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Teacher Bridge Program Cohort 2 Application

DEADLINE: November 1, 2023

Cohort 2 start date: January 4, 2024

The Cherokee Nation's Teacher Bridge Program is committed to furthering participants' Cherokee language proficiency while preparing them to be Cherokee Language Teachers. The program focuses on expanding social capacity through strengthening professional teaching skills for Cherokee Nation educational programs and other local educational institutions with whom we partner. Participants will develop the cultural, linguistic, and pedagogical skills needed to effectively teach Cherokee language learners using the Cherokee Language.

Participants will engage in class sessions Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and will receive an educational cash benefit as part of this two-year, 40-hour-a-week program. The main classroom will be in Tahlequah, OK; however, there will be off-site required field experiences and other required travel at certain times during the program. Class sessions will be in a Cherokee language immersion environment (90% of the time we will speak the Cherokee Language), employing a combination of discussing required readings, receiving direct instruction, and completing project-based activities. The number of applicants selected will be based on program availability.

Bearing in mind the very different rates at which people learn language, Teacher Bridge Participants could expect to grow to a mid-to-high advanced level of Cherokee proficiency (as described by the American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages) by the end of the two-year program. Participants will also learn to use a variety of language teaching methods for all ages of students.

To be selected for the program, the following minimum requirements must be met:

- Must be 18 years or older.
- Must possess a strong desire to help revitalize the Cherokee language and culture through teaching.
- Must pass a youth-sensitive background check.
- Must score at least high-intermediate in speaking on the program's approved Cherokee language assessment.
- Must be willing to teach different age groups (from children to adults)

Preferred qualifications:

- Teacher education/teaching background (not specifically language teaching is fine)

**Cherokee Nation Teacher Bridge Program
Cohort 2 Application**

Please print

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name/Initial
Birthday	Marital Status	Cherokee Name

Mailing address
City, State, Zip Code

Primary Phone number	Secondary Phone Number
Email Address	

Please provide tribal citizenship number, as it applies.

<input type="checkbox"/> Cherokee Nation _____ <input type="checkbox"/> United Keetoowah Band of Oklahoma _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other tribe _____

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

Have you graduated highschool or received a GED?

- Yes
- No

What year did you graduate or receive your GED? _____

Are you currently enrolled in an accredited university?

- Yes
- No
- I have completed some college credits but am not currently enrolled.

- Please indicate the degree (AA, BA, BS) and area of study below. For those who have completed some college, also indicate how much you completed:

Have you completed a college degree or other post-high-school training program?

- Yes
- No

- Please indicate the degree(s) you earned (BA, BS, MA, etc.) or other training and subject area(s) below:

Teaching Experience, including volunteer teaching (if applicable)

School/site/company	Teaching responsibilities	Grade/age of Students

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Most Current Employer	Dates of Employment
Supervisor	Phone Number and/or email
Did you leave voluntarily?	*Job Responsibilities

Employer	Dates of Employment
Supervisor	Phone Number
Did you leave voluntarily?	*Job Responsibilities

*You may attach a more detailed description of job responsibilities to this application.

REFERENCE LIST – Please list two (2) individuals who are familiar with your current language learning/teaching, and one (1) as a personal reference.

Language learning/teaching reference	Name	Phone Number
Language learning/teaching reference	Name	Phone Number
Personal reference	Name	Phone Number

All participants must pass a youth-sensitive background check. The following is a screening question.

Have you ever been found guilty of, or entered a plea of no contest or guilty to, any felonious offense, of any of two or more misdemeanor offenses under Federal, State, or tribal law involving crimes of violence; sexual assault, molestation, exploitation, contact or prostitution crimes against persons; or offences committed against children?

- YES
- NO

CHEROKEE PROFICIENCY: Based on the following scale, please rate your language proficiency.

- SUPERIOR:** I can narrate and describe most situations in the Cherokee language, with accuracy and fluency.
- ADVANCED:** I can narrate and describe most situations in the Cherokee language with no difficulty. I can understand Cherokee easily, and speakers understand me.
- INTERMEDIATE:** I can ask and answer questions on familiar topics with confidence.
- NOVICE:** I can communicate simple ideas with simple, memorized words or phrases.

CHEROKEE LITERACY

- I **do not** read or write the Cherokee syllabary.
- I **do** read and write the Cherokee syllabary.

Tell us about yourself (If you need more room, you can attach answers to this application.)

1. What motivates you to want to learn and teach the Cherokee language?
2. What strengths would you bring to the program?
3. After reading the program description, what do you feel might be challenging for you?
4. What are some of your hobbies?
5. Describe your Cherokee language learning experience (Example: Did you learn from family, classroom, etc.)
6. Why do you want to be part of the Teacher Bridge Program?
7. If chosen to participate, how do you plan to use the knowledge and skills you would learn in this program to continue to revitalize the Cherokee language?