

- Homeownership or Household Stability**
- Education or Skill Building:** Higher education, trade and vocational training attainment.
- Financial Planning**
- Business Development:** business investments that leverage or supports business vitality and sustainability.
- Food Security:** sustainable family food systems
- Cultural Traditions:** Language, Cultural Knowledge, Healing Practices, Art
- Reliable livelihood:** Reliable childcare, technology, debt relief, reliable transportation may be considered that support a reliable livelihood and lead to a wealth building goal (homeownership, education, business)

**WEALTH BUILDING GOAL #2 (optional):**

\*Select only 1 Goal

- Homeownership or Household Stability**
- Education or Skill Building:** Higher education, trade and vocational training attainment.
- Financial Planning**
- Business Development:** business investments that leverage or supports business vitality and sustainability.
- Food Security:** sustainable family food systems
- Cultural Traditions:** Language, Cultural Knowledge, Healing Practices, Art
- Reliable livelihood:** Reliable childcare, technology, debt relief, reliable transportation may be considered that support a reliable livelihood and lead to a wealth building goal (homeownership, education, business)

**Wealth Building Plan and Activities**

A clear wealth building plan will describe how the activities support Indigenous wealth in a **sustainable, generational** (children, grandchildren, or community benefit from the activities), and **regenerative** (renew, restore, revive, not harmful to people or the planet) manner and directly support the wealth building goals as described. Plans must outline how grant resources would support activities that are **strategic and timely** to make lasting change and impact.



3. a.) Describe your Plan and Timeline for activities that will lead to the wealth building goals.

Guiding Questions: How does your plan support making changes for **lasting impact** and building Indigenous wealth in your family? Describe what will be sustained and how your plan supports the next generation. How would having access to this resource at this point in time make a difference to you and your family; in other words, **why now?** How does your plan uphold **regenerative practices** that are non-extractive? Provide a general timeline of your plan and activities and how your goal(s) will be accomplished within 12 months. (3000 character count)

b.) Which activities within your selected wealth building goals will your grant funds support?

**Homeownership or Household Stability**

- Down payment
- Home repair
- Multi-Generational Housing Development
- Home Rehabilitation/Home Addition
- Other (Explain)

---



---



---



---

**Education or Skill Building: Higher education, trade and vocational training attainment.**

- Tuition
- Fees
- Supplies
- Books
- Other (Explain)

---



---



---



---



**Financial Planning**

- Financial education courses
- Training
- Financial advisement
- Other (Explain)

---



---



---



---

**Business Development: business investments that leverage or supports business vitality and sustainability.**

- Capital Investments
- Equipment
- Supplies
- Other (Explain)

---



---



---



---

**Food Security: sustainable family food systems**

- Gardens, Greenhouses
- Land Purchase
- Infrastructure Investments
- Livestock
- Food processing/Production Equipment and supplies
- Hunting/Fishing
- Other (Explain)

---



---



---



---

**Cultural Traditions: Language, Cultural Knowledge, Healing Practices, Art**

- Cultural Mentors
- Apprenticeships
- Supplies
- Equipment
- Other (Explain)

---



---



---



---

**Reliable livelihood:**

Reliable childcare, technology, debt relief, reliable transportation may be considered that support a reliable livelihood and lead to a wealth building goal (homeownership, education, business)

*These one-time activities must transform your ability to achieve a reliable livelihood.*

*(Activities should not be luxury, recreational, or ongoing expenses, such as rent, utilities)*

- Reliable Childcare
- Technology
- Debt Relief
- Reliable Transportation
- Other (Explain)

---



---



---



---



**Resource Planning. Our People have always planned and prepared, seasonally and ceremonially.**

Planning is required to support a life of abundance and living the “good life”. Resource planning includes assessing and identifying resources, needs, potential barriers or challenges, and making decisions in how resources are allocated and leveraged. Resources are key to building resilience and power for you and your family.

4. a.) What things have you done to prepare to implement your plan?

Guiding Questions: Describe other resources that you are leveraging or using to support your wealth building activities that demonstrate preparedness. Please identify if they are secured or pending. Examples could include skills, equipment, financial resources, technical assistance, land, or community resources (mortgage or business loan lender, credit building support, education acceptance letter, tribal land lease). (3000 character count)

- b.) If this is part of a collaborative or collective effort, please include the names of other members of your collaborative or collective that are applying to the Collective Abundance Fund and whether or how you plan to leverage your group’s resources. (3000 character count)



c.) How are you planning for success? Describe the anticipated challenges or barriers and how will you address them? (For example, does your "plan B" include a list of priorities?) (3000 character count)

d.) Describe your commitment to personal wellness and healing needed to support the "good life" and sustain a life of abundance.

Guiding Questions: Describe the activities that will support you and your family's commitment to wellness and/or healing and how grant funds (up to \$2,000) may be allocated. Examples include, fitness equipment, gym memberships, therapy, ceremony, uninsured healthcare needs.  
(3000 character count)





- e.) Download and complete the Spending Plan by adding your activities and anticipated costs of your requested grant amount to the projected timeline of expenditures (not to exceed 12 months). Describe how you will use the grant funds to support your wealth building goals and activities. For example, supplies, equipment, travel, vendor or consultant payments, large purchases, and other activity costs.



**Being a Good Relative.**

Indigenous wealth includes a spirit of generosity and the ability to contribute to social and cultural sharing across our families, clans, and communities. Being a good relative also includes creating safe spaces and protocols of engagement that consider the health and wellbeing of others, including the prevention/protection of participants from the harms of physical/sexual abuse or exploitation.

5. a.) Describe your connection to the community and how your wealth building plan supports a spirit of generosity.

Guiding Questions: Describe who you and your family are and how you are connected to your Indigenous community. How will the result of your activities - contribute to social and cultural sharing with family, extended family, clan, or community? What is the ripple effect? (3000 character count)

- b.) In demonstrating your commitment to the values of being a good relative, please share how safety and wellbeing is reflected in the spaces your activities take place. (3000 character count)



**Navigators**

Applicants may have a relative or other trusted community advisor to assist in navigating the application process, including logging into the application portal on behalf of the applicant. Navigators may also be a program staff member from a Community Development Financial Institution, a Tribal College or University, a Native-led Nonprofit, or a Tribe to assist the applicant in completing the application process. Applicants should select **trusted advisors** as their Navigator due to confidentiality and personal information shared in the application. To learn more about Navigator Hubs visit: [ndnco.cc/colab](http://ndnco.cc/colab)

6. a.) Did someone assist you with completing the application?  Yes  No  
(If Yes, please provide their information and describe how they supported you with the application process.)

First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Ext: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

- b.) Describe how the Navigator supported your application (writing, computer support, etc)  
(500 character count)

**Navigator and Applicant Agreement**

- 7.) I agree that:

All the information I have provided is true and accurate.

I understand that if awarded, I will be expected to adhere to my wealth building plan and activities. Any changes must be approved by my Program Officer. Further, I will submit a report prior to the end of the grant period, including documentation of grant expenditures. I will attend Grantee Power Building Sessions.

I commit to living and or working towards a life of wellness.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_