

## **Tribal Broadband Leaders Network**

## What is the Tribal Broadband Leaders Network (TBLN)? -

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) **BroadbandUSA** program convenes and facilitates the Tribal Broadband Leaders Network (TBLN), a community of practitioners who work on increasing broadband deployment and access on Tribal lands.

TBLN participants meet each month monthly and have periodic in person meetings. They share priorities and best practices, discuss emerging telecommunications policy issues, and identify engagement strategies with state broadband leaders. TBLN provides a forum to strengthen policy and program connections among Tribal leaders and broadband providers, providing opportunities to improve funding coordination, align policies, and address barriers to collaboration with other state and federal agencies. NTIA's Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth (OICG) works with TBLN participants to support Tribal leaders and providers with technical assistance on effectively implementing the Tribal Broadband Connectivity grant program and facilitating conversations amongst the participants to share best practices on how to work and partner with communities, businesses, and organizations within their jurisdictions.

## Who participates?

More than **250** attendees comprised of Tribal leaders from over **150** Tribes, Tribal organizations, and their selected appointees actively participate in TBLN. Since each Tribal entity approaches broadband access and deployment differently, TBLN includes both Tribal leaders and providers.

## What broadband activities happen in and on Tribal lands?

TBLN serves as a space for trainings, conversations, and technical assistance for tribes during all stages of the **Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP)** which supports Tribal governments bringing broadband to Tribal lands, including telehealth, distance learning, affordability, and digital inclusion initiatives.

On BroadbandUSA's <u>Tribal Nations Page</u>, you can find information on tribal consultations, TBCP webinar recordings, state engagement, mapping resources, and contacts for TBCP staff. Additionally, the <u>Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Resource Page</u> provides information about the TBCP program, including the <u>Awardee Map</u>.

For more information, contact TBLN@ntia.gov.