

Tribal Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program, Round 2

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)



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DATE: March 27, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR: CALIFORNIA FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES
TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNERS

FROM: JEANNIE MCKENDRY,
GRANTS DEVELOPMENT SECTION CHIEF
California Interagency Council on Homelessness

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)
TRIBAL HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND
PREVENTION PROGRAM (TRIBAL HHAP)

Section 1. Program Overview

Section 1.1 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

The California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) is pleased to announce the availability of \$20 million of Tribal Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (Tribal HHAP) grant funding. These funds are available for California Federally Recognized Tribes and are designed to be flexible to meet the unique needs of each community in their goals to prevent and end homelessness.

Cal ICH partnered with California Federally Recognized Tribes and stakeholders in the development of the Tribal HHAP Program in 2022, including the development of an application process that met the needs of tribal communities. In 2023, Cal ICH is seeking to continue and expand our partnerships with Tribes and stakeholders in the development of this year's program, building a culturally responsive program accessible to all California Federally Recognized Tribe in need of Tribal HHAP funding.

Tribal HHAP is a tribal allocation from the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program, built specifically for and with California Federally Recognized Tribes.



Section 1.1 Applicable Laws

This document provides Cal ICH’s rules for running the Tribal HHAP Program and explains the program and procedures.

Tribal HHAP is authorized by Assembly Bill (AB) No. 140 (2021-2022 Reg. Sess.), which was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom on July 19, 2021.

Tribal HHAP is not subject to the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, (Health and Safety Code section 50217(f), Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code).

The application through this NOFA is a public record, which is available for public review pursuant to the California Public Records Act. After final awards have been issued, Cal ICH may be legally required to disclose materials provided by the Applicant to any person making a request under the CPRA. Cal ICH reminds Applicants to use discretion in providing information not specifically requested for the application.

Section 1.2 Timeline

March 2023	Cal ICH is seeking guidance and feedback from our tribal partners through consultations and public listening sessions to develop this NOFA and application processes. These consultations and public listening sessions provide an opportunity for tribes to discuss concerns, submit comments and ensure we meet the needs of tribal communities.
March 2023	Notice of Funding Availability Announcement Release
April 2023	Cal ICH will release the applications, with consideration of the needs of California’s Federally Recognized Tribes, for this year’s round of funding.
April -June 2023	Cal ICH will further engage tribes and provide technical assistance as they complete their applications and provide application workshops.
June 30, 2023	Final Applications are due to Cal ICH
July 30, 2023	Cal ICH will review applications and respond to applicants within 30 days of receipt.



November – December 2023	The goal for the payment of the grant award is November-December 2023; however, the actual date may vary, depending on the speed in which the contract and paperwork are completed.
June 30, 2027	Deadline to spend 2023 funding

Section 1.3 Definitions

“Applicant” refers to a California Federally Recognized Tribe that is applying for Tribal HHAP

“Homeless” means

- (1) An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
 - (i) An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.
 - (ii) An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals); or
 - (iii) An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.
- (2) An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
 - (i) The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance.
 - (ii) No subsequent residence has been identified; and
 - (iii) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, *e.g.*, family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, needed to obtain other permanent housing.
- (3) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:
 - (i) Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance.



(iii) Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance: and

(iv) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities; chronic physical health or mental health conditions; substance addiction; histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect); the presence of a child or youth with a disability; or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment; or

(4) Any individual or family who:

(i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence.

(ii) Has no other residence; and

(iii) Lacks the resources or support networks, *e.g.*, family, friends, and faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.

“Homeless youth” means an unaccompanied homeless individual who is not older than 24. Homeless individuals not older than 24 who are parents are included in this definition.

Section 2: Program Requirements

Section 2.1 Eligible Applicant

California Federally Recognized Tribes are the only applicants able to receive funding from Tribal HHAP; however, Tribes may partner with other organizations in their application and are encouraged to do so.

Section 2.2 Eligible Uses

Tribal communities hold the expertise to design and implement culturally responsive solutions that meet the needs of their communities. Health and Safety Code section 50220.8, subdivision (e) provides for nine broad categories where Tribal communities can choose a variety of interventions. Examples of these nine broad categories are provided below.



Given the unique needs of tribes, Tribal HHAP program supports tribal self-determination to flexibly use a variety of interventions for each tribe’s unique needs. The examples provided below are not exhaustive.

Examples include:

- **Rapid Rehousing:** Rental subsidies and services including dedicated case management staff, and financial support such as landlord incentive payments, move-in costs, and security deposits to help individuals and families find and retain permanent housing.
- **Permanent Housing & Innovative Housing Solutions:** The development of new permanent housing solutions, including motel and hotel conversion into housing on or off tribal lands. This includes the acquisition of new land, property, and buildings, if necessary.
- **Operating subsidies:** Subsidizing operating costs in new and existing affordable or supportive housing units, emergency shelters, and navigation centers. Necessities for operating a shelter, including, but not limited to meals, laundry, and hygiene. Operating subsidies may include operating reserves.
- **Services Coordination:** Staff and services, including, but not limited to wraparound services, housing navigation, case management, improving access to employment, education, and training programs, cultural mentorship, or other services needed to promote housing stability.
- **Systems Support:** Needs or gap assessments, data collection and analysis, trainings on best practices, capacity building, coordinated assessment and referral system management, and stipends for individuals with lived experience or other expertise to contribute to program development and/or oversight.
- **Prevention & Shelter Diversion:** Homelessness prevention strategies and diversion from homelessness, including, but not limited to landlord incentive payments, case management, conflict resolution, rental assistance payments, rental arrears payments, utility payments, culturally appropriate talking circles, and cultural activities.
- **Shelter Improvements:** To lower barriers that prevent access and increase privacy of program participants.
- **Interim Sheltering:** Non congregate shelter options such as motel vouchers, pre-fabricated homes with shared kitchens and bathrooms, and other non-congregate types of shelter. Maintaining existing emergency shelter beds or extending the time these



shelter beds are available. Funding for domestic violence shelter or substance use disorder residential treatment, in tandem with connections to permanent housing and alignment with a Housing First approach. Any new interim sheltering funded by these funds must be low barrier, comply with Housing First, and prioritize interventions other than congregate shelters.

- **Administrative Costs:** Per statute, administrative costs are capped at seven percent of program funds, and include overhead costs related to the eligible activity. Staff and other costs directly related to carrying out eligible activities are not administrative costs and are considered general program costs.

Section 2.3 Homeless Youth Requirement

At least ten percent of funds must be used to meet the needs of homeless youth or youth at risk of homelessness within the interventions proposed or in youth set aside activities. Projects that are designed with the specific needs of youth in mind are encouraged.

Section 2.4 Program Deadlines

Tribal HHAP funds must be fully spent by June 30, 2027.

Section 2.5 Documentation & Reporting Requirements

Grantees must be able to demonstrate that Tribal HHAP Program funds were expended for eligible uses to benefit members of the target population.

Quarterly and Annual reporting is required and includes but is not necessarily limited to fiscal data, aggregate data regarding the individuals served, and narrative information about project progress. Data entry into Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is not required for Tribal HHAP. If a Tribe who is applying for Tribal HHAP has an active Data Sharing Agreement for their nation, it is requested they submit the agreement with their Tribal HHAP Application. Draft Quarterly and Annual Reports are available for viewing in advance of Tribal HHAP Application submission.

Section 3. Application Submission, Review, and Award Process

Section 3.1 Application Process



Cal ICH is receiving input and consultation from California Federally Recognized Tribes regarding their needs in the application process. An application that considers the needs of our Tribal Partners will be posted on the tribal program website

https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/calich/tribal_hhap_program.html with a goal date of April 2023.

Per Health & Safety Code, Section 50218.6(3)(B), the application must include:

- The amount of grant funds the tribe is requesting.
- An explanation of the tribe's local need, including an estimation of the number of people who need homelessness services and the current resources that exist.
- A description of what services in which the tribe plans to spend grant funds.

From April – June 2023, Cal ICH will provide technical assistance and application workshops to assist California Federally Recognized Tribes with their applications.

Section 3.2 Application Submission

The application link will lead to an online system called Cognito where the application is completed and submitted. The deadline to submit final applications is June 30, 2023.

Section 3.3 Award Process & Legal Documents

Once applications have been approved, an award letter and standard agreement will be prepared and sent to the applicant.

If the total request for funds exceeds the \$20 million available, Cal ICH will determine an allocation methodology based on each tribal applicant's proportionate share of need relative to all tribes that applied (Health & Safety Code section 50218.7(A)).

Grant applicants are asked to share information about homelessness in their communities and their communities' specific needs in relation to homelessness within the application, in addition to the community size served. These questions may help inform the amount of the award allocation.

Upon the award of Tribal HHAP funds to an applicant, Cal ICH and the applicant will sign one or more agreements, including a Standard Agreement.

Cal ICH's Standard Agreement does not require a waiver of sovereign immunity in order to be awarded grant funds. It is available for viewing in advance of Tribal HHAP Application submission.



When the standard agreement is signed and returned by the applicant, the applicant will submit a request for funds. One hundred percent of funds will be disbursed in a one-time allocation upon execution of the standard agreement and receipt of request for funds. Funds will be issued directly to the California Federally Recognized Tribe.

Section 3.4 Appeals

Cal ICH's decision to approve or deny an application and the determination of the amount of funding to be provided shall be final and is not subject to appeal. (Health and Safety Code section 50251(c).)

Section 4. Miscellaneous Information

Section 4.1 Culturally Responsive Technical Assistance

Culturally responsive technical assistance to support tribal communities in their goals to address and prevent homelessness with respect for self-determination will be available to support Tribal HHAP Applicants and grantees.

Section 4.2 Further Information

Additional information and updates such as the application, a list of upcoming workshops, and resources can be found on the Tribal Program website:

https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/calich/tribal_hhap_program.html

You may also contact Vevila Hussey, Cal ICH's Tribal Liaison, at Vevila.Hussey@BCSH.CA.Gov or CalICHGrants@BCSH.CA.Gov for additional information, including to request a presentation on Tribal HHAP for your group or Tribal Council.