



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

April 14, 2020

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Statutory and Regulatory Waiver Authority

Dear Tribal Leader:

On April 10, 2020, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued Notice PIH 2020-05. Pursuant to the authority provided under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136), HUD is waiving and establishing alternative requirements for numerous statutory and regulatory requirements for the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program and the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program. These waivers provide administrative flexibilities and relief to Indian tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This Notice is available at: [https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/PIH2020-05.pdf?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/PIH2020-05.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery).

The Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) is hosting a conference call at 2 PM EDT on Friday, April 17th, 2020, to provide you an overview of the Notice and answer your questions. We will be taking questions live during the call via a chat feature. We encourage you to submit questions prior to the call by emailing [Codetalk@hud.gov](mailto:Codetalk@hud.gov) with the subject line "TDHE call w/PIH: COVID Waiver Questions".

**Call-in information:**

**Step 1:** Dial into the conference.

**Dial-in:** [1-877-369-5243](tel:1-877-369-5243) or [1-617-668-3633](tel:1-617-668-3633)

**Access Code:** 0273160##

**Step 2:** Join the conference on your computer.

**Entry Link:** <https://ems8.intellor.com/login/824735>

HUD strongly encourages Indian tribes and TDHEs to review the Notice and begin planning to utilize IHBG and ICDBG funding to address the effects of COVID-19 on their communities. Last week, HUD published the allocations for IHBG funding under the CARES Act (IHBG-CARES funding), which is available at: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PA/documents/IHBGchart.pdf>. In the near future, HUD will issue an implementation notice that will detail an abbreviated process for accessing IHBG-CARES funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, HUD will issue an implementation notice that will detail applying for ICDBG-Imminent Threat funding under the CARES Act (ICDBG-CARES funding).

HUD is committed to supporting tribal governments nationwide in addressing the effects of COVID-19 on their communities during this public health crisis. If you have any questions about Notice PIH 2020-05, the CARES Act or its funding programs, please contact your local Office of Native American Programs.

Thank you for all of the important work that you do every day. Your continued work for Indian Country is vital to our collective efforts to ensure that American Indian families have decent, safe, and affordable housing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heidi J. Frechette". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Heidi J. Frechette  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Native American Programs