

Tribal Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program, Round 3

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)



In Partnership with the Department of Housing and Community Development



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DATE: MARCH 19, 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR: CALIFORNIA FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

FROM: MEGHAN MARSHALL,
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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.

Since 2022, Cal ICH has partnered with California Federally Recognized Tribes and stakeholders to develop the Tribal HHAP Program. In 2024, Cal ICH is continuing and expanding our partnerships with Tribes and stakeholders in strengthening the Tribal HHAP program. Through the integration of feedback from the community's served, Cal ICH's goal is to continue culturally responsive programming designed to meet the needs of tribal communities, with funding accessible to all California Federally Recognized Tribes in need.



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

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 50231, it is the intent of the Legislature for Cal ICH to administer HHAP in partnership with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). It is further the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation in the Budget Act of 2024 to transfer the grant administration work of the Council to HCD. The Council and HCD will continue to coordinate closely to achieve a seamless transition for all grantees.

Section 1.2 Applicable Laws

This document provides Cal ICH’s guidelines for running the Tribal HHAP Program and explains the program and procedures. Tribal HHAP is not subject to the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act. (HSC section 50232(h).) The guidelines in this document are considered to have “the dignity of statutes” (*Ramirez v. Yosemite Water Company, Inc.* (1999) 20 Cal. 4th 785, 799.)

Tribal HHAP was originally created 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–3 is authorized by AB No. 129 (Chapter 40, Statutes of 2023).

The application materials submitted in response to this NOFA are public records available for public review pursuant to the California Public Records Act (CPRA). 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.

State funding for housing and homelessness is subject to the Welfare & Institutions Code, Section 8255, which includes programs and services be provided with Housing First philosophy and principals.

Section 1.3 Timeline

February – March 2024	Cal ICH is seeking guidance and feedback from our tribal partners through consultations and public listening sessions to develop the NOFA and application. These consultations and public listening sessions provide an opportunity for Tribes and stakeholders to discuss concerns, submit comments and ensure we meet the needs of tribal communities.
March 2024	Notice of Funding Availability Announcement Release
April 2024	Cal ICH will release the application, with consideration of the needs of California’s Federally Recognized Tribes, for this year’s round of funding.
April -June 2024	Cal ICH will further engage tribes and provide technical assistance as they complete their applications and provide application workshops.
June 28, 2024	Final Applications are due to Cal ICH
July 2024	Applicants will receive a response confirming the receipt of their application.
July – August, 2024	Outreach to grantees with any questions necessary to finalize the review and approval of their application. If more than \$20 Million in applications is received; an allocation formula based on need will be developed.
November – December 2024	The goal for the payment of the grant award is December 2024; however, the actual date may vary, depending on the speed in which the contract and paperwork are completed by the Applicant
June 30, 2028	Deadline to spend 2024 funding

Section 1.4 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.

(ii) 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

(iii) 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 or may designate another individual or entity to complete the application on their behalf, provided that the proper tribal authority signs and certifies the application.

Tribes may contract or subcontract with Tribal Designated Housing Entities (TDHE) and others to develop and/or implement their programs.

Section 2.2 Eligible Uses

Tribal Communities hold the expertise to design and implement culturally responsive solutions that meet the needs of their communities. The Tribal HHAP program supports tribal self-determination to flexibly use a variety of interventions to meet each Tribe’s unique needs.

HSC section 50236 provides broad categories where Tribal Communities can choose a variety of interventions in the following categories:

- 1) permanent housing solutions,
- 2) interim housing solutions, and
- 3) services

Examples of these categories are provided below. **Applicants are encouraged to apply a culturally appropriate lens to each category, ensuring that programs and services are customized to meet the needs of their population.**



Broad Category	Eligible Use Category	Explanation and Examples of Eligible Uses of Tribal HHAP funds
Costs that Support Permanent Housing	Rapid Rehousing	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when the costs support operating a rapid rehousing type housing service. This means a tenant-based, time limited, permanent housing program, inclusive of wrap-around services.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental subsidies. • Landlord incentives, such as security deposits, holding fees, funding for needed repairs. • Move-in expenses. • Services for people in permanent housing programs that are trauma-informed and practice harm reduction. Examples include intensive case management services, community treatment services, evidence-based employment services, coordination of mental health, traditional medicine/traditional healers, substance use/ red road-wellbriety, and primary care treatment, or other evidence-based supportive services to increase housing retention.
	Prevention and Shelter Diversion	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when costs support eligible populations access safe alternatives to shelter and/or remain safely housed at their current residence.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness prevention through rental assistance, rapid rehousing, and other programs. • Problem-solving and diversion support programs that prevent people at risk of or recently experiencing homelessness from entering unsheltered or sheltered homelessness. • Culturally appropriate talking circles and/or mentorship. • Cultural activities.



Broad Category	Eligible Use Category	Explanation and Examples of Eligible Uses of Tribal HHAP funds
Costs that Support Permanent Housing	Delivery of Permanent Housing and Innovative Housing Solutions	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when costs support the provision of permanent housing.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of land, building, etc. • Improvement or renovation of land or building being used as permanent housing. • Maintenance of land or building being used as permanent housing. • Services for people in permanent housing programs that are trauma-informed and practice harm reduction. Examples include, intensive case management services, community treatment services, evidence-based employment services, the coordination of mental health, traditional medicine/traditional healing, substance use/red road wellbriety services, and primary care treatment.
	Operating Subsidies- Permanent Housing	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when costs support operations in new and existing affordable or supportive housing units serving people experiencing homelessness. Operating subsidies may include operating reserves (<i>funds held in reserve to cover large, unexpected operating expenses</i>).</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating costs for programs such as Homekey. • Operating costs for new or existing residential care facilities. • Subsidies support for the ongoing operation and availability of permanent housing and/or assisting in management of a building.



Broad Category	Tribal HHAP Eligible Use Categories	Explanation and Examples of Eligible Uses of Tribal HHAP funds
Costs that Support Interim Housing	Operating Subsidies-Interim Housing	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when costs support operations in interim housing serving people experiencing homelessness. This may include operating reserves (<i>funds held in reserve to cover large, unexpected operating expenses</i>).</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidies that support ongoing operation and availability of existing interim housing (both congregate and non-congregate). • Necessities for operating a shelter, including, but not limited to meals, laundry and hygiene.
Costs that Support Interim Housing	Interim Housing	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when costs support the provision of interim housing.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of land, building, etc. • Improvement or renovation of land or building being used as interim housing. • Maintenance of land or building being used as interim housing. • Navigation centers that are low barrier, as defined in Sections 65660 and 65662 of the Government Code • Motel or hotel vouchers. • Services provided to people in interim housing, including trauma-informed and evidence-based intensive case management services, housing navigation, connecting people to substance use/red road wellbriety or mental health treatment, traditional medicine/traditional healing services, public benefits advocacy, and other supportive services to promote stability and referral into permanent housing. • Capital funding to build new non-congregate interim housing sites, including for construction, rehabilitation, and capital improvements to convert existing buildings to interim housing.



Broad Category	Tribal HHAP Eligible Use Categories	Explanation and Examples of Eligible Uses of Tribal HHAP funds
	Improvements to Existing Interim Housing	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when costs support the renovation of existing interim housing to improve the quality of the life for people experiencing homelessness who are residing in the interim housing.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of an interim housing facility • Minor/major rehabilitation or renovation of an interim housing facility. • Minor/major conversion, additions, updates, and/or enhancements that lower barriers and/or increase privacy.

Broad Category	Tribal HHAP Eligible Use Categories	Explanation and Examples of Eligible Uses of Tribal HHAP funds
Costs that Support Service Provision and Systems Support	Street Outreach	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when costs support Outreach programs.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. • Street engagement services. • Intensive case management services. • Assertive community treatment provided by mobile teams. • Housing navigation. • Harm reduction services. • Coordination with street-based health care services. • Hygiene services for unsheltered individuals and people living in encampments.



Broad Category	Tribal HHAP Eligible Use Categories	Explanation and Examples of Eligible Uses of Tribal HHAP funds
Costs that Support Service Provision and Systems Support	Services Coordination	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when costs support wrap-around services not directly provided through another project.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to workforce, education, and training programs. • Access to legal/advocacy services. • Individual counseling and service planning. • The coordination of medical and mental health appointments/traditional medicine and healing, obtaining benefits and medical insurance. • Referrals to community-based services. • Other services needed to promote housing stability in supportive housing.
	Systems Support	<p>Eligible Uses should be categorized here when the cost supports homelessness services system infrastructure, regional coordination, and/or improves accessibility and outcomes generally, as opposed to specific clients.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs assessments or gap assessments. • Collaboration on regional housing strategies. • Pooling resources to support regional housing initiatives. • Data collection or analysis.

Broad Category	Tribal HHAP Eligible Use Category	Explanation and Examples of Eligible Uses of Tribal HHAP Funds
Youth Set-Aside	Youth Set-Aside	<p>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.</p> <p>Homeless youth are defined as unaccompanied youth between ages 12-24-years old who are experiencing homelessness, including pregnant and parenting youth. Projects that are designed with the specific needs of youth in mind are encouraged.</p>

Broad Category	Tribal HHAP Eligible Use Category	Explanation and Examples of Eligible Uses of Tribal HHAP Funds
Administrative Costs	Administrative Costs	<p>Per statute, administrative costs are capped at seven percent of program funds, and include overhead costs related to the administration of Tribal HHAP programs.</p> <p>Staff and other costs directly related to carrying out eligible activities/Tribal HHAP programs and services are not administrative costs and are considered general program costs.</p>

Section 2.3 Program Deadlines

Tribal HHAP-3 funds must be fully spent by June 30, 2028.

Section 2.4 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:

1. fiscal data
2. aggregate data regarding the individuals served and their outcomes, and
3. narrative information about project progress



Draft Quarterly and Annual Reports are available for viewing in advance of Tribal HHAP Application submission.

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.

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 and stakeholders regarding their needs in the application process. An application that considers the needs of Tribal Communities will be posted on the tribal program website https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/calich/tribal_hhap_program.html with a goal date of April 2024.

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. (HSC section 50234(a)(4)(B).)
- A Tribal Resolution.

From April – June 2024, Cal ICH will provide technical assistance and provide application support to assist California Federally Recognized Tribes with their applications. To be connected with technical assistance, please contact Vevila.Blossoming@bcsb.ca.gov.

If a Tribe is in need of a needs assessment for their community to better understand the needs and specific interventions that would be meet those needs, costs for such as assessment can be included in the application budget. Please see the eligible uses section for more information.

Section 3.2 Application Submission

The application link will lead to an online system called Cognito where the application is completed and submitted. Applications must include a Tribal Resolution approving the Tribal HHAP Application that includes the amount of the requested grant funds.



Each Tribe may submit one application for funding and is able to request funding for a variety of homelessness interventions and programs within that one application. This includes programs and services that will be delivered by a subcontractor.

The deadline to submit final applications is 5:00 pm on June 28, 2024.

Section 3.3 Award Process & Legal Documents

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 (HSC section 50234(a)(4)(A).)

Once applications have been approved, and the allocation amounts have been determined, an award letter and Standard Agreement will be prepared and sent to the applicant. **Cal ICH's Standard Agreement does not require a waiver of sovereign immunity as a condition of receiving grant funds.** It is available for viewing in advance of Tribal HHAP Application submission.

One hundred percent of funds will be disbursed in a one-time payment directly to the California Federally Recognized Tribe upon the completion of the following:

- Request for Funds form
- Signed Standard Agreement & Execution of the Cal ICH Contract
- If an allocation formula must be applied and the Tribe is not awarded the full requested amount, a revised budget with the awarded amount.

The Tribe may use Tribal HHAP – 3 funds to contract with entities in the development and administration of their Tribal HHAP Programs.

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. (HSC section 50232(e).)

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 Blossoming Bear, Cal ICH's Tribal Liaison, at Vevila.Blossoming@BCSH.CA.Gov or Calichgrants@BCSH.CA.Gov for additional information, including to request a consultation, or a presentation on Tribal HHAP for your group or Tribal Council.