



Cherokee Language Teacher Training Program

Program Overview

The Cherokee Language Teacher Training Program is designed to create qualified Cherokee language teachers. Cherokee Nation will fund scholarships for five (5) Cherokee language students for four (4) years each for students that attend Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, OK. After completing the first semester of the Program, the students will sign a contract committing their services after graduation to the Cherokee Immersion Charter School or at one of the Cherokee Nation's cooperative satellite programs in public schools in the fourteen counties.

A Selection Committee consisting of Cherokee Language Program & Cherokee Immersion Charter School staff will choose scholarship recipients. The awardees must demonstrate some knowledge of the Cherokee language upon application. In addition to attending their classes at Northeastern State University, the students will spend a total of fifteen (15) hours per week in the Program. This includes scheduled time in classrooms with teachers and students at the Cherokee Immersion Charter School, formal instructional time with Cherokee Language Program staff at Cherokee Nation, and other Cherokee Nation language related events. Upon successful completion of the Cherokee Language Teacher Training Program and receiving a degree in education at Northeastern State University, these students will have the necessary skills to be Cherokee language teachers in a classroom setting.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Cherokee Nation Language Program - Attn: Roy Boney, Jr., P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74464. Phone: 918-453-5487. Email: roy-boney@cherokee.org

Criteria

- Must demonstrate some conversational Cherokee language:
 - Ability to have a basic conversation in Cherokee
 - Fluency will be increased by Program participation
- Must have a strong desire to speak Cherokee and a passion for the language
- Must have a strong desire to teach and work with children
- Must be a Cherokee Nation Citizen
- Must be a student at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, OK.
- Must enroll as a full time student (12 credit hours minimum)
- Must reside in the contiguous fourteen county jurisdictional area of the Cherokee Nation. Proof of residency required.
- Must submit official transcripts at the end of each semester.
- Must understand participation in the program is a contractual, long-term commitment.

- Must be organized, creative, & flexible.
- Employees of Cherokee Nation and its entities are not eligible.

Scholarship Award

- Tuition (Northeastern State University in-state)
- Required Books
- Required Fees
- Room/Board Allowance
- Laptop to be provided (subject to equipment loan agreement)

Application

- Applicants will be required to write an essay between 1,500 to 2,000 words about why they want to participate in the program.
- Application will require test scores:
 - ACT
 - Cherokee Language Proficiency Test and/or Certification from Cherokee Language Program (testing can be scheduled by calling Edna Jones at 918-453-5151).
- Official high school and/or college transcript
- Résumé/Related work history
- Applicants are required to submit correctly filled-in and complete applications by 5pm November 15, 2014. Applications can be sent by email, delivered in person, or mailed (must be postmarked by deadline date). Scholarship will begin for the Spring 2015 term.
- Applications incorrectly filled-in or incomplete will not be considered.
- Applicants will be interviewed by Selection Committee to demonstrate some knowledge of Cherokee language.
- Applicants must agree to a full background check as part of application process.

Selection Process

- Selection Committee will consist of selected staff from the Cherokee Language Program and the Cherokee Nation Immersion Charter School.
- Participant selection will be based on a combination of factors and attributes, including knowledge of Cherokee language, enthusiasm for the Cherokee language, ability to complete long term goals and tasks, and relevant experience (for example, specific involvement and leadership in a tribal community, volunteer service, related job history, and other extra curricular activities related to Cherokee language, etc.).
- Decisions made by the Selection Committee will be final.

Participant Requirements

- Participants will be required to work a total of fifteen (15) hours per week in the program. This includes scheduled time in classrooms at the Cherokee Nation Immersion Charter School, formal instructional time with Cherokee Language Program staff at Cherokee Nation, and Cherokee Nation language related events.
- The participants will have a one (1) semester Trial Period to decide if they want to continue with the program. If participants agree to continue after the Trial Period, they will be required to sign a contract stating that upon graduation they will commit to services at the Cherokee Nation Immersion Charter School or at one of the Cherokee Nation's cooperative satellite programs in public schools around the fourteen counties.

- Failure to fulfill the terms set forth in the contract will result in participants having to repay the scholarship amount incurred after the Trial Period.
- Three (3) times per semester, participants will be tested to demonstrate improvement of Cherokee language skills to the Selection Panel.
 - If sufficient improvement is not demonstrated via test results, counseling for participants will be given to alter study habits, work conditions, etc. to increase Cherokee proficiency.
 - If after counseling, sufficient improvement is not demonstrated, participants will forfeit further program participation and will be under no further obligation to the Program.
 - Tests will be developed by Cherokee Language Program and Cherokee Immersion Charter School staff.
- Participants will help develop classroom materials for Immersion students, including curriculum and lesson plans.
- Participants will document their activities in a written journal that will be reviewed periodically by a Cherokee Language Teacher to document progress.

Cherokee Language Program Responsibilities

- Creation of a guided curriculum for participants which will aid them in developing the necessary Cherokee language skills needed to converse and eventually teach in a Cherokee language classroom setting.
- Provide supervision, mentorship and assistance to the participants as they learn Cherokee:
 - Selected staff will schedule time to meet with participants regularly, including exclusive Cherokee Conversation time.
- Provide training and tech support for Cherokee language technology including fonts, keyboard layouts, and software support.

Cherokee Nation Immersion Charter School Responsibilities

- Provide a sufficient workspace for the participants at the school.
- Provide supervision, mentorship, and assistance to the participants as they learn Cherokee.
- Help develop guided curriculum so it fits the needs of the participants and the needs of the Cherokee Immersion Charter School.
- Help participants learn appropriate vocabulary for classroom use and interaction.
- Immersion Staff will work with the participants as partners in the Immersion students' education.
- Teachers will adhere to a Supervising Teacher's List of Responsibilities developed by Cherokee Language Program and Cherokee Immersion Charter School Staff.



Cherokee Language Teacher Training Program Application

Please Write Legibly
Submit This Form with the Required Documents

Required Documents:

- Résumé
- Proof of current or upcoming enrollment at Northeastern State University (acceptance letter and class schedule)
- Proof of residency in the contiguous 14 county Cherokee Nation jurisdictional area (such as copy of utility bill, current government issued ID, etc.)
- Copy of ACT Scores
- Copy of Language Proficiency Test and/or Certification from Cherokee Language Program (testing for these can be scheduled by calling Edna Jones at 918-453-5151).
- Copy of Social Security Card
- Copy of Tribal Citizenship Card
- 3 Letters of Recommendation (from teachers, employers, community leaders, etc.)

Personal Information

Name _____
Last First M.I.

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Educational Information

Name of University _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact at University _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Degree Seeking _____

Major Area of Study _____

Expected Date of Graduation _____

Approved Degree Plan on File with Advisor? _____ Yes _____ No

Name of Advisor _____

Advisor's Phone _____ Advisor's Email _____

Please provide your answers to the following typed on additional sheets.

- ***What kind of involvement and leadership roles do you have in a Cherokee Community?*** – On one page provide a brief explanation of your involvement in a Cherokee Community, including examples of leadership and excellence in extra-curricular activities especially pertaining to Cherokee language.
- ***Provide faculty, employer, and/or tribal recommendations*** – Submit 3 letters of reference. Applicants are partially rated according to recommendations regarding the applicant's potential.
- ***Write an essay of reasons you are for applying to the Program*** – Write an essay between 1, 500 to 2,000 words explaining what the Cherokee language means to you and

why you are applying for this program. State how your participation and completion of this program will help meet the needs of the Cherokee Nation and its Cherokee Language Revitalization efforts. This essay will weigh heavily toward your rating and will be read and judged by the Selection Committee.

Cherokee Language Proficiency Self Evaluation – In addition to an oral interview with Cherokee speakers, your level of Cherokee language proficiency will be taken into consideration. Please rate your skill level of Cherokee language proficiency with 1 being the lowest to 10 being the highest.

Speaking Cherokee: _____

Reading Syllabary: _____

Writing Syllabary: _____

Applicant Certification

My signature certifies that I am a Cherokee Nation citizen and a U.S. permanent resident. It also certifies that this application contains no falsification, and that the information provided is true and correct. I understand that any false statement made herein would result in a voided application. I hereby authorize the release of all information contained in this application, including agreeing to a background check, for eligibility for this scholarship.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Deadline: Must be received by November 15, 2015 by 5:00pm

Please submit by one of the following:

***Certified Mail:* Cherokee Nation Education, Attn: Cherokee Language Teacher Training Program,
PO Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465**

***Hand Deliver:* 17675 S. Muskogee Ave, Tahlequah, OK to the Cherokee Language Program Office
located in the Cherokee Nation tribal complex**

***Email:* CollegeResources@cherokee.org**

PROGRAM CONTINUATION SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS ANNUALLY