



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

SEP 14 2021

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Biden Administration is committed to ensuring Tribal governments are supported as communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Rescue Plan provides fast and direct economic assistance, including a historic \$31.2 billion to Tribal communities. I am writing to share several immediate grant opportunities through various Federal agencies that could provide meaningful resources to your communities.

We encourage all Tribal governments to review the enclosed list and take action on these opportunities. If you have any questions about a grant, please reach out to contact listed on the enclosed document.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bryan Newland".

Bryan Newland  
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosure

## **American Rescue Plan Resources for Tribal Communities**

### **Indian Community Development Block Grant – American Rescue Plan (Department of Housing and Urban Development)**

- Description: The Indian Community Development Block Grant – American Rescue Plan (ICDBG-ARP) provides \$280 million in funding to carry out projects and activities that prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, for emergencies that constitute imminent threats to health and safety. This includes housing, public facilities and infrastructure, public services, and economic development, if demonstrated to pertain to preventing, preparing for, or responding to the COVID-19 health emergency. These funds may also be used to provide emergency payments for low- and middle-income families impacted by COVID-19 for items such as food, medicine, clothing, rental assistance, and utility payment assistance.
- Deadline: Phase Two application period started on September 3, 2021 at 3PM EDT. HUD is still accepting applications from Tribes.
- ICDBG-ARP Notice: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/PIH2021-22.pdf>
- Website: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/ih/ONAP-ARP\\_Act\\_2021](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/ONAP-ARP_Act_2021)
- Contact: Office of Native American Programs, [codeltalk@hud.gov](mailto:codeltalk@hud.gov)

### **Indian Housing Block Grant – American Rescue Plan (Department of Housing and Urban Development)**

- Description: The Indian Housing Block Grant – American Rescue Plan (IHBG-ARP) provides \$450 million for the IHBG program to be used by Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities to carry out affordable housing activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus
- These funds may be used to carry out a wide range of affordable housing activities including new housing construction, housing rehabilitation, rental and utility assistance, foreclosure prevention assistance, homelessness assistance, and more.
- Deadline: Ongoing. Tribes and TDHEs must submit an Abbreviated Indian Housing Plan to HUD before receiving their grant funding.
- Website: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/ih/ONAP-ARP\\_Act\\_2021](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/ONAP-ARP_Act_2021)
- IHBG-ARP Notice: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/OCHCO/documents/2021-11pihn.pdf>
- Contact: Office of Native American Programs, [codeltalk@hud.gov](mailto:codeltalk@hud.gov)

### **Homeowner's Assistance (Treasury)**

- Description: The purpose of the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) is to prevent mortgage delinquencies and defaults, foreclosures, loss of utilities or home energy services, and displacement of homeowners experiencing financial hardship after January 21, 2020. Funds from the HAF may be used for assistance with mortgage payments, homeowner's insurance, utility

payments, and other specified purposes. The law prioritizes funds for homeowners who have experienced the greatest hardships, leveraging local and national income indicators to maximize the impact.

- Deadline: September 30, 2021
- Website: <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/homeowner-assistance-fund>
- Contact: HAF\_Tribal@treasury.gov

### **Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program (National Telecommunications and Information Administration)**

- Description: The Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program provides new federal funding for a Tribal College or University to expand broadband internet access, connectivity, and digital inclusion, including to purchase broadband internet access service or equipment, hire and train IT personnel, facilitate educational instruction and learning, including through remote instruction, or to operate a minority business enterprise or 501(c)(3).
- Deadline: December 1, 2021
- Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=335076>
- Contact: Scott Woods, 202-482-1713

### **SSBCI (Treasury)**

- Description: SSBCI provides Eligible Jurisdictions funding for: (1) small business financing programs, which includes capital access programs, loan participations, loan guarantees, collateral support, and venture equity programs; and (2) technical assistance to small businesses applying for SSBCI and other government programs.
- Deadline:
  - Notice of Intent Due September 16, 2021;
  - Application Due December 11, 2021
- Website: <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/small-business-programs/state-small-business-credit-initiative-ssbci>
- Contact: [ssbci\\_information@treasury.gov](mailto:ssbci_information@treasury.gov)

### **Indigenous Communities Challenge (Economic Development Administration)**

- Description: Through the Indigenous Communities program, EDA is allocating \$100 million in American Rescue Plan funding specifically for Indigenous communities, which were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. This program is designed to support the needs of Tribal Governments and Indigenous communities. EDA will support these important partners to develop and execute economic development projects that they need to recover from the pandemic and build economies for the future. A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program. *Indigenous communities are also eligible and encouraged to apply under all of EDA's other programs, including EDA's five other American Rescue Plan programs.*

- Deadline: March 15, 2022 is the suggested application submission date, though applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.
- Website: <https://eda.gov/arpa/indigenous/>
- Contact: [Indigenous@eda.gov](mailto:Indigenous@eda.gov)

### **Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (Treasury)**

- Description: The Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (the Fund) provides \$100 million in payments to Tribal governments and the State of Hawaii to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). The Fund will help ensure that all communities have access to the high-quality, modern infrastructure needed to thrive, including internet access.
- Deadline: TBD.
- Website: <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/capital-projects-fund>
- Contact: Sign up for updates [HERE](#).

### **COVID-19 Testing, Vaccines, and Mobile Health Units Access Supplemental Funding (HHS/ACF/FVPSA)**

- Description: The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Program received a historic investment of \$550 million to assist states, territories, and tribes with providing access to COVID-19 testing, vaccines, and mobile health units for domestic violence shelters, domestic violence programs, tribes, rural communities, culturally specific programs, and underserved communities. The purpose of these supplemental funds are to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 with an intentional focus of increasing access to COVID-19 testing, vaccines, and mobile health units to mitigate the spread of this virus and increase supports for domestic violence survivors.
- Deadline: TBD
- Website: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/programs/family-violence-prevention-services>
- Contact: Shawndell Dawson, [Shawndell.Dawson@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:Shawndell.Dawson@acf.hhs.gov)