



2026 Grant Cycle Cleveland Co. Region Information Session

February 2026

Agenda

- Welcome & Agenda Review
 - CNF Team
 - CNF Overview
 - Funding Principles
 - Areas of Focus
 - Grant Eligibility
 - 2026 Changes
 - Grant Cycle Timelines
- Application Process Overview
 - Foundant Overview
 - Application: Budget Template
 - Application Resources
- Live Q&A



About Catawba Nation Foundation

Meet the Team



Kristine Urrutia
Executive Director



Tina Cheney
Finance Director



Tanya Varanelli
Operations Lead

Scan for
Contact Info



Mission and Values

The Catawba Nation Foundation funds projects that focus on educational advancement, cultural preservation, environmental conservation, and economic development for the Catawba Nation, Cleveland County and the surrounding region, and Native American Tribal Nations and communities throughout North Carolina.

Our Values



Collaboration



Community



Ethical



Leadership



Mutual Respect



Responsive



The Catawba Nation Foundation was established as a stand-alone philanthropic 501(c)(3) as part of the Nation's 2021 Compact with the State of North Carolina. Our work is funded primarily from proceeds generated by the Nation's Catawba Two Kings Casino.



Who we fund



**Catawba
Nation**



**Cleveland County
Region***



**North Carolina
Tribes & Native
Organizations**

**Cleveland County Region includes Cleveland, McDowell, Burke, Gaston, Rutherford, Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, and Lincoln Counties.*

What we fund



**Educational
Advancement**



**Cultural
Preservation**



**Environmental
Conservation**



**Economic
Development**

Grant Eligibility



- Organization Type
 - 501(c)(3) or other tax-exempt organization
 - Fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3)
 - Tribal Government
 - Tax-exempt organization dedicated to Native American Communities
- Tribal Affiliation
 - Catawba Nation
 - North Carolina Tribes

Recent Changes

- Separate Grant Cycles for each Area of Focus
- Request Amount Range
 - Share Any Matching Grants
- Grant Request Categories
 - General Operating
 - Program/Project
 - Capital/Equipment
- Budget Template
 - Allowable IDC Rates

Grant Timeline

- **Cleveland County Region**
 - Applications open March 1 – 31, 2026
 - Awards will be announced by August 1, 2026.
- **North Carolina Tribes and Native Organizations**
 - Applications open September 1 – 30, 2026
 - Awards will be announced by December 1, 2026
- **Catawba Nation**
 - Applications open in Fall 2026



About the Grant Cycle

2026 Grant Cycle Timeline – Cleveland County Region



March 1 - March 31

Application Window



May

CNF Board Reviews
All Applications



August 1

Award Announcements

- Visit catawbanationfoundation.org
- Click “Apply” button
- Register to create an Account

How to Apply

Logon

Email Address*

Password*

[Log On](#) [Create New Account](#)

[Forgot your Password?](#)

Welcome to the Catawba Nation Foundation's online grants portal!

Applicant Tutorials:

[Video Tutorial 1: Site Access & Account Creation](#) (mins: 0.00 to 1.34)
[Video Tutorial 2: Applying for Funding](#) (mins: 1.35 to 3.20)
[Video Tutorial 3: Your Applicant Dashboard](#) (mins 3.21 to 4.48)
[Written Tutorial](#)

First time here?

Click "Create New Account" to complete the registration process and create your organization's logon credentials.

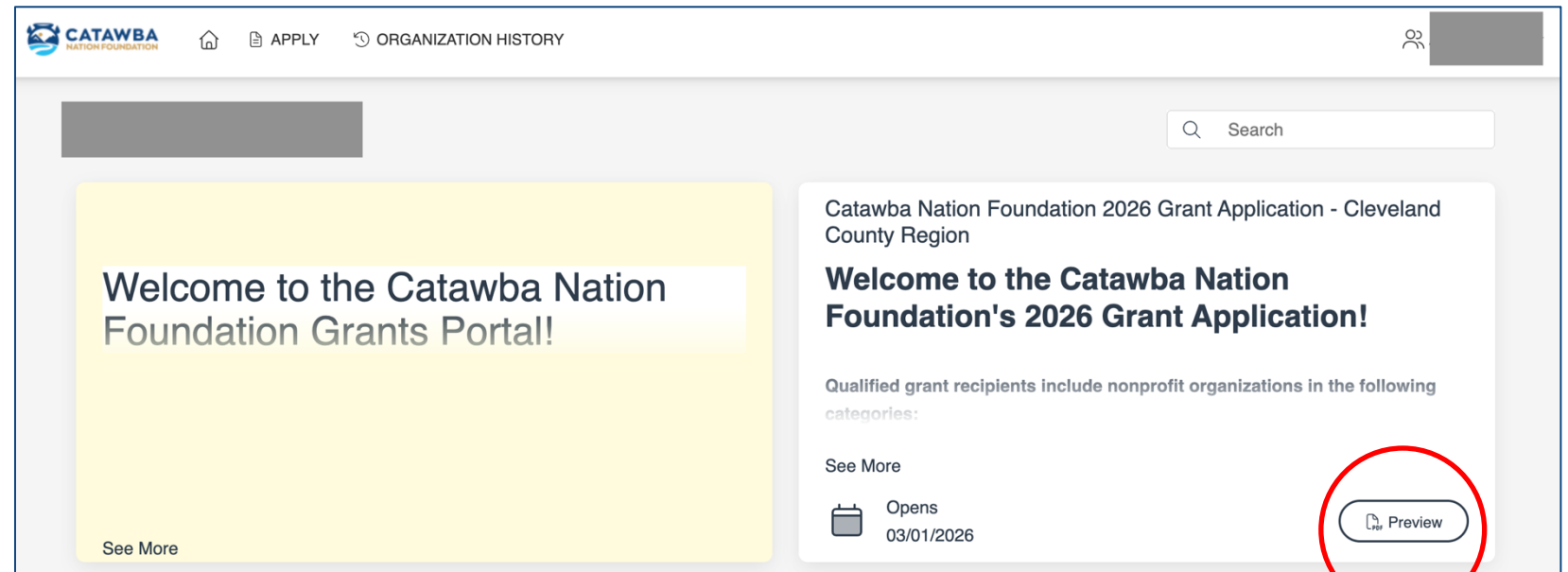
TIP: This email address is the one we will use to communicate with you if we have questions, which sometimes require prompt response. We suggest using an email address that is available to anyone at your organization who needs to access the application.

Been here before?

If you have already used our new online grant system, but have forgotten your password, please click "Forgot Your Password?" and follow the instructions.

How to Apply

- **View Applicant Dashboard**



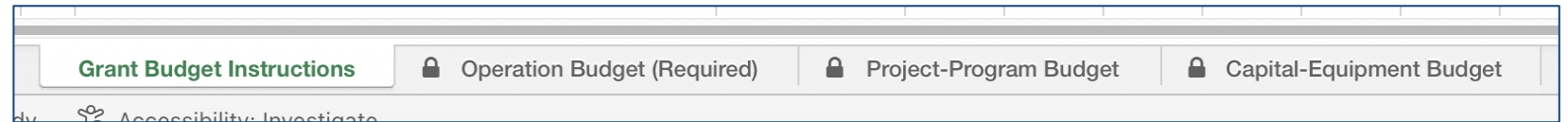
Application Resources - Budget Template

The Catawba Nation Foundation Grant Committee will seriously review and evaluate the grant budget attached to your grant application.

Which Grant Budget Template Do You Need?

The budget template you should complete depends on how your grant funds will be used. Please review the guidance below:

1. All Applicants **MUST** Complete Operations Budget Template
2. Applicants Funding a Specific Project or Program will **ALSO** Complete Project/Program Budget Template
3. Applicants Purchasing Equipment or Completing Construction will **ALSO** Complete Capital/Equipment Budget Template



Application Resources – IDC Rates

- Tiered IDC Based on Organization Type
 - Tribal or grassroots orgs: 15%
 - Small nonprofits: 12%
 - Universities, hospitals, large institutions: 10%

Application Resources

- **Info Session Slides and Recording**
- **Application Preview**
- **FAQ Guide**
- **Budget Template file**
- **Tuesdays with Tina** – one-on-one sessions focused on budget guidance



Live Q&A

We're Here To Help

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