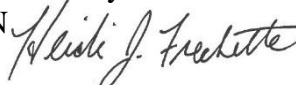


PROGRAM GUIDANCE

PROGRAM: Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)

FOR: All Tribal Government Leaders and Tribally Designated Housing Entities

FROM: Heidi J. Frechette, Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Native American Programs, PN 

TOPIC: Posting of Fiscal Year 2018 Notice of Funding Availability for the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program

Purpose: This guidance provides potential applicants with a summary of the Department’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages, also known as the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program, posted on October 22, 2018. The Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD’s Grant Programs and the General Administrative Requirements and Term for HUD Financial Assistance Awards can be found and accessed at:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/fundingopps and www.grants.gov.

Program Description: The ICDBG program supports the development of viable American Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons with low- and moderate-incomes.

Eligibility Information: All federally recognized Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages are eligible to participate in the ICDBG program. Tribal organizations, as described in 24 CFR 1003.5, are also eligible applicants. To apply for funding, an applicant must meet the eligibility criterion by the application submission date. Eligible categories of funding include housing rehabilitation, land acquisition to support new housing, homeownership assistance, public facilities and improvements, economic development, and microenterprise programs. For a complete description of eligible activities, please refer to 24 CFR 1003, subpart C.

FY 2018 Funding Availability: Funding of up to \$65,000,000 is available through this NOFA.

Application Due Date: The application deadline is 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on January 7, 2019, and as in past years, must be submitted through Grants.gov unless a waiver of the electronic submission requirement has been requested and granted in advance of the deadline.

Changes in the FY 2018 NOFA: There are several changes in the NOFA, although the essence of the application process remains the same. This Program Guidance provides only a summary; interested applicants should read the entire NOFA carefully to be aware of every change. The NOFA itself includes a list of changes in Section 1.A.2.

Section I – Funding Opportunity Description

Section I.A.1. Imminent Threat Grants. The NOFA includes a reference to the Imminent Threat Program Guidance published in 2017: <https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=2017-01ImminentTGT.pdf>.

Section I.A.3. Definitions. The NOFA now includes the definition for “Youth” to the Program Definitions section.

Section II – Award Information

Section II. A.1. Available Funds. In FY 2018, HUD is using data from the American Community Survey (ACS), by the U.S. Census Bureau, to allocate funds to the Area Offices of Native American Programs (Area ONAPs). Eligible applicants that are located within an area office jurisdiction will compete for funding allocated to that Area Office. Accordingly, the Area ONAP allocations, listed in alphabetical order, are:

Alaska	\$7,854,246
Eastern/Woodlands	\$4,953,847
Northern Plains	\$9,508,963
Northwest	\$3,348,939
Southern Plains	\$15,007,318
Southwest	<u>\$21,752,409</u>
TOTAL	\$62,425,723

Section II.A.2. Grant Ceilings. In FY 2018, the grant ceilings for Alaska, Eastern Woodlands, Northern Plains, and Southwest were modified. The Southwest grant ceilings were reduced by 20 percent from the FY 2017 grant ceilings.

Section III.A.3. Housing Rehabilitation Cost Limits. Standardized Housing Rehabilitation Cost Limits to up to \$65,000 for all Area ONAPs except Alaska.

Section III – Eligibility Information

Section III.A. Eligible Applicants. The NOFA modifies the eligibility language for Tribes as it appears in the 24 CFR 1003.5.

Section III.C. Threshold Requirements. The NOFA modifies the threshold requirements to include the thresholds based on projects and references were those requirements will be reviewed or scored.

Section IV – Application and Submission Information

Section IV.A. Obtaining an Application Package. Requests for waivers of the electronic application submission process must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the application deadline. Waivers should be submitted to Hilary Atkin, ONAP Acting Grants Management Director, at the address listed in section IV.A. of the NOFA. In FY 2018, Area Office contact information has been added to this section to also receive waivers for electronic application submission.

Section IV.B.2. Content and Form of Application Submission. The NOFA clarified curable forms and documents in Submissions for All Projects and Submissions for Certain Projects/Applicants in Section IV.B.2.b. In FY 2018, there were some forms and documentation added, while others were removed as they do not apply to the applicants in this program

Section IV.F. Indirect Cost Rate. The FY 2018 NOFA added additional information in Funding Restrictions, Section IV.F. to require documentation for government organizations that have a negotiated indirect cost rate. Documentation of the indirect cost rate must be submitted to obtain indirect costs.

Section V – Application Review Information

Section V.A.1. Rating Factors. In FY 2018, the NOFA modified the Rating Factor point structures to make meaningful distinctions between existing and new applicants and simplified the language to make it easier to understand the requirements.

Factor 1 – Managerial and Technical Staff. In FY 2018, the two major changes in this factor is that in Subfactor 1.2: Past Performance, the “rating period” changed from 12 months to 3 years to provide a broader assessment of grantee performance and a new Audits Finding subfactor was added. Other changes made to this factor include the deletion and rearranging of some subfactors and the total points for current and new applicants.

Factor 2 – Need and Viability. The major change in this factor is the addition of the subfactor on Project Connection to Tribal Youth. The Project Connection to Tribal Youth subfactor was developed to promote projects and activities geared towards addressing the needs of tribal youth. Another significant change to this subfactor is the modification to the New and Unfunded subfactor, previously the Unfunded Applicants, which provides points to applicants that have applied for but not received ICDBG awards in recent years or who have never applied.

Factor 3 – Soundness of Approach. In the 2018 NOFA, the Project Implementation Plan was renamed to the Project Implementation Schedule and moved from subfactor 1.1.b to subfactor 3.3.

Factor 4 – Leveraging Resources. No major changes were made to this subfactor, however, leveraged resources were modified to include, land used for expansion and a 20 percent cap for administrative costs.

Factor 5 – Comprehensiveness and Coordination. No major changes were made to this subfactor.

Section VI Award Administration

Section VI.A. Award Notices.

HUD expects to announce awards by Spring 2019.

Technical Assistance: Contact staff at your Area ONAP for general guidance and technical assistance regarding the NOFA. ONAP staff are not permitted to help you prepare your application. Contact the Grants.gov Support Center for assistance with electronic submission requirements.

Training on ICDBG NOFA Requirements: Training on the requirements of the NOFA will be provided shortly after the NOFA is posted.

- More information will be provided at a later date on HUD's training for the ICDBG NOFA.
- Your Area ONAP will also conduct training specific to the ICDBG NOFA and electronic submission requirements. Contact your Area ONAP for training dates.

Applicants should not rely solely on information in this Guidance because it does not include all applicable NOFA requirements on the subjects addressed. Contact your Area ONAP Grants Management Specialist if you have any questions.