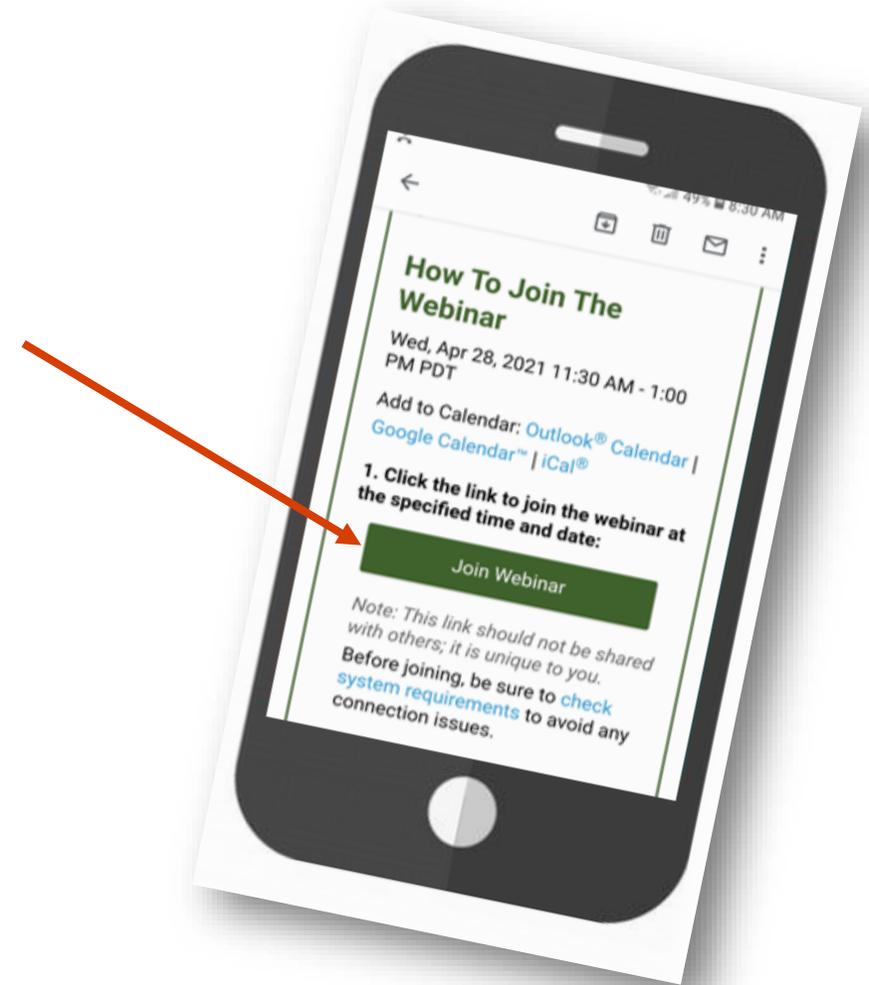


Phone Audio Option - Mobile Device

- ✓ Click on Join Webinar from your email confirmation.
 - ✓ Download the app as directed.
 - ✓ Webinar will launch automatically once the app is downloaded and opened
- *If the webinar does not launch, click “Join Webinar” again from your email confirmation.



The presentation along with a transcript and recording will be available on the BroadbandUSA website under Events/Past Event on or before June 23, 2021.



Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021



Housekeeping

Questions

- Type questions in the Q&A box on the right side of the screen. Questions and answers will be available on the FAQ section of our website.
- [Overview of Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 | BroadbandUSA \(doc.gov\)](#)

Presentation

- The presentation along with a transcript and recording will be available on the BroadbandUSA website under Events/Past Events on or before June 23, 2021.
- [BroadbandUSA Past Events](#)

Note: This presentation is for informational purposes only and is intended solely to assist potential applicants in better understanding the NTIA Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program and the application requirements set forth in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for this program. The presentation does not and is not intended to supersede, modify, or otherwise alter applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, or the specific application requirements set forth in the NOFO. In all cases, statutory and regulatory mandates, and the requirements set forth in the NOFO, shall prevail over any inconsistencies contained in the presentation.

Don Graves
*19th United States Deputy
Secretary of Commerce*

Douglas Kinkoph

Associate Administrator

Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications, NTIA

Biden Administration on Broadband

“These investments will help many Native American, Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian communities gain long overdue access to life-saving technologies, economic opportunities, remote learning and countless other benefits This funding is an important step forward, but we cannot stop here. Access to broadband is as essential as electricity to our everyday life. Under President Biden’s American Jobs Plan, we will have the resources to deploy high-quality broadband infrastructure to every Tribal community.”



Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, June 3, 2021

Presenters

- **Margaret Gutierrez**, National Tribal Government Liaison
First Responder Network Authority
- **Vanesscia Cresci**, Broadband Program Specialist
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications, NTIA
- **Crystal Hottowe**, Broadband Program Specialist
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications, NTIA
- **Gabe Montoya**, Broadband Program Specialist
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications, NTIA
- **Adam Geisler**, National Tribal Government Liaison
First Responder Network Authority



Vanesscia Cresci
Broadband Program Specialist
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications, NTIA

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Overview



Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program

How Much	\$1 Billion
Who Can Apply	Tribal Governments, Tribal Colleges or Universities, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Community, including Native Hawaiian Education Programs, Tribal organizations, or Alaska Native Corporations.
For What	Deployment and adoption of broadband service on Tribal land and programs that promote the use of broadband to access remote learning, telework, or telehealth resources during the COVID–19 pandemic.
When	NTIA is now accepting applications for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program until September 1, 2021 . NTIA cannot extend this deadline.

Tribal Grant Program | Eligible Entities

Eligible Entities

Section 905(a)(8) of the Act stipulates the following eligible entities:

- A Tribal Government;
- A Tribal College or University;
- The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Community, including Native Hawaiian Education Programs;
- A Tribal Organization; or
- An Alaska Native Corporation

Link to statute: [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021](#)

Broadband Adoption Defined

Defined

- **Broadband Adoption:** Includes providing affordable broadband programs, such as providing free or reduced-cost broadband service and preventing disconnection of existing broadband service.
- **Qualifying Broadband Service:** Means broadband service with: (i) a download speed of not less than 25 Megabits per second; (ii) an upload speed of not less than 3 Megabits per second; and (iii) a latency sufficient to support real time, interactive applications.

Tribal Grant Program | Eligible Entities

More than one eligible entity

- **Q: CAN A TRIBE AND A TRIBAL ENTITY FROM THE SAME TRIBE BOTH APPLY?**

- **A: Yes, with the appropriate coordination.** There are several instances where applicants will need to obtain a Tribal Government Resolution. See Section C.3.c in the NOFO for more information about this requirement. Each eligible entity must coordinate internally (which includes all departments, subsidiaries, etc.) in submitting its single application. In an instance where one eligible entity is a subsidiary of another (e.g., a Tribal government and a subsidiary Tribal college or university), this shall not affect the subsidiary's eligibility to submit its own application, so long as it includes the requisite Tribal Government Resolution.

- **Q: ARE CONSORTIUMS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?**

- **A: Yes,** see Section C.3.b, Encouragement of Consortiums and Regional Applicants, in the NOFO for more details.

Note: NO DUPLICATION ALLOWED.

Infrastructure vs Non-Infrastructure

Applicable to ALL eligible entities

Infrastructure

- Require Tribal government consent that is consistent with the language in the NOFO
- Cannot duplicate another eligible entity's request
- No matter who you are, deployment of infrastructure on tribal lands requires consent that is consistent with the language in the NOFO

Non-Infrastructure

- NOFO does not require submission of Tribal government consent documentation from eligible entities
- Eligible entities are strongly encouraged to coordinate with one another to avoid competing applications

Gabe Montoya
Broadband Program Specialist
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications, NTIA

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Overview

Tribal Grant Program | Eligible Lands

Eligible Lands

Section 905(a)(13) of the Act defines tribal land that can be served as:

- Any land located within the boundaries of (i) an Indian reservation, Pueblo, or Rancheria; or (ii) a former reservation within Oklahoma;
- Any land not located within the boundaries of an Indian reservation, Pueblo, or Rancheria, the title to which is held—
 - (i) in trust by the United States for the benefit of an Indian Tribe or an individual Indian;
 - (ii) by an Indian Tribe or an individual Indian, subject to restriction against alienation under laws of the United States; or
 - (iii) by a dependent Indian community;
- Any land located within a region established pursuant to section 7(a) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1606(a));
- Hawaiian Home Lands, as defined in section 801 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4221); or
- Those areas or communities designated by the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior that are near, adjacent, or contiguous to reservations where financial assistance and social service programs are provided to Indians because of their status as Indians.

Certifying Unserved Areas (Optional)

How does a Tribe Self-Certify (Section D.2.c.vii of the NOFO)

- A Tribal government may certify whether an area within its own “Tribal Lands” is “unserved,” in lieu of using a non-tribal coverage/speed data set such as FCC 477 carrier sourced data. Any other eligible entity may also request a Tribal certification of “unserved.”
- Any such Tribal government certification of “unserved” must:
 - Certify that the areas where last mile service is proposed is unserved,
 - Provide a statement on Tribal letterhead, and
 - Provide additional supporting information (if available) explaining how that determination of unserved was made.

Certifying Unserved Areas (Optional)

How does a Tribe Self-Certify (Section D.2.c.vii of the NOFO)

- The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands may also certify whether tribal lands as described in Subsection D of the NOFO are “unserved.”
- A Tribal government may not certify tribal lands covered under an Enforceable Buildout Commitment, as defined in Section A.2.g of the NOFO, as unserved.
- A Tribal government must disclose whether it has terminated an existing agreement qualifying as an Enforceable Buildout Commitment in anticipation of receiving funding under the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program.

Qualifying broadband service: standard speeds of at least 25 Mbps/download and 3 Mbps/upload, with low latency. Anything less is considered **UNSERVED**.

Submitting an Application: Grants.gov

Funding Opportunity Number: NTIA-TBC-TBCPO-2021-2006948

Important Application Windows to Note

- Register on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
 - 30-day window to obtain AOR (Authorized Organizational Representative)
- Obtaining SAM (System of Award Management)
 - 30-day window to obtain SAM

Submitting an Application: Alternate Methods

Funding Opportunity Number: **NTIA-TBC-TBCPO-2021-2006948**

NTIA prefers that applicants use Grants.gov to submit their applications; however, applicants can alternatively submit complete application packages through the following:

- Email: broadbandusa@ntia.gov
- Postal Mail Address: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 4887, Attn: Douglas Kinkoph, Associate Administrator, Washington, DC, 20230

Notes:

- Applicants must submit complete application packages using only one method (Grants.gov, through electronic mail, or postal mail or courier) and may not submit partial or duplicate applications using multiple methods of transmission.
- Applicants without Internet access may request a copy of the application materials by contacting Adam Geisler at (202) 631-1188.

Application Timelines

Application Window:

- **90 days: June 3, 2021 through September 1, 2021**

Application Deadline Key Dates:

- **Applications submitted through Grants.gov:** Must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) on September 1, 2021.
- **Applications submitted by postal mail or by courier service:** Must be postmarked (for postal mail) or show clear evidence of mailing (for courier submissions) no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) on September 1, 2021.
- **Applications submitted by electronic mail:** Must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) on September 1, 2021.

Funding Amounts

- \$980,000,000 available for federal assistance.
- In accordance with Section 905(c)(3)(A) of the Act, NTIA will allocate not less than 3% of the funds, or not less than \$30,000,000, for the benefit of Native Hawaiians.
- NTIA will allocate up to \$500,000 to each of the Federally Recognized Tribes delineated by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs in accordance with Section B.3 of the NOFO.
- NTIA expects to make awards under this program within the following funding ranges (*Note: These funding ranges are not required minimums and maximums, but eligible entities requesting funding for projects outside of these ranges must provide a reasonable explanation for the variance in their project size*):
 - Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Projects: \$1,000,000 to \$50,000,000
 - Broadband Adoption and Use Projects: \$50,000 to \$2,500,000

Crystal Hottowe
Broadband Program Specialist
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications, NTIA

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Overview

Evaluation and Scoring (Infrastructure)

For Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Projects

Project Purpose and Benefits (45 points)

- Level of Need on the Tribal Land (35 points)
- Affordability of Services Offered (10 points)

Project Viability (30 points)

- Technical Approach and Related Network Planning, Capacity and Performance (20 points)
- Strength of Applicant's Organizational Capability (10 points)

Project Budget and Sustainability (25 points)

- Reasonableness of the Budget (10 points)
- Sustainability of the Project (15 points)

Evaluation and Scoring (Non-Infrastructure)

For Broadband Use and Adoption Projects

Project Purpose and Benefits (45 points)

- Level of Impact on the Tribal Land (45 points)

Project Viability (30 points)

- Operational Approach of the Proposed Project Plan (15 points)
- Strength of Applicant's Organizational Capability (15 points)

Project Budget and Sustainability (25 points)

- Reasonableness of the Budget (10 points)
- Sustainability of the Project (15 points)

Key Requirements of the Act

- Section 905(c)(4)(A)(i) of the Act requires an eligible entity to commit the funds in accordance with its approved application not later than 180 days after receiving grant funds under the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program.
- Section 905(c)(6) of the Act prohibits an eligible entity from using more than two percent (2%) of grants funds received under the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program for administrative expenses.
- 1 year completion deadline for broadband use and adoption projects.
- 1 year completion deadline for broadband infrastructure projects, with extensions that can be requested under certain conditions.

Eligible entities receiving awards for new construction of broadband infrastructure must prioritize projects deploying to unserved households

Clarifications

Timeline for TBCP grant projects

The Act requires eligible entities to complete their projects within one year of their receipt of grant funds.

Extensions for Infrastructure Projects: The Assistant Secretary may extend the award period for broadband infrastructure construction projects if the eligible entity certifies that:

- i. It has a plan for use of the grant funds;
- ii. The construction project is underway; or
- iii. Extenuating circumstances require an extension of time to allow the project to be completed.

Extensions are not available for Broadband Use and Adoption Projects.

Clarifications

No Match or Cost-Sharing Required



Adam Geisler

National Tribal Government Liaison
First Responder Network Authority

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Overview

Impact on Other Federal Broadband Programs

HOW DOES THIS FUNDING IMPACT OTHER OPPORTUNITIES?

- The use of grant funds received under the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program by an eligible entity or subgrantee shall not impact the eligibility of, or otherwise disadvantage, the eligible entity or subgrantee with respect to participation in any other federal broadband program
- NTIA encourages applicants to leverage federal, state, and other funding for holistic broadband solutions and track these separate use and expenditures of such funds that may complement network deployment

Eligible vs Ineligible Costs

Eligible	Ineligible
<p>Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Activities Ex: Deploying new or upgrading broadband infrastructure on tribal lands (25/3 Mbps)</p>	<p>No Supplanting Ex: Any activity previously budgeted</p>
<p>Broadband Adoption & Use Activities Ex: Adoption of broadband services on tribal lands, enable tribal anchor institutions to provide affordable broadband programs, workforce development, remote learning, telework or telehealth</p>	<p>Any Pre-Development Costs Incurred Prior to the NOFO Release Ex: Engineering completed prior to NOFO release</p>
	<p>Duplicative Activities Ex: Last mile deployment to the same building or redundant networks</p>

Technical Assistance

- Technical Assistance will be offered through regional entities on a monthly basis throughout the application window.
- Contact person from NTIA:
 - Programmatic Inquiries: **Adam Geisler** (adam.geisler@firstnet.gov)
 - Grant Management Inquiries: **Nicola Bell** (Nicola.Bell@noaa.gov)
- Monthly Webinars
 - Upcoming webinar opportunities can be found here:
<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/events/latest-events>

Next Steps

- ✓ Merit Review & Programmatic Review
- ✓ Notification of Acceptance/Project Funding
- ✓ Ongoing Webinars

Call for Merit Reviewers

NTIA is seeking qualified volunteers with expertise and experience in at least one of the following areas:

- ✓ Broadband use and adoption
- ✓ Broadband infrastructure deployment

To volunteer as a reviewer, please email a resume containing the information below to grantreviewer@ntia.gov:

- Name
- Residence (city and state)
- Email/phone number
- Employer(s) including states you were employed in
- Position/Title
- Years and types of experience and positions in fields related to broadband activities

Although you will not be compensated for your time and expertise, you will be making a significant contribution to enhancing broadband services and utilization throughout the United States. We appreciate the valuable contribution you will be making to the success of the programs and look forward to working with you as a reviewer.

Other Funding for Consideration and Planning

The Treasury Department has \$20 billion in tribal funding available under the American Rescue Plan Act. Below are the express statutory uses. See <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-fund/tribal-governments>.

- **Support public health expenditures**, by, for example, funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff
- **Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency**, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector
- **Replace lost public sector revenue**, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic
- **Provide premium pay for essential workers**, offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors
- **Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure**, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet

Please contact tribal.consult@treasury.gov for further information.

Q & A

Join again for the grants webinar series!

Broadband Infrastructure Program	Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program	Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program
April 28 Recording	April 21 Recording	May 5 Recording
April 29 Recording	April 22 Recording	May 6 Recording
June 9 & 10	June 16 & 17	June 23 & 24
July 14 & 15	July 21 & 22	July 28 & 29

Webinars start at 2:30 pm ET

Registration is required for each webinar and is limited to 1,000

broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/events/latest-events

Contact Us

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