August 11, 2020

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published the FY20 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) - Competitive Grant Program earlier today. It announced the availability of approximately $91 million in competitive grants to eligible Indian tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs). This program provides competitive grant funding to Tribes and TDHEs to carry out affordable housing activities for the benefit of low-income Native American families. In accordance with the FY20 Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, projects that will spur housing construction and rehabilitation will be prioritized.

HUD recognizes the many challenges faced by Tribes and TDHEs during the ongoing COVID-19 National Emergency. Accordingly, this year, HUD is providing a longer application period than the application period in last year’s competition to allow applicants additional time to develop and submit applications. Therefore, applicants will have until 11:59:59 EST on December 10, 2020, to submit applications via https://www.grants.gov. If applicants are unable to submit an electronic application, they may request a waiver in accordance with Section IV.A. of the NOFA https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=328626.

HUD will provide training opportunities in the near future to interested applicants. All interested applicants are encouraged to participate in these trainings before applying. Interested applicants should check Codetalk regularly for updates to information about the program and training materials.

On December 10, 2019, HUD announced nearly $200 million in grant awards to Indian tribes and TDHEs across Indian Country. The funding went to support many critical new housing construction, housing rehabilitation, and related affordable housing projects that will help address the need for new affordable housing in Tribal communities. We are looking forward to seeing another great round of ideas and submissions.

I strongly encourage you to apply. If you have any additional questions about the FY20 IHBG Competitive Grant Program NOFA, please contact IHBGCompetitiveProgram@hud.gov or your ONAP Area Office.
Thank you for your interest in the IHBG Competitive Grant Program.

Sincerely,

R. Hunter Kurtz
Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing