

CALIFORNIA TRIBAL HOUSING ACCELERATOR ACADEMY

Request for Applications

At <u>Enterprise Community Partners</u>, we recognize that home is the foundation for health, education, stability, wealth, and community. In tribal communities throughout California, there is a dire need for affordable housing. Too often, tribal members are doubled up in overcrowded housing, seeking more stability while remaining close to family, or paying skyrocketing costs just to have a place to live. We are committed to supporting Tribal nations throughout the state of California to execute housing development and access state and other resources to accomplish your goals. This is the driving force behind the **California Tribal Housing Accelerator Academy**.

The California Tribal Housing Accelerator Academy is a technical assistance program focused on practitioner-driven housing development fundamentals and peer-to-peer support. The Academy will aid California tribal organizations seeking to maximize state housing funds and expand your ability to address housing needs for tribal citizens. We seek to work alongside tribes to ensure that critical housing resources are maximized and that tribal communities have equitable access to safe, decent, affordable, and culturally relevant housing.

Tribal Nations and Rural Communities

Enterprise's <u>Tribal Nations and Rural Communities</u> team has supported safe, decent and culturally relevant housing on tribal lands and in rural communities since 1997. Enterprise's Tribal Nations team are experienced trainers and technical assistance providers, having worked with tribal communities for more than 20 years. During this time, Enterprise has honed a model to provide training, individual organizational technical assistance and peer learning cohorts made up of housing providers in order to build the skills of housing agency staff to expand housing opportunities. Enterprise seeks to change what can be an extractive relationship with developers by helping tribal housing agencies assess projects, choose strong and committed partners, and build the internal capacity to construct housing without the need to work with outside development partners.

About the Academy

The California Tribal Housing Accelerator Academy is an opportunity for eligible California tribes and Native organizations to advance their affordable housing and community development

goals. We will pair direct, individualized technical assistance with a training series and a peer cohort of tribes supporting tribes.

The Academy will open with an in-person training session and include three virtual sessions between April and October. For that six month period tribes will be paired with TA providers and working individually on housing goals. Training session topics will be finalized after feedback from tribal housing providers, but a sample of topics could include:

- Informational Webinar: CA Tribal Housing Academy 2025
- Kickoff and Affordable Housing Bootcamp for California Tribes
- Landscape of California Funding Resources
- Utilities and Infrastructure 101: Resources, Planning and More
- Supportive Services Plan Deep Dive

Development Cohort

The California Tribal Housing Accelerator Academy seeks to create a **Development Cohort** of tribes to foster peer-to-peer learning opportunities throughout the training series. Enterprise plans to involve at least 10 organizations to join the development cohort by April 25, 2024.

We encourage as many tribes to participate as are able, with an "open enrollment" process, with rolling applications and acceptance. Interested tribes must complete a survey to identify their housing goals and need for technical assistance, and participate in an intake call with Enterprise team members. Benefits of participation include:

- \$3,000 participation grant to your tribal organization to cover travel to in-person sessions and dedicated staff time for the program and TA (please note attendance at the Kickoff event is expected with this grant).
- One day-long in-person bootcamp session and 3 virtual trainings on special topics
- Free one-on-one technical assistance (approximately 20 hours) focused on your tribal housing development goals. Enterprise works with a team of technical assistance providers with specific tribal affordable housing development experience who will provide assistance at no cost to eligible California tribal entities. Each cohort member will be paired with a team that is the best fit for your project.
- The opportunity to access a mini-grant of up to \$10,000 which can cover direct predevelopment costs for a tribal housing project.

Our team is dedicated to providing training led by affordable housing experts with technical assistance expertise including application review, site identification, real estate development, tribal-specific waivers, financial sustainability, and more. Our TA provides insight into multiple California Housing and Community Development NOFAs such as the Tribal Homekey + the Tribal Multifamily SuperNOFA, Homeownership SuperNOFA, Infrastructure Infill Grant Program,

and the Housing Trust Fund Program. While TA will help cohort members meet impactful project milestones, this program is not meant to cover all time that may be necessary to complete HDC applications for Homekey or SuperNOFA funding.

Tailoring Your Experience

Our CA Tribal Housing Academy is designed to meet tribes where they are, and each component of our programming can be layered upon other opportunities. Some examples of the flexibility we seek to provide:

- Three month open enrollment period: for tribes to learn more about the academy, consider their development goals and join the program. A longer time window is designed to be inclusive to all tribes in California.
- Open Registration for Kickoff: there is no limit on who can attend our Affordable Housing 101 session, all are welcome.
- An Open Virtual Class Participation: Any California tribal applicants who are not part of the Development Cohort will still be able to access three of the virtual trainings.
- Additional Mini-Grant for Predevelopment costs: we know that those surveys and environmental reports can feel like barriers to accessing further funding, so we have additional resources this year to go directly to tribes.

Kick-Off: Affordable Housing 101 for Tribes in California

The kickoff meeting for the CA Tribal Housing Academy will take place on Tuesday, March 25, 2024 near Sacramento and focus on the fundamentals of affordable housing development and financing in California. We are excited to go through affordable housing topics as well as a chance for tribes to meet with expert TA providers in-person and one-on-one. For those interested in joining CA Tribal Housing Academy, please save the date and expect more information soon. Up to two staff from each organization may attend.

Eligibility

- Federally recognized tribe in the state of California, or
- Tribally Designated Housing Entities or tribal housing authorities
- Tribe on the California heritage commission list, or
- Native-led organization (501c3) providing housing, in an urban or Tribal community

Expectations

- Provide contact information for two participants from your organization to the Enterprise team.
- Participation in the in person and online training sessions
- Fulfill any documentation requirements needed from Enterprise for the participation grant including your W-9
- Complete a program evaluation survey at the start and close of the program

• Submit expenses and planned uses as well as additional documentation if applying for \$10,000 pre-development mini-grant (not required at the application stage).

How to Apply

Applications for the California Tribal Housing Accelerator Academy open <u>February 13th, 2024</u> and will close <u>April 25, 2024 at 11:59pm EST</u>.

Please submit your application through this link prior to the deadline, and applications will be reviewed by a selection committee:

You can also find more information about Enterprise's Tribal Nations team here, and state-funded resources for affordable housing here.

If you have any questions about the application process please contact eimmonen@enterprisecommunity.org