

Oswalt Endangered Language Grants

Survey of California and Other Indian Languages

Fall 2016 Deadline: Friday, November 18

Berkeley graduate students are invited to apply for funding for linguistic fieldwork on endangered languages. Funding is from the Robert L. Oswalt Graduate Student Support Endowment for Endangered Language Documentation, given in memory of Robert L. Oswalt (PhD Berkeley 1961) by his family. Dr. Oswalt did fieldwork on Pomoan languages throughout his life, published documentary material and innovative computational work in historical linguistics, participated for decades in the intellectual life of the Berkeley Americanist community, and was a friend and generous mentor to academic and Native scholars.

Eligibility and other details

There are three mandatory eligibility conditions:

- Oswalt Grants are only for graduate students (in any department) at UC Berkeley.
- Oswalt Grants are only for expenses incurred in linguistic fieldwork on endangered languages. This may include travel and living expenses, consultant costs, material, and other expenses as appropriate. Oswalt Grants cannot be used for stipends, purely ethnographic research, or revitalization projects.
- If you received a previous Oswalt Grant, you must have submitted your report on the work it supported, and the archiving plan you proposed must have been followed. (You may apply for an Oswalt Grant if you received one before, but if all else is equal, preference may be given to applicants who have not received Oswalt Grant funding.)

We expect to award 5-10 grants of *c.* \$3,000–\$7,000 each. Applicants should be honest in describing needs; grants may be smaller than requested. A faculty committee evaluates applications. Common reasons for not funding proposals include (a) poorly articulated, vague, or unrealistic research or documentary goals; (b) failure to explain why the target language is endangered; (c) research methods that are poorly articulated, vague, or not clearly related to the project goals; and (d) failure to describe clear archiving plans.

Application process

To apply, submit an application letter that includes the following:

- a description of your project's goals, explaining why the project is important and original;
- details of the endangerment status of the language you will be working on;
- a description of your documentary methods and how they will help accomplish your project's goals;
- if you have received previous Oswalt Grant funding, a description of how your archiving plan for that project was implemented;
- a budget, with details and clear justification;
- the name of your Berkeley faculty advisor or mentor who is familiar with your project; and
- a precise explanation of how, where, and when you will archive your primary materials (e.g. audio/video recordings and fieldnotes). If you plan to archive in the California Language Archive (cla.berkeley.edu), please include a \$500 budget item to help defray the costs of managing your archival submission.

Each application letter should be a .pdf document `Oswalt-Yourname.pdf`, where "Yourname" is your name, and should be no more than 5 pages long. Email this to Andrew Garrett, Director of the Survey of California and Other Languages (garrett@berkeley.edu).