



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

August 18, 2022

Dear Honorable Tribal Leader:

On behalf of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Department of Commerce, we are initiating a Tribal Consultation for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, commonly known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, provided new funding to supplement the initial Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program and will further reduce the digital divide across Indian Country.

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law allocated an additional \$2 billion to the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. The initial grant program, originating from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, allocated \$980 million for Tribal connectivity. The program received more than 300 applications, totaling \$5.88 billion in funding requests, making the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) round 1 nearly six times oversubscribed. Based upon Tribal Consultation feedback from January 14, 2022, NTIA has allocated \$1 billion of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding to applications submitted during round 1 of the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program NOFO. The remaining funds allocated through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law are being reserved for a second Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program NOFO that will be announced later this year.

To resolve questions regarding the second Tribal Broadband Connectivity NOFO, NTIA invites you and/or a tribal representative to participate in the virtual National Tribal Consultation to provide your advice and insights as NTIA staff are working through the critical issues related to the program.

We respectfully request your participation at one of the virtual Tribal Consultation sessions:

Date	Monday, September 12, 2022
Time	1:00PM – 5:00PM ET
Zoom Registration Link	https://ntia.gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_r1GT360BSgSVC9MDniziNQ
Dial-In	Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666 or +1 669 216 1590 or +1 551 285 1373 Webinar ID: 161 968 6489
Date	Wednesday, September 14, 2022
Time	10:00AM – 2:00PM ET

Zoom Registration Link	https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_kZFiwf63S8eQxihc7Hr5-w
Dial-In	Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666 or +1 669 216 1590 or +1 551 285 1373 Webinar ID: 161 087 7843

Date	Friday, September 16, 2022
Time	1:00PM – 5:00PM ET
Zoom Registration Link	https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_DZwi1a1uTI-nvAXicuxJxw
Dial-In	Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666 or +1 669 216 1590 or +1 551 285 1373 Webinar ID: 161 306 6089

NTIA will summarize the first round of Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program applications and cover the following questions for round two of the program during the consultation sessions:

- Should NTIA consider prioritization of new projects in the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program? If so, how should these be prioritized?
- What type of guidance/documentation can be included in or in addition to the NOFO that would assist applicants in completing their application?
- How can technical assistance from NTIA be improved to ensure timely and complete submissions?
- Should Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program applicants be subject to Build America Buy America Act domestic sourcing requirements for materials and equipment? Additionally, how does the Build America Buy America Act impact applicant’s ability to complete proposed projects?

Written comments to the above questions can be submitted by September 16, 2022, at 6:00 pm eastern standard time to tbcpcconsultation@ntia.gov with the Subject Line: Tribal Broadband Grant Program.

If you have any questions regarding the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program or these consultations, please contact Adam Geisler, Division Chief, Tribal Connectivity and Nation to Nation Coordination, by phone at (202) 494-7820 or email at tbcpcconsultation@ntia.gov. We

look forward to the consultations and nation-to-nation coordination with tribal leaders who continue to bring high-speed internet to Indian Country.

Sincerely,

Adam Geisler, Division Chief, Tribal Connectivity and Nation to Nation Coordination
Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth

Douglas W. Kinkoph, Associate Administrator
Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth