

**Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs**

ECDEV - BIA – Economic Development

10/25/2024

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If you have questions regarding the application process, please contact Ms. Jo Ann Metcalfe, Grant Officer, telephone (410) 703-3390; email jo.metcalfe@bia.gov

Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Additional Program information can be found at: <https://www.bia.gov/service/grants/ttgp>

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A. Program Description

A1. Authority

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is designed to provide financial assistance to Tribal communities to create, rebuild or strengthen their tourism industry. This competitive discretionary grant program is authorized under the NATIVE Act (25 U.S.C. 4354(b)) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (PL 118-42). The NATIVE Act authorizes the head of an agency with assets or resources relating to travel, recreation, tourism promotion or branding enhancement for which Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, or Native Hawaiian organizations may be used: (1) to support the efforts of Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to tell the story of Native Americans as the First Peoples of the United States; (2) to use the arts and humanities to help revitalize Native communities, promote economic development, increase livability and present the uniqueness of the United States to visitors in a way that celebrates the diversity of the United States; and to carry out 25 U.S.C. 4354. This NOFO does not include eligibility for Native Hawaiian Organizations (see Section C. *Eligibility Information*).

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A2. Background, Purpose and Program Requirements

It is very important to thoroughly review this Full Announcement to fully understand how to apply for a TTGP grant.

Background

The U.S. Department of Interior (DOI), Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, through the Office of Indian Economic Development (OIED), solicits proposals from eligible entities for TTGP grants. Eligible entities are referred to using the term “Tribe” throughout this notice, see Section C. *Eligibility Information*. The OIED supports a Tribe’s capacity to plan, develop and manage tourism and related infrastructure in support of economic development and the NATIVE Act (Pub. L. 114-221). The TTGP grant funding strives to achieve substantial community benefits by supporting infrastructure development and increased tourism capacity to elevate the living standards of the community.

The two previous TTGP grants focused on supporting Tribal tourism by providing Tribes funds to obtain technical assistance to perform feasibility studies or develop Tribal tourism business

plans. The feasibility studies or business plans empowered Tribes to make informed decisions on potential tourism project(s), Tribal tourism businesses, or Tribal tourism businesses recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Purpose Summary

The TTGP FY 2024 will take the next step in program development by funding a pilot group of competitively selected Tribal tourism implementation projects. This small cohort will allow the OIED to focus and develop those Tribes to be successful with their Tribal tourism implementation projects. Each application must provide supporting documentation that the project proposal is in the implementation phase of its life cycle by submitting completed planning documents (i.e. Feasibility Study, Business Plan). The implementation of the tourism project will address a tourism challenge(s) that is guided by the economic development needs of the community.

Application Proposal Parameters

The following sections on project proposal structure and parameters are suggested to be used as a guide toward supporting a tourism implementation project that can be competitively ranked. Whereas each proposal will tackle their community's own distinctive needs and have the freedom to provide for that flexibility, the methods outlined in the proposal should demonstrate the same level of Tribal community cohesion, commitment and depth. The application should show quality and descriptiveness in the details to be very clear in describing the program design.

The following sections will outline the structure by which the TTGP will solicit applications from Tribes interested in tourism implementation project funds and the criteria by which the applications will be competitively reviewed (see Section *E. Application Review Information*):

1. Community Driven Need
2. Planning Documentation and Project Direction
3. Cultural Significance
4. Economic Development Focus with Capacity Building for Local Entrepreneurs
5. Project Deliverables and Measurable Increase to Tourism Visitor & Resident Experience
6. Cost Appropriateness of Project

1. Community Driven Need

An application submitted for consideration for TTGP funding must provide a project proposal that is centered around an economically derived community need. Apart from systematic needs of the Tribe, the TTGP funding strives to award proposals demonstrating a deep understanding of the economic community necessities central to the project. The proposal may be a component of a larger project; however, it must have a clear delineation of funding and project deliverables (see Section 5. *Project Deliverables and Measurable Increase to Tourism Visitor & Resident Experience*). This community driven focus will help support the efforts of the Tribe's tourism goals and to tell their story of Native Americans as the First Peoples of the United States.

2. Planning Documentation and Project Direction

Each application must contain a completed planning document supporting the implementation phase of its life cycle. The planning documents may include, but are not limited to: a completed Feasibility Study; a Business Plan; etc. The planning document may include community

surveys, preliminary statistics, long-term planning parameters, etc., to demonstrate the project meets a high probability of success.

While the planning document identified the tourism project direction and overall feasibility, this project implementation proposal will provide the directional agenda and tasks to tackle the tourism challenge. The application must demonstrate why the Tribe chose this particular implementation project, how it plans to accomplish the necessary portions, how it will budget for those particular needs, and how it has the capacity to complete a project of this scope. If this project involves complimentary tourism plans, those funding sources and deliverables must be identified and separated from those contained in this proposal for TTGP funding.

3. Cultural Significance

The TTGP funding helps to empower Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations to showcase the heritage, foods, traditions, history, and continuing vitality of Native American communities. The proposal should thread authentic local community Tribal culture throughout the implementation project and showcase those unique traits to increase the visitor and resident experience. The project plans should include ways to identify, enhance, or maintain traditions and cultural features, that are important to sustain the distinctiveness of the local Native American community. Tourists to the area will be exposed to these efforts to promote understanding and respect for diverse cultures and subcultures in the United States and the relevance of those cultures to the national brand of the United States.

4. Economic Development Focus with Capacity Building for Local Entrepreneurs

The implementation project must be centered around an economically derived community tourism need. While the project will be rooted in furthering the economic development of a community at large, the proposal should provide some measure of local entrepreneurial involvement. Innovative projects that show a deep understanding of the community will incorporate the local businesses, artists, and entrepreneurs who help further revitalize Native communities, promote economic development, increase livability, and present the uniqueness of the United States to visitors in a way that celebrates the diversity of the United States. The project should strive to improve the economic development of the community by driving tourism to the area to experience the distinct qualities of the community culture and its local entrepreneurs.

5. Project Deliverables and Measurable Increase to Tourism Visitor & Resident Experience

The Tribal tourism implementation project must contain tracking mechanisms to accurately measure goals to gauge the success of the project. The project will identify goals that have appropriate timelines, increase national or global recognition, have positive impacts to the local community, and correlate to the overall parameters as outlined in this section.

Depending on if the project is standalone or part of a consolidated effort, the deliverables must speak to measuring increased tourism traffic, visitor and resident experience, and the completion of portions of an overall project. Any consolidated project must have the capacity and well-defined financial systems to separate the various goals and financial expenditures. A project that is a component of a much larger project will demonstrate those milestones and deliverables contained in this grant award. These deliverables must be submitted at the end of the period of

performance, as well as monitored and reported during the interim reporting periods (see Section *F3. Reporting*).

6. Cost Appropriateness of Project

The project expenditures must be allowable costs per 2 CFR 200 and the TTGP grant program (see Section *D6. Funding Restrictions*). The overall project costs, as well as the individual cost categories, must be pragmatically commensurate to the desired outcomes. The proposal should act cautiously to outline a budget and timelines that are appropriate for the project term and cost structure. While only eligible Tribes may apply for TTGP grants, grantees may select or retain for-profit or non-profit Tribal Organizations to perform a grant's scope of work for grant funding to support Tribal programs. Every effort should be made to link funding costs to the overall goal of capturing tourism traffic, visitors and ultimately to increase Tribal income.

Applicant Procurement Procedures

The applicant is subject to the procurement standards under 2 CFR 200.318 through 200.326. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.318, an applicant must use its own documented procurement procedures which reflect Tribal laws and regulations, provided that the procurements conform to applicable Federal law and standards identified in Part 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations. All Tribes are subject to audit reviews once selected.

Funding Opportunity Goals

- The TTGP grant funding strives to achieve substantial community benefits by supporting infrastructure development and increased tourism capacity to elevate the living standards of the community through a tourism implementation project.

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimated Total Funding

\$1,400,000

B2. Expected Award Amount

Maximum Award

\$150,000

Minimum Award

\$75,000

B3. Anticipated Award Funding and Dates

Anticipated Award Date

January 02, 2025

B4. Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards

10

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type

G - Grant

C. Eligibility Information

C1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants

07 – Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

11 – Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)

Additional Information on Eligibility

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

No

C3. Other

Excluded Parties: BIA conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award. BIA cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this Federal program.

D. Application and Submission Information

D1. Address to Request Application Package

D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

1. SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

Applicants must submit the appropriate Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. Individuals applying as a private citizen (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own or operate in your name), must complete the SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance-Individual form. All other applicants must complete the standard SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance. The required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. The SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance must be complete, signed, and dated. Do not include any proprietary or personally identifiable information. Please note: Enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in the “Federal” funding box on the SF-424 Application form. Include any other Federal sources of funding in the “Other” box and provide details on those Federal source(s) and funding amount(s) in the required Budget Narrative (see the “Budget Narrative” section below).

Project Narrative

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424 Budget Information form and Budget Narrative. For non-construction programs or projects, applicants must complete and submit the SF-424A, “Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs” form. All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200.

Detailed Budget Narrative

The project budget shall include detailed information on all cost categories and must clearly identify all estimated project costs. Unit costs shall be provided for all budget items including the cost of work to be provided by contractors or sub-recipients. In addition, applicants shall include a narrative description of the items included in the project budget, including the value of in-kind contributions of goods and services provided to complete the project when cost share is identified to be included (reference section C of this announcement). Cost categories can include, but are not limited to, those costs items included on the SF424A or SF424C.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.112](#), applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

(a) Applicability.

(1) This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.

(2) In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the conflict of interest provisions in 2 CFR 200.318 apply.

(b) Notification.

- (1) Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR 200.112.
- (2) Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by subrecipients.
- (c) *Restrictions on lobbying.* Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR part 18 and 31 U.S.C. 1352.
- (d) *Review procedures.* The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.
- (e) *Enforcement.* Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR part 180).

Single Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending \$750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System](#). U.S. state, local government, federally recognized Indian tribal government, and non-profit applicants must state if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#) website.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in [43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying](#). If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official's signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants and recipients must not use any federally appropriated funds (annually appropriated or continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a Federal award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any U.S. agency, a Member of the U.S. Congress, an officer or employee of the U.S. Congress, or an employee of a Member of the U.S. Congress connection with the award. Applicants and recipients must complete and submit the [SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities"](#) form if the Federal share of the proposal or award is more than \$100,000 and the applicant or recipient has made or has agreed to make any payment using non-

appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the application or award. The SF-LLL form is available with this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 and 31 USC 1352 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

Applicants must provide a statement indicating if there is any overlap between this Federal application and any other Federal application, or funded project, in regards to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. If no such overlap or duplication exists, state, “There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other Federal applications or funded projects, including in regards to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel”. If any such overlap exists, provide a complete description of overlaps or duplications between this proposal and any other federally funded project or application in regards to activities, costs, and time commitment of key personnel, as applicable. Provide a copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity and identify when that proposal was submitted, to whom (entity name and program), and when you anticipate being notified of their funding decision. The statement and the description of overlap or duplication, when applicable, may be provided within the proposal or as a separate attachment to the application. If at any time a proposal is awarded funds that would be overlapping or duplicative of the funding requested from BIA, the applicant must immediately notify the BIA point of contact. Any overlap or duplication of funding between the proposed project and other active or anticipated projects may impact selection and/or funding amount.

D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration: This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\)](#) which replaces the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet in April 2022. A Federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their Federal award(s).

Register with the System for Award Management (SAM)

Applicants can register on the [SAM.gov](#) website. The “Help” tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. The Grants.gov “[Register with SAM](#)” page also provides detailed instructions. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities will be assigned a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least

once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity's IRS information. There is no cost to register with SAM.gov. There are third-party vendors who will charge a fee in exchange for registering entities with SAM.gov; please be aware you can register and request help for free. If applicable, foreign entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

D4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications

10/25/2024

Application Due Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., ET, on the listed application due date.

Addresses

For Further Information Contact

Mr. Dennis Wilson, Grant Management Specialist, Office of Indian Economic Development, telephone: (505) 917-3235; email: dennis.wilson@bia.gov and DEDGrants@bia.gov

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D5. Intergovernmental Review

Prior to application submission, U.S. state and local government applicants should visit the [OMB Office of Federal Financial Management website](#) and view the "State Point of Contact (SPOC) List" to determine whether their application is subject to the state intergovernmental review process under Executive Order (E.O.) 12372 "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." States not on the list do not participate in the intergovernmental review process, and therefore do not have a SPOC. If you are located within a State that does not have a SPOC, you may send application materials directly to a Federal awarding agency. If your state is on the list, contact the designated entity for more information on the state's prior review requirements for Federal assistance applications.

D6. Funding Restrictions

The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your

organization's cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the Interior Business Center by phone 916-930-3803 or using the [IBC Email Submission Form](#). See the [IBC Website](#) for more information.

Organizations must have an active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency. Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award. Recipients must have prior written approval from BIA to use amounts budgeted for direct costs to satisfy cost-share or match requirements or to cover unallowable indirect costs. Recipients shall not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.

Required Indirect Cost Statement to be submitted with Application

All organizations must include the applicable statement from the following list in their application, and attach to their application any documentation identified in the applicable statement:

We are:

- A U.S. state or local government entity receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding each year with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate]. We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency. Attached is a copy of our most recently approved rate agreement/certification.
- A U.S. state or local government entity receiving less than \$35 million in direct Federal funding with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate]. We have prepared and will retain for audit an indirect cost rate proposal and related documentation.
- A [insert your organization type; U.S. states and local governments, do not use this statement] that has previously negotiated or currently has an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. [Insert either: "Attached is a copy of our most recently approved but expired rate agreement. In the event an award is made, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award is made." or "Attached is a copy of our current negotiated indirect cost rate agreement."]
- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date.
- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency and has an indirect cost rate that is lower than 10%. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate; must be lower than 10%]. However, if we receive an award we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award. We request as a condition of award to charge a flat indirect cost rate of [insert rate; must be lower than 10%] against [insert a clear description of the direct cost base against which your rate is charged (e.g., salaries; salaries and fringe benefits; or modified total direct costs). However, please note that your organization cannot charge indirect costs in excess of the indirect costs that would be recovered if applied against modified total direct costs as defined in [§2 CFR](#)

[200.68](#)]. We understand that we must notify BIA in writing if we establish an approved rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period.

- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency and has an indirect cost rate that is 10% or higher. Our indirect cost rate is [insert your organization’s indirect rate; must be 10% or higher]. However, if we receive an award we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award. We request as a condition of award to charge a flat *de minimis* indirect cost rate of 10% to be charged against modified total direct project costs as defined in [2 CFR §200.68](#). We understand that we must notify BIA in writing if we establish a negotiated rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs during the project period and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by BIA.
- A [insert your organization type] that is submitting this proposal for consideration under the “Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network”, which has a Department of the Interior-approved indirect cost rate cap of 17.5%. If we have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must apply this reduced rate against the same direct cost base as identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement per [2 CFR §1402.414](#). If we do not have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must charge indirect costs against the modified total direct cost base defined in 2 CFR §200.68 “Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)”. We understand that we must request prior approval from BIA to use the 2 CFR 200 MTDC base instead of the base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement. We understand that BIA approval of such a request will be based on: 1) a determination that our approved base is only a subset of the MTDC (such as salaries and wages); and 2) that use of the MTDC base will still result in a reduction of the total indirect costs to be charged to the award. In accordance with 2 CFR §200.405, we understand that indirect costs not recovered due to a voluntary reduction to our federally negotiated rate are not allowable for recovery via any other means.
- A [insert your organization type] that will charge all costs directly.

D7. Other Submission Requirements

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

Criterion 1 – Community Driven Need

Maximum Points: 20

The tourism implementation project proposal should clearly center around an economically derived community need. The supporting data in the application should expand on various areas

of the proposal that demonstrate a deep understanding of the economic community necessities. The application will link all arguments and justifications in the proposal back to the community need. Every effort should be made to differentiate the community need from a systematic need of the Tribe.

If the proposal is a portion of a larger project, it must have a clear delineation of funding and project deliverables from the other components. The larger project should also be focused on achieving substantial community benefits by supporting infrastructure development and increased tourism capacity to elevate the living standards of the community. Any cross-utilization of resources should be identified and clearly differentiated

Criterion 2 – Planning Documentation and Project Direction

Maximum Points: 20

Each application must contain a completed planning document supporting the implementation phase of its life cycle. The planning documents may include, but are not limited to: a completed Feasibility Study; a Business Plan; etc. The planning document may include community surveys, preliminary statistics, long-term planning parameters, etc. No outside materials located on web links or pages will be taken into consideration.

The planning document submitted in the proposal should be a professionally completed product containing overwhelming data and support in defending the Tribe’s tourism direction. It is highly preferred the product had been completed by an outside consultant with the expertise to consolidate and analyze industry data to arrive at a feasible recommendation. Planning documents completed under other grant programs, through OIED’s funding opportunities, or through outside resources may be submitted. The proposal should provide support the submitted product has a valid shelf-life in the tourism implementation endeavor despite markets that continuously evolve.

Criterion 3 – Cultural Significance

Maximum Points: 20

The application should continuously reinforce the TTGP funding will help empower the Tribe to showcase the heritage, foods, traditions, history, and continuing vitality of the community. The proposal should thread authentic local community Tribal culture throughout the implementation project and showcase those unique traits to increase the visitor and resident experience. The project plans should include ways to identify and enhance, or maintain traditions and cultural features, that are important to sustain the distinctiveness of the local Native American community. Tourists to the area will be exposed to these efforts to promote understanding and respect for diverse cultures and subcultures in the United States and the relevance of those cultures to the national brand of the United States.

The overall community need that drives the tourism implementation project should incorporate various aspects of the culture. Further inclusion of economic development and entrepreneurial capacity building will help expose the potential tourism market to the local community.

Criterion 4 – Economic Development Focus with Capacity Building for Local Entrepreneurs

Maximum Points: 20

The implementation project must be centered around an economically derived community tourism need. While the project will be rooted in furthering the economic development of a

community at large, the proposal should provide some measure of local entrepreneurial inclusion. Innovative projects that show a deep understanding of the community will incorporate the local businesses, artists, and entrepreneurs who help further revitalize Native communities, promote economic development, increase livability, and represent the uniqueness of the United States to visitors in a way that celebrates diversity.

The proposal will detail its promotion of the local entrepreneurs by indicating in the project specific endeavors, opportunities, yearly gatherings, etc., that will exhibit and grow those business and individuals. All partnerships with local incubators, educational institutions, and other tourism entities should be identified and explained throughout the proposal.

Criterion 5 – Project Deliverables and Measurable Increase to Tourism Visitor & Resident Experience

Maximum Points: 10

The Tribal tourism implementation project must contain tracking mechanisms to accurately measure goals to gauge the success of the project. The potential project grant award must identify goals that have appropriate timelines, increase its national or global recognition, have positive impacts to the local community, and correlate to the overall parameters.

The project will work closely with the OIED staff to provide continual support and assistance to ensure the project timelines are met. The proposal should incorporate the opportunity for OIED to routinely meet with the Tribal staff as the project develops.

Depending on if the project is standalone or part of a consolidated effort, the deliverables must speak to measuring increased tourism traffic, visitor and resident experience, and the completion of portions of an overall project. Any consolidated project must have the capacity and well-defined financial systems to separate the various goals and financial expenditures. A project that is a component of a much larger project will demonstrate those milestones and deliverables contained in this grant award. These deliverables must be submitted at the end of the 24-month period of performance, as well as monitored and reported during the interim reporting periods (see Section *F3. Reporting*).

Criterion 6 – Cost Appropriateness of Project

Maximum Points: 10

The application should include detailed sections for a budget narrative, budget spreadsheet(s), and extensive breakdowns and allocations as they correlate to the SF-424 and SF-424A. The overall budget and allocations must comply with the regulatory and policy standards identified throughout this NOFO, with adherence to Sections *D2. Content and Form of Application Submission* and *D6. Funding Restrictions*. The budget should be clear and detailed in the allocation of the entire requested funding while refraining from any unsupported, unexplained, or blanket budget costs.

The overall project costs, as well as the individual cost categories, must be pragmatically commensurate to the desired outcomes. The proposal should be cautious to outline a budget and timelines that are appropriate for the project term and cost structure. While only eligible Tribes may apply for TTGP grants, grantees may select or retain for-profit or non-profit Tribal Organizations to perform a grant's scope of work for grant funding to support Tribal programs. Every effort should be made to link funding costs to the overall goal of capturing tourism traffic, visitors and income.

The grant proposal may allocate a Point of Contact for the project to provide oversight and management. This individual may be funded under the TTGP, through allocation of a FTE or IDC, commensurate to the activities and goals outlined in the application. While the TTGP funding is designed to help implement a project, it is not intended to establish or operate a Tribal Office (see Section D6. *Funding Restrictions*).

If the proposal is a portion of a larger project, it must have a clear delineation of funding and project deliverables from the other components. As it also applies to other federal funded programs, a clear distinction of project goals and deliverables should be demonstrated in the SOW so there is no duplication, co-mingling or overlap. In the case of strategic planning of available resources among other community and tourism initiatives, the application should be clear as to the usage and utility of those resources.

E2. Review and Selection Process

Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the Bureau may choose not to fund the selected project.

The program may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the Bureau is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, the program will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in 2 CFR 200.205. Programs document applicant risk evaluations using the Bureau's "Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment" form. Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the Bureau is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. The Bureau will consider this information when completing the risk review. The Bureau uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in 2 CFR 200.207 should be applied the award.

The OIED will follow selection and award procedures as outlined in 2 CFR 200.204. Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, an active award, or as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort. The BIA may also choose not to fund a selected project.

The program may not make a federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov and ASAP registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed those registrations

by the time the BIA is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, the program will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in 2 CFR 200.205. Programs document applicant risk evaluations using the BIA's "Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment" form. Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the BIA is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. The BIA will consider this information when completing the risk review. The BIA uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in 2 CFR 200.207 should be applied the award.

Upon receiving a TTGP application, OIED will determine whether the applicant is eligible, submitted a complete application, and that the proposed project does not duplicate or overlap previous or currently funded OIED projects. Any proposal that is received after the date and time in *D4. Submission Dates and Times* section of this notice will not be reviewed. OIED will utilize the GrantSolutions ARM, comprised of non-federal personnel, to evaluate the proposals against the ranking criteria. Commentary will be required from each Panelist in the criteria Weakness section when scores less than the maximum point available are allocated for that section. Proposals will be evaluated using the criteria listed below, with a maximum achievable total of 100 points:

Criterion 1 – Community Driven Need
Points: 20

Criterion 2 – Planning Documentation and Project Direction
Points: 20

Criterion 3 – Cultural Significance
Points: 20

Criterion 4 – Economic Development Focus with CapacityBuilding for Local
Entrepreneurs Points: 20

Criterion 5 – Project Deliverables and Measurable Increase to Tourism Visitor &
Resident Experience Points: 10

Criterion 6 – Cost Appropriateness of Project
Points: 10

Final award selections will be determined by the Director of OIED, as approved by the Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs and the Associate Deputy Secretary, DOI, or their designee. Applicants not selected for award will be notified in writing and will receive the ARM reviewer scores and comments. Those who are not selected for funding may request a debrief on their application.

Director of OIED has final approval of all award decisions. The Director may choose not to fund any project that:

- Appears to have originated or was designed by consultants outside of the Applicant and Community, who have provided a major role for themselves in the performance of the project, and who are not members of the applicant Tribe, Tribal Organization or Consortia.
- Is essentially identical or similar in whole, or in part, to previously funded projects proposed by the same applicant, or activities or projects proposed by a consortium that duplicate activities for which any consortium member also receives or has received funding from OIED.
- Is duplicative of projects funded by other federal agencies.
- Includes activities that were previously implemented without federal assist.

E3. CFR – Regulatory Information

See the BIA Award Terms and Conditions for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards. BIA will communicate any other program- or project-specific special terms and conditions to recipients in their notices of award.

E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

Anticipated Solicitation Opening Date

July 31, 2024

Anticipated Solicitation Closing Date

October 25, 2024

Anticipated Award Date

January 2, 2025

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

Upon being selected for the award, successful applicants will receive a notification of the selection of their application for funding. BIA will notify the applicant selected for award by insert date. A notice of selection is not an authorization to begin performance on an agreement. This notice will detail the next steps in the awarding process. Once all clearances and reviews have been conducted, a cooperative agreement or grant will be sent for signature.

Work cannot begin before the non-Federal entity receives a fully executed copy of the

grant/cooperative agreement which contains the signature of the Financial Assistance Awarding Officer. Any pre-award costs incurred prior to the receipt of a signed agreement or written notice signed by a Financial Assistance Awarding Officer authorizing pre-award costs, is at the applicant's own risk. A signed grant/cooperative agreement signed by a Financial Assistance Awarding Officer is the only authorizing document to begin performance.

Organizations whose applications have not been selected will be advised as promptly as possible.

F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the "[DOI Standard Terms and Conditions](#)" for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

Data Availability

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.315](#):

(a) All data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, valuation products or other scientific assessments in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual, resulting from a financial assistance agreement is available for use by the Department of the Interior, including being available in a manner that is sufficient for independent verification.

(b) The Federal Government has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, produced under a Federal award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, for Federal purposes, including to allow for meaningful third-party evaluation.

F3. Reporting

Financial Reports

All recipients must use the [SF-425, Federal Financial Report](#) form for financial reporting. At a minimum, all recipients must submit a **final** financial report. Final reports are due no later than 90 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award. The only exception to the interim financial reporting requirement is if the recipient is required to use the SF 270/271 to request payment and requests payment at least once annually through the entire award period of performance. We will describe all financial reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if

appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. Final reports are due no later than 90 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

Significant Development Reports

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates which have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Bureau in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The recipient should also notify BIA in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Real Property Reports

Recipients and subrecipients are required to submit status reports on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest. The required frequency of these reports will depend on the anticipated length of the Federal interest period. The Bureau will include recipient-specific real property reporting requirements, including the required data elements, reporting frequency, and report due dates, in the Notice of Award when applicable.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Recipients must notify the program immediately in writing of any conflict of interest that arise during the life of their Federal award, including those reported to them by any subrecipient under the award. Recipients must notify the program in writing if any employees, including subrecipient and contractor personnel, are related to, married to, or have a close personal relationship with any Federal employee in the Federal funding program or who otherwise may have been involved in the review and selection of the award. The term employee means any individual engaged in the performance of work pursuant to the Federal award. Recipients may not have a former Federal employee as a key project official, or in any other substantial role related to their award, whose participation put them out of compliance with the legal authorities addressing post-Government employment restrictions. See the [U.S. Office of Government Ethics website](#) for more information on these restrictions. BIA will examine each conflict of interest disclosure based on its particular facts and the nature of the project and will determine if a significant potential conflict exists. If it does, BIA will work with the recipient to determine an appropriate resolution. Failure to disclose and resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies BIA may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338 Remedies for Noncompliance, including termination of the award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that receive a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM.

Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338 Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

G1. Program Technical Contact

For **programmatic technical assistance**, contact:

First Name:

Dennis

Last Name:

Wilson

Address:

Telephone:

5059173235

Email:

dennis.wilson@bia.gov

G2. Program Administration Contact

For **program administration assistance**, contact:

First Name:

Jo

Last Name:

Metcalfe

Address:

Telephone:

4107033390

Email:

jo.metcalfe@bia.gov

G3. Application System Technical Support

For **Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages**, contact:

Name:

Grants.gov Customer Support

Telephone:

1-800-518-4726

Email:

Support@grants.gov

H. Other Information

Payments

Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), unless approved for a waiver by the BIA program. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's International Treasury Services (ITS) System. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer (EFT). The Bureau will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.