Indigenous Communities Information Session with EDA

OCTOBER 14, 2021

Introductory Remarks
Rico Frias; Executive Director of NAFOA

Remarks
Alejandra Y. Castillo; Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development

Introduction of Carolee Wenderoth; EDA Tribal Engagement Coordinator

Rule Change Presentation
Jeffrey Roberson, EDA Chief Counsel

Indigenous Communities Program Presentation
Dennis Alvord; EDA Deputy Assistant Secretary/COO

Q&A
Moderated by Mara Quintero Campbell; EDA Senior Advisor to DAS/COO
This webinar is being recorded. EDA will post slides, FAQs, and resources to the website after the session.

Please use Q&A box to submit questions.

Use the chat function for any technical difficulties and other comments.
The rule change Federal Register Notice can be found here.
Indigenous Communities

Economic Development Administration
American Rescue Plan Act funding

INVESTING IN AMERICA’S COMMUNITIES
$3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding allows EDA to lead an unprecedented approach to: “prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus and for necessary expenses for responding to economic injury as a result of coronavirus.”

EDA’s American Rescue Plan programs are designed to:
1. Accelerate the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic
2. Build local economies that will be resilient to future economic shocks
$3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding to invest in:

**Jobs for Today**
- Good Jobs Challenge
- Travel, Tourism & Outdoor Recreation

**Communities Built for All**
- Economic Adjustment Assistance
- Indigenous Communities
- Coal Communities Commitment

**Regions for the Future**
- Build Back Better Regional Challenge
- Statewide Planning, Research, & Networks
$100 million for Indigenous Communities

The Indigenous Communities program recognizes that Native communities have been disproportionately affected by the coronavirus pandemic, in health and economic impacts. The only eligible entities are:

**Indian Tribes or a consortium of Tribes**
State-recognized Tribes, unrecognized Tribes, and non-profits or for-profits that do not fall within the definition of “Indian Tribe” are not eligible.

**Public/private nonprofit organizations/associations serving:**
Native Hawaiians, Native Pacific Islanders of Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau

Tribes and other eligible entities may also apply for funding under any other American Rescue Plan Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
Indigenous Communities Definition

**Under EDA’s regulations, the term “Indian Tribe” includes:**

- the governing body of an Indian Tribe
- a non-profit Indian corporation (restricted to Indians)
- an Indian authority
- any other non-profit Indian tribal organization or entity; provided that the Indian tribal organization or entity is wholly owned by, and established for the benefit of, the Indian Tribe
- for-profit Tribal corporations that are wholly owned by, and established for the benefit of, a Tribe
Award Timeline

- **July 2021**: Applications accepted

  *Rolling competitive grant applications and awards*

- **Sept 30, 2022**: All funds must be obligated

- **May 31, 2027**: Period of performance must end to allow for close out
Similarities to EDA's Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

- A wide range Economic Adjustment Assistance project types are eligible, including planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, revolving loan funds, public works, and infrastructure projects.

- EDA encourages application submissions based on long-term, regionally oriented, coordinated, and collaborative economic development or redevelopment strategies that foster economic growth and resilience.

- Any project that supports recovery from the economic effects of the pandemic is eligible.
Differences for Indigenous Communities

- A wider range of projects are eligible:
  - Foundational economic infrastructure: broadband, energy, roads, water, and wastewater
  - Vocational and higher education facilities
  - Community health facilities, even if the connection to job creation is indirect
  - ★ **Note:** Projects that directly support casinos or requests to replace lost revenue remain ineligible.

- All awards will be made at 100% grant rate.
- Applicants are not required to demonstrate committed beneficiaries or provide signed ED-900Bs to be competitive.
- EDA will reimburse certain pre-award project costs.
  - Includes Preliminary Engineering Reports preparation and environmental and historic preservation requirement compliance costs.
Next Steps to Apply

1. **Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and Eligibility Requirements:** [https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/](https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/)

2. **Find your Economic Development District** for planning support and technical assistance: [https://eda.gov/resources/directory/](https://eda.gov/resources/directory/)

3. **Email your questions** about the American Rescue Plan Indigenous Communities program to [indigenous@eda.gov](mailto:indigenous@eda.gov)
More Questions?

Visit [www.eda.gov/arpa](http://www.eda.gov/arpa) to learn more about the American Rescue Plan programs and find contact information for each.
Recordings of EDA's April 16 and 19 Tribal Consultations can be found at https://eda.gov/tribal/ along with the associated Dear Tribal Leader Letter and presentation slides.

The rule change Federal Register Notice can be found here.

Any questions specifically regarding expanded eligibility please contact Mara Quintero Campbell, Senior Advisor, email: MCampbell@eda.gov, telephone: (202) 603-9960.

EDA's Tribal Engagement Coordinator, Carolee Wenderoth contact information: cwenderoth1@eda.gov

Information regarding EDA’s entire suite of ARP programs can be found at https://www.eda.gov/arpa/

Information specifically regarding the Indigenous Communities program can be found at: https://eda.gov/arpa/indigenous/

EDA has established an email address to answer questions related to the Indigenous Communities program: Indigenous@eda.gov