



Tribal Consultation on Shelter and Services Program Framing Paper

April 25, 2023, 3:00-4:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Overarching Consultation Questions

Does the Shelter and Services Program (SSP) framework meet tribal priorities and needs in accessing funding to provide humanitarian aid to noncitizen migrants? What additional changes would Tribal leaders want to make to the program?

Background

The FY [2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act \(P.L. 117-328\)](#) establishes the SSP. This grant program aims to support sheltering and related activities provided by non-federal entities in support of relieving noncitizen overcrowding in short-term holding facilities operated by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and CBP will administer grants or cooperative agreements with Tribal Nations, state and local governments, as well as non-governmental organizations. FEMA and CBP will work with these governments and organizations to fund eligible costs of providing temporary shelter and related services to individuals released from Department of Homeland Security custody.

Tribal Feedback

Tribal leaders, along with other stakeholders, shared several important points and suggestions during our previous listening sessions. This valuable feedback included that:

- SSP should be a nationwide program rather than just focused on the southwest border
- Medical funding is greatly needed and should be an allowable cost in SSP
- Advanced funding is needed, especially for smaller entities
- Activities allowed under the Emergency Food and Shelter Program – Humanitarian should be allowed in SSP
- Funding for interpretation services is needed and should be allowable in SSP
- FEMA and CBP should reduce the paperwork burden of SSP application and reporting

Discussion Questions

FEMA seeks tribal input on the proposed SSP framework. Below are questions for your consideration. These questions are not in order of priority and are not meant to be an exhaustive list of discussion topics. FEMA welcomes broader input on our activities in support of Tribal Nations.

1. Does the overarching SSP framework meet tribal needs?
2. Does the funding allocation for SSP meet tribal needs?
3. Do the allowable costs and designation of primary and secondary services meet tribal needs? If not, what changes should FEMA and CBP make?
4. Do the evaluation criteria meet tribal needs? If not, what changes should FEMA and CBP make?
5. Are there any other considerations FEMA and CBP should consider before finalizing the

SSP?

All consultation materials may be found at: www.fema.gov/about/tribes/consultations. The consultation record will remain open for 30 days after the virtual session for Tribal leaders to submit feedback or comments to gpd-comms@fema.dhs.gov. Final feedback and comments are due by Thursday, May 25, 2023.