April 5, 2021

via Email

Dear Tribal Leader:

As the Point of Contact for Tribal Consultation for the U.S. Department of the Treasury, we invite you to attend a tribal consultation on the Tribal use of the Homeowner Assistance Fund.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provides approximately $9.961 billion to the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF). This includes a five percent set aside (approximately $498 million) for tribes, tribally designated housing entities (TDHE), and the Department of Hawaiian Homelands to be distributed in the same manner as the Emergency Rental Assistance program distributed earlier in 2021.

The Department of the Treasury is seeking your input on the uses of the fund by Tribal governments or their TDHEs in providing assistance to keep homeowners stably and safely housed. Specifically, our questions are:

1. Are there any aspects of Tribal homeownership that need to be considered concerning eligibility for HAF?
2. Does the Tribe or TDHE have any concerns regarding the reporting requirements for the HAF?
3. Does the Tribe or TDHE anticipate any documentation barriers in assisting homeowners with these funds?
4. Several other sources of funding are available to assist with utilities and other household expenses related to housing. How does the Tribe or TDHE anticipate using additional sources of funding to keep the household current and safely housed?
5. Would the Tribe or TDHE like to receive training and technical assistance on the HAF?
6. What would be the most effective way to receive and respond to Tribal questions on the HAF?

We respectfully request that each Tribe register one primary leader or designee to provide comments. All others are welcome to register as listen-only participants. Please note that this consultation can host 1000 participants. Comments should be submitted to tribal.consult@treasury.gov. The deadline for comments to be submitted is Friday, April 16, 2021 11:59 p.m. ET.

Register here.

Consultations are off the record and not for press purposes.

We will send out an agenda before or on Wednesday, April 14, 2021.
We hope that you will be able to join us for this important discussion and value your participation.

Sincerely,

Catherine Wolfram  
Acting Assistant Secretary Economic Policy  
Point of Contact for Tribal Consultation  
Office of Economic Policy  
U.S. Department of the Treasury