Office of
Native American
Programs
Office of Public & Indian Housing

PROGRAM GUIDANCE

PROGRAM:	Indian Community Development Block Grant
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 2019 and 2020 Notice of Funding Availability for the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program

Purpose: The purpose of this guidance is to provide potential applicants with a summary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 and 2020 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 November 19, 2019. The Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Grant Programs, the General Administrative Requirements and Term for HUD Financial Assistance Awards can be accessed at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/fundingopps and www.grants.gov.

Program Description: The purpose of the ICDBG program is 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 2019 and FY 2020 Funding Availability: The total funding available for competitive single purpose ICDBGs is $61,482,391, representing funds appropriated for FY 2019 and FY 2018 carryover funds. Additionally, approximately $4,000,000 is available for Imminent Threat

grants appropriated in FY 2019. If funding is appropriated for this program in FY 2020, it will also be awarded through this NOFA. Funding for FY 2020 is contingent upon FY 2020 federal appropriations for this program.

Application Due Date: The application deadline is 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on February 3, 2020, and as in past years, must be submitted through Grants.gov unless a waiver of the electronic submission requirement has been requested and granted.

Changes in the FY 2019 and 2020 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.4. Definitions. The NOFA revised the age for "youth" from the age of 21 to 24.

Section II – Award Information

Section II.A. Available Funds. HUD has moved to a two-year NOFA for this cycle to reduce administrative burden on both HUD and ICDBG applicants, and to encourage longer term planning and bigger projects. HUD is accepting applications under this NOFA for both years' funding (FY 2019 and FY 2020). Applications that pass the screening and threshold requirements will be rated and ranked. Funds will be awarded in descending rank order, starting with FY 2019 funds and continuing with FY 2020 funds (if appropriated) until all funds have been exhausted.

Section II. A.1. Allocations to Area ONAPs. In FY 2019, 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 ONAP). Accordingly, the Area ONAP allocations listed in alphabetical order below only provides FY 2019 Area Allocations. Upon the enactment of additional appropriations for FY 2020, HUD will allocate additional funding to each Area ONAP in accordance with the ICDBG regulations. Area Allocations will be announced through a PIH Notice and posted to the ONAP Codetalk website at: www.hud.gov/codetalk.

Alaska	$7,885,067
Eastern/Woodlands	$5,026,760
Northern Plains	$9,256,850
Northwest	$3,379,618
Southern Plains	$14,865,238
Southwest	$21,068,859
TOTAL	**$61,482,391**

Section II.A.2. Grant Ceilings. Grant ceilings were increased in all regions to accommodate two years of funding.

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 up to 7 business days prior to the application deadline. Waivers should be submitted to the respective Area Office with a copy to the ONAP Grants Management Director at the address listed in section IV.A. of the NOFA.

Section V – Application Review Information

Section V.A.1. Rating Factors. The minimum score to be considered for funding was increased from 70 to 75, as it has been in previous ICDBG NOFAs.

Factor 1 – Managerial and Technical Staff. The rating period in subfactor 1.2: Past Performance, was modified to a two-year "rating period," as opposed to the three-year period in the FY 2018 NOFA.

Factor 2 – Need and Viability. Subfactor 2.4: New and Unfunded Applicants were revised to award points to those that have not received an ICDBG in the past 10 years, as opposed to the last three and five NOFA cycles, as required in the FY 18 NOFA.

Factor 3 – Soundness of Approach. No major changes were made to this subfactor.

Factor 4 – Leveraging Resources. No major changes were made to this subfactor.

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

Award Notices: HUD expects to announce awards in Spring 2020.

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.

- HUD will post a recorded training on www.hud.gov/codetalk for the ICDBG NOFA.

- Area ONAPs will conduct a training for the ICDBG NOFA and electronic submission requirements. Please 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.