Below is the USSET/USSET SPF COVID-19 Tip of the Day 2020:06. You may also access it by clicking [here](#).

In the event you were unable to attend the consultation call, you can provide written comments to consultation@bia.gov and tribal.consult@treasury.gov no later than **Monday, April 13, 2020**.

For your awareness, we offer the following USSET SPF, NAFOA, and NCAI comments:
- USSET SPF comments [here](#)
- NAFOA comments [here](#)
- NCAI comments [here](#).

**Follow-up:** Today (April 13, 2020), we learned that the U.S. Department of Treasury is close to making a decision, after consultation (REMINDER: comments due TODAY) with Tribal Nations and the Department of the Interior (DOI), regarding the distribution methodology for the $8 billion Tribal set aside in the Relief Fund and is providing the following recommendations to Tribal Nations in preparation for receipt of dollars:

1. **Tribal Nations should identify a bank account and be prepared to provide a [DUNS number](#) to the Department of Treasury by 11:59 pm ET this Friday, April 17th.** USSET SPF expects that this information will be transmitted via the online portal that Treasury discussed on last Thursday’s Tribal consultation call.

2. **Tribal Nations should also compile the following data points:** Tribal population/enrollment, number of employees, and total land base. While an official decision on use of these metrics has yet to be announced, Treasury may be requesting that this information be submitted by **Tuesday, April 21st** with the expected distribution of funding on April 24th.

USSET SPF will continue to monitor this rapidly developing issue and will provide further information, including any official communications from Treasury/DOI, as it becomes available.

**Second Follow-up:** Soon after we issued our first follow-up, the U.S. Department of Treasury issued a press release [linked], announcing the launch of a web portal [linked] to facilitate the distribution of CARES Act Title V funds to Tribal, state, and local governments. While Tribal consultation does not conclude until midnight tonight, Treasury is requesting that all accounts, DUNS numbers, and demographic data (population, employees, land base) be submitted through this portal by Friday, April 17th.

It is critically important to note that Treasury’s summary page [linked] states, “**Eligible local and Tribal governments that do not provide required information—and in the case of a local government, the required certification—by 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 17, 2020, may not receive any payment from the Fund.**”

Treasury’s press release indicates the Tribal funding will be disbursed no later than April 24th.
CARES ACT $8B TRIBAL SET-ASIDE: PREPARE NOW

As the Treasury works to disperse the $8 Billion Tribal Stabilization Fund set-aside in the Coronavirus Relief Fund, which was created by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, there are a few ways in which Tribal Nations can engage. First, be sure to make your voice heard: the two consultation sessions have concluded, but there is still an opportunity to submit your comments by Monday, April 13th regarding the methodology for funding distribution and guidance on expenditures. Second, since the CARES Act requires the prompt issuance of guidance (expected sometime next week) and distribution of funds (on or before April 27th), Tribal Nations should act now in preparation to receive funding. It is critical to note that the Treasury, in consultation with the Department of the Interior, has yet to make an official decision on funding distribution. However, based on recent remarks, USET SPF is expecting the Treasury to establish an online portal through which Tribal Nations will register for and access funds, including providing requested bank account information for a direct transfer. There is the possibility this portal could go live as early as next week. With this in mind, USET SPF is recommending that member Tribal Nations act now to establish and identify a receiving account for these relief dollars.