



TBCP UPDATE & TRIBAL DISCUSSION

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION



AGENDA

1. TBCP Application Round 1 Update
2. NTIA Encourages Tribes to Apply for All Broadband Funding
3. IIJA Overview: TBCP Amendments
4. Tribal Leader IIJA Discussion

Moderator/Presenter: Adam Geisler, Division Chief, Tribal Connectivity and Nation to Nation Coordination Division, NTIA

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKERS

Adam Geisler

Division Chief

Tribal Connectivity and Nation to Nation
Coordination

Office of Internet Connectivity and
Growth

NTIA



TBCP APPLICATION ROUND 1 UPDATE



CURRENT TBCP APPLICATION REVIEW UPDATE

- NTIA received 301 applications, totaling 424 proposed projects
- Applications represent 452 Tribal Governments, totaling 75% of Tribal Lands in the lower 48 states, Alaska, and Hawaii
- The total amount of funding requested totaled over \$5.88 billion (6x over subscribed)
- Each application and project requires extensive review and curing, as applicable, to be considered for funding
- Applications must pass merit review with a score of at least 70 points to move on to programmatic review and consideration for funding



NTIA ENCOURAGES TRIBES TO APPLY FOR ALL BROADBAND FUNDING

NTIA WILL BE MAKING TBCP AWARDS ON A ROLLING BASIS
THROUGH THE SPRING OF 2022

IIJA OVERVIEW: TBCP AMENDMENTS

TRIBAL (I/II) | TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS AND NEW FUNDING WILL STRENGTHEN CURRENT TRIBAL CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

Official name: Tribal Broadband Connectivity Technical Amendments

Funding pool: \$2.00B

Type of program: Grants to eligible entities with approved applications

Program objective: providing new funds and extending expenditure deadlines for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (established by Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Div. N, Tit. IX, Sec. 905(c))

KEY AMENDMENTS TO PRIOR PROGRAM

- 1 Adding \$2 billion for NTIA to distribute to eligible entities, including to fund previously-proposed programs
- 2 Relaxing time requirements of original program—eligible entities now have up to
 - 6 months to submit applications
 - 18 months to commit the funds to projects, once funds are received
 - 4 years to fully expend the grant funds, once funds are received
- 3
 - Allowing infrastructure grantees to expend up to 2.5% total project cost for related planning, feasibility and sustainability studies
- 4
 - Preserving unused allocated funds for other Tribal broadband projects instead of reverting back to the Treasury

Note: funding amounts inclusive of all administrative set-asides

TRIBAL (II/II) | NO NEW RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON ELIGIBLE ENTITIES OR USES

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

- A Tribal Government
- A Tribal College or University
- The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Community, including Native Hawaiian Education Programs
- A Tribal organization
- A Native Corporation

ELIGIBLE USES

As outlined in prior legislation

- Broadband infrastructure deployment, including support for the establishment of carrier-neutral submarine cable landing stations
- Affordable broadband programs including
 - Providing free or reduced cost broadband service
 - Preventing disconnection of existing broadband service
- Distance learning
- Telehealth
- Digital inclusion efforts
- Broadband adoption activities

Eligible entities can use no more than 2% of funds for administrative purposes

PRIORITY

Eligible entities shall prioritize projects that deploy broadband infrastructure to **unserved households**

TRIBAL LEADER DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS FOR TRIBAL LEADER IIJA CONSULTATION

- Should NTIA make available any of the additional TBCP funding appropriated by the IIJA for the applications submitted in response to the June 2021 TBCP NOFO?
- If so, what percentage of the additional funding should NTIA make available for this purpose?
- If NTIA were to issue a second TBCP NOFO for the remaining funds appropriated by the IIJA, when would be the most accommodating time for Tribes to be able to submit applications?

To ask additional questions about the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program or provide additional feedback:

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Thank you for your participation!

