

Tribal Languages Grant Timeline

Since time immemorial, tribal peoples have practiced, valued, and shared their Tribal languages across generations and geography. Tribal language is specific and special to the place and peoples who speak it, and as such is a crucial piece of culture for the First Peoples.

2003 Pilot – First Peoples’ Language, Culture, and Oral Tradition

“First peoples’ languages are falling silent. Despite tribal efforts, first peoples’ languages are not fully incorporated into the school systems. This is a loss to the cultural heritage of the affected tribes and to the cultural resources of Washington state” [WAC 181-78A-700](#)

2007 Codified - First Peoples’ Language, Culture, and Oral Tradition Certification

“Any sovereign tribal government whose traditional lands and territories lie within the borders of the state of Washington may participate individually on a government-to-government basis in the program.” [RCW 28A.410.045](#)

2017 Dual Language grant used for Tribal Language

Quileute Tribal School and Wa He Lut Indian School awarded \$19,000 each for Quilute and Quilshootseed respectively, as a result of [Substitute House Bill 1445](#): dual language in k-12 education. * [2017-19 grantees](#)

2019 Tribal Language Grant and Professional Learning Community established

2019 -20 SY OSPI offered Tribal specific language grants. Prior to this, Tribal language programs were able to apply for Heritage Language grant supports. This year, 6 districts/STEC schools were awarded for 35,000. As tribal language continues hold as a priority to our Tribes, OSPI has been able to consistently support the work and growth of this initiative through multiple support pathways.

2020 Washington’s Education Stimulus Funds

Over two million dollars were allocated to support Tribal Language work in districts and Tribal compact schools across Washington state. The Office of Native Education was able to secure approximately \$14 million in funds to support in Native Educator Cultivation, American Indian/Alaskan Native Identification, Mitigating Effects of Intergenerational Trauma, and Tribal Language.

