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Durbin Feeling  
Language Preservation Act



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CHEROKEE NATION®  
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Language Department

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## CHEROKEE LANGUAGE MASTER APPRENTICE PROGRAM

### 2027 Cohort Application

**DEADLINE: Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2027**

The Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program is dedicated to creating new Cherokee language teachers. Through Cherokee language, values, behaviors and beliefs, CLMAP supports intergenerational language growth through the creation of language teachers.

CLMAP participants engage in a language immersion environment for two years as full-time language learners. To offset living expenses, CLMAP participants receive a bi-weekly educational benefit. Eight new learners are placed once a year in the Fall, through an application and interview process. Interested individuals must meet the following criteria:

- 18 years or older
- Pass a youth sensitive background check
- Intend to teach the Cherokee language and culture
- Willing to participate in cultural activities
- Available Monday - Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm
- Available to travel
- 86% Mandatory Attendance

Applications can be submitted online or sent to either  
[Carmelita-Brown@cherokee.org](mailto:Carmelita-Brown@cherokee.org) or [Don-Dugger@cherokee.org](mailto:Don-Dugger@cherokee.org)

Hand delivered applications will be accepted at  
Durbin Feeling Language Center  
16489 US-62, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

**Please do not mail applications. No late applications will be accepted.**

Applicants will receive an application update via email, within two weeks of the deadline.

Additional information can be found at:

<https://language.cherokee.org/language-programs/cherokee-language-master-apprentice-program/>

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**Fall 2026 Cohort Application**

First Name	Last Name
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Street Address
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City	State
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Phone Number	Secondary Number
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Email Address
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Please Provide a photocopy, scanned image, or even a digital version of your ID and Tribal ID if applicable, along with this application.

How are you affiliated with the Cherokee language and culture?

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**EDUCATIONAL HISTORY**

Institution Name	City	State
Degree Obtained	Year of completion	

Institution Name	City	State
Degree Obtained	Year of completion	

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Most Current Employer	Dates of Employment
Supervisor	Phone Number
Job Responsibilities	May we contact your supervisor?

Continued on next page.

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Recent Employer	Dates of Employment
Supervisor	Phone Number
Job Responsibilities	Why did you leave?

**REFERENCE LIST**- Please list individuals who are familiar with your current language learning.

Name	Phone Number
Name	Phone Number

All future teachers must pass a youth sensitive background check. 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

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR INTAKE PURPOSES ONLY:

**CHEROKEE PROFICIENCY**

Mark all that apply:

- I know fewer than 100 Cherokee words.  
 I know around 200 Cherokee words.  
 I can use common phrases and sentences.

**CHEROKEE LITERACY**

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

**CURRENT LEARNING**

My current language learning includes the following (Mark all that apply):

- CLMAP will be my first learning experience.  
 I am an independent Cherokee learner- I study on my own using language material.  
 I regularly work with other Cherokee language learners.  
 I regularly work with a native Cherokee speaker

## ESSAY

In 300 words or less, please discuss the following:

- How are you currently learning Cherokee?
- Tell us about your plans to become a Cherokee teacher. Please be specific.
- What can you bring to the language learning team if selected?