

Bureau of Indian Affairs

**Notice of Funding Opportunity**

Tribal Tourism Grant Program (TTGP)

Funding Opportunity Number

BIA-TTGP-2026-OIED

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## BASIC INFORMATION

**Announcement Type:** Initial

**Funding Opportunity Number:** BIA-TTGP-2026-OIED

**Assistance Listing Number(s):** 15.032

**Estimated Total Program Funding:** \$2,400,000

**Expected Number of Awards:** 10

**Award Ceiling:** \$300,000

**Award Floor:** \$200,000

**Cost Sharing Required?**

No

### Closing Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM, ET, on the listed application due date.

### Have Questions?

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

Application Process Assistance: Ms. Jo Ann Metcalfe, Grant Officer, telephone: (410) 703-3390; email [jo.metcalfe@bia.gov](mailto:jo.metcalfe@bia.gov).

### Executive Summary

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs (Indian Affairs), through the Office of Indian Economic Development (OIED), solicits proposals from eligible entities (see [Eligibility Section](#)) for tourism grants focused on increasing visitors to existing Tribal tourism operations through facilitation, promotion, and enhancing visibility. The Tribal Tourism Grant Program (TTGP) funding strives to achieve substantial community benefits by facilitating and strengthening Tribal tourism activities, enhancing visitor experiences, and increasing visibility and access to Tribal destinations. These efforts support economic development and contribute to improved community well-being. The TTGP is not to be used to create or establish new Tribal tourism operations (see [Definitions](#)).

The competitively selected projects will benefit from technical assistance provided by the NATIVE Act Cooperative Agreement awardee, as well as the OIED. This approach will enable Tribes to enhance tourism experiences, strengthen destination positioning, and increase visitation. Projects should address clearly defined tourism challenges and opportunities and be aligned with the economic development goals and priorities of the Tribal community.

The OIED will administer this grant program through the Division of Economic Development (DED) funded under a non-recurring appropriation budget. Congress appropriates funds on a year-to-year basis. While TTGP projects may extend over several years, the DED will not fund beyond the period of performance.

The grant awards are for a project and budget period of 24 months. Neither the DOI nor Indian Affairs will be held responsible for proposal or application preparation costs. Publication of this announcement does not obligate DOI or Indian Affairs to award any specific grant or to obligate all or any part of available funds.

## ELIGIBILITY

### Eligible Applicants

Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized)

Native American Tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized Tribal governments)

### Additional Information on Eligibility

The Indian Affairs, through OIED, is soliciting proposals from eligible applicants. Eligible applicants are Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations, as defined in Section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) ([25 U.S.C. 5304](#)), including Tribal Consortia. Eligible applicants may select or retain for-profit or non-profit Tribal Organizations to perform a grant's scope of work for grant funding to support the Tribal tourism implementation project.

## Cost Sharing Requirement

### Cost Sharing Required?

No

## GET READY TO APPLY

### Required System Registrations

#### Unique Entity Identifier and SAM.gov Registration

Before applying, all **applicants** except individuals applying as a natural person **must be registered in SAM.gov**. During the SAM.gov registration the entity will obtain their Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

**The SAM.gov registration process can take several months. If your organization is not already registered in SAM.gov, begin the registration process as soon as possible.**

**To register in SAM.gov**, go to the [SAM.gov website](#) and use the available resources to complete registration.

- **Financial assistance registrants** must review and certify compliance with the SAM.gov “Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications”.
- **Already registered?** You already have a Unique Entity ID. Before applying, check that your “Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications” on SAM.gov is complete. Remember to renew your registration every year to keep it active while you

have an award or application in progress. You can update your registration whenever you need, including during renewal.

- **Need help?** For additional information and contact information on the [SAM.gov Help page](#).

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).

## GRANTS.GOV

This program accepts applications through [Grants.gov](#) so once you receive your UEI return to Grants.gov to [register](#) with Grants.gov. Please allow 30 days to register and set up a Workspace in Grants.gov. See [Submission Instructions](#) section below for additional details.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### Program Goals

The Tribal Tourism Grant Program (TTGP) is a competitive discretionary grant program that supports the NATIVE Act by expanding tourism visibility and driving increased visitation to Tribal destinations. OIED solicits proposals from eligible Tribes and Tribal Organizations to facilitate, promote, and enhance tourism offerings. These efforts strengthen destination positioning, drive visitation, and support Tribal participation in the tourism industry, contributing to sustainable economic growth and community benefits.

### Program Description

**It is very important to thoroughly review this Full Announcement to fully understand how to apply for a TTGP grant. No application will be considered for funding that contains construction or construction related activities.**

Recipients are encouraged to prioritize projects in support of the celebration of America's 250th birthday (America250). This may include, but is not limited to, preservation 2 planning, interpretation, public engagement, and rehabilitation projects that recognize and honor the nation's founding, history, and cultural heritage.

### Background & Summary

The DOI, Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, through the Office of Indian Economic Development (OIED), solicits proposals from eligible entities (see [Eligibility Section](#)) for tourism grants focused on increasing visitors to existing Tribal tourism operations through facilitation, promotion, and enhancing visibility. The TTGP funding strives to achieve substantial community benefits by facilitating and strengthening Tribal tourism activities, enhancing visitor experiences, and increasing visibility and access to Tribal destinations. These efforts support economic development and contribute to improved community well-being. The TTGP is not to be used to create or establish new Tribal tourism operations (see [Definitions](#)).

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The OIED will administer this grant program through the Division of Economic Development (DED) funded under a non-recurring appropriation budget. Congress appropriates funds on a year-to-year basis. While TTGP projects may extend over several years, the DED will not fund beyond the period of performance.

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### **Definitions**

Construction: The materials, labor, process and finished product of building or creating something. Construction involves the planning, design, and execution of a project to break ground and/or create a physical form. Examples are, but not limited to: ground disturbance, water impacts, removal or movement of natural resources, machinery, active sites, labor, etc.

Construction Related: The activities, labor and products related to the formulation, finalization, execution and production of construction activities. Examples are, but not limited to: architectural design plans that can be used for construction or permitting, permit costs, compliance costs and production of products (NEPA, ESA, CWA, ESA, etc.), valuations (Appraisals, Reviews, etc.), surveys (ALTA, etc.).

Eligible Entities: The term “Tribe” or “Tribal” will be used through this notice in reference to all eligible entities. Please see the full definition in [Eligibility Section](#).

Infrastructure: The various eligible allowable activities and expenses to promote or enhance existing Tribal tourism operations in support of the overall Tribal tourism long-term plans. These activities must not be construction or construction related (see definitions above), nor have they been previously funded under other Federal assistance. Please see [Limitations](#) for more information.

Facilitation: The implementation, enhancement and promotion of existing tourism operations through a project designed to encompass all the measurable tasks and sub-projects to be completed prior to any construction or construction related activities. These activities must not be construction or construction related (see definitions above), nor have they been previously funded under other Federal assistance. Please see [Limitations](#) for more information.

Tourism Operation: Existing Tribal tourism-related physical locations, destinations, museums, monuments, recreational activities, culturally significant sites etc., that provide or have the capacity to provide visitor experiences and generate tourism traffic and capture revenue.

### **Application Proposal Parameters**

The following sections on project proposal structure and parameters are suggested to be used as a guide toward supporting a tourism project that can be competitively ranked. Each Applicant should

be well acquainted with the NATIVE Act to submit a proposal with a Project Narrative which addresses the parameters in this section as well as those in [Application Documents](#). Each proposal will tackle their community's own distinctive needs and have the freedom to provide for flexibility, and the methods outlined in the proposal should demonstrate the same level of Tribal community cohesion, commitment and depth. The application should show quality and be very clear in describing the program design

1. Tourism Facilitation & Enhancement
2. Capacity Building & Local Participation
3. Cultural Significance & Visitor Experience
4. Project Direction & Collaboration
5. Project Deliverables & Performance Measurement
6. Cost Appropriateness & Budget Justification

#### 1. Tourism Facilitation & Enhancement

The project must be centered on the facilitation, promotion, and enhancement of existing Tribal tourism operations. The proposal must include measurable components and clearly describe how the project will increase tourism through activities such as the development or enhancement of tourism experiences, including guided tours, cultural programming, and recreational activities, as well as marketing and promotional efforts such as branding, websites, and campaigns. Projects may also include coordination of tourism-related services that improve how visitors engage with Tribal destinations. Proposed activities must demonstrate how the project will increase visitation to existing Tribal tourism operations, enhance tourism visibility and access, and strengthen the overall tourism experience within the community. All activities should contribute to broader economic development by encouraging visitors to engage with the distinct cultural and community assets of the Tribe.

#### 2. Capacity Building & Local Participation

The project must be centered around a clearly defined community tourism need and demonstrate how it will build capacity within the Tribal tourism ecosystem. The proposal should describe how the project will support participation of Tribal businesses, entrepreneurs, artists, and community members, as appropriate to the scope of the project. This may include strengthening local engagement in tourism activities, improving coordination among tourism-related entities, or increasing access to tourism opportunities. While projects will not focus exclusively on entrepreneurs, they should demonstrate meaningful local participation and community engagement that contributes to the overall success and sustainability of Tribal tourism efforts.

#### 3. Cultural Significance & Visitor Experience

The project must demonstrate how it will authentically reflect Tribal culture while enhancing the visitor experience. Proposals should clearly describe how Tribal heritage, traditions, language, and cultural knowledge will be integrated into tourism activities in a manner that is respectful, community-driven, and culturally grounded. Projects should promote understanding and appreciation of Tribal cultures while ensuring that cultural elements are presented in ways that are appropriate and beneficial to the community. The proposal should demonstrate how these cultural components contribute to both a meaningful and engaging visitor experience and to tangible community and cultural benefits.

#### 4. Project Direction & Collaboration

The proposal should clearly define the project approach, including the activities to be carried out and the anticipated outcomes, which will demonstrate alignment with TTGP priorities to increase visitor tourism. The approach should logically weave all the various elements of facilitation, capacity building, cultural grounding, performance and metrics, and cost appropriateness. The project direction should increase the coordination and collaboration between all available tourism assets to support and bolster the applicant's tourism goals. This should include establishing or maintaining necessary partnerships with entities that are known to promote tourism self-sufficiency, self-determination and self-governance.

#### 5. Project Deliverables & Performance Measurement

The application must include clearly defined tasks, timelines, and measurable outcomes aligned with program performance indicators. Applicants must describe how the project will track and report an increase in the number of visitors to Tribal tourism operations, as well as improvements in tourism activity and visibility and broader economic and community impact, including participation, partnerships, and benefits. Deliverables must be achievable within the period of performance and clearly linked to the proposed activities. The proposal should also describe how progress will be measured using quantitative and/or qualitative methods. If the project is part of a larger initiative, the application must clearly distinguish the scope, funding, and deliverables associated with this grant. Any consolidated project, or part of a larger project, the applicant 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.

#### 6. Cost Appropriateness of Project and Budget Justification

Project expenditures must be allowable pursuant to 2 CFR 200 and in alignment with the NATIVE Act. No construction or construction related activities are permitted. The budget narrative and line-item budget must clearly describe how requested funds directly support tourism activity, visitor growth, and related economic impact. The proposal must demonstrate that the overall project costs, as well as individual cost categories, are reasonable and commensurate with anticipated economic impact. Applicants must describe financial management systems, internal controls, and procedures that ensure prudent use, proper disbursement, and accurate accounting of Federal funds. The proposal should clearly identify any funded activities from other Federal or non-Federal funding sources. While only eligible Tribes may apply for this grant opportunity, 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.

#### **Applicant Procurement Procedures**

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

## Legislative Authority

[Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act of 2016 \(Public Law 114-221\)](#) (NATIVE Act) (25 U.S.C. 4354(b)), and the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act [P.L. 117-74, 2026](#).

## Type of Award

Projects will be funded through G (Grant)

## PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION

### Application Content and Format

#### Application Documents

Applicants must submit the following forms with their application as specified below. Instructions for accessing and submitting application forms are provided in the [Submission Instructions](#) section of this document below. For instructions on completing form fields, see the form instructions on the [Grants.gov Forms Repository](#). Any information in the possession of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) or submitted to the BIA throughout the process, including final work product, constitutes government records and may be subject to disclosure to third parties under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, and the Department of the Interior’s FOIA regulations at 43 CFR part 2, unless a FOIA exemption or exception applies, or other provisions of law protect the information.

Prior to applying, applicants should review presidential actions found at:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/> and DOI Secretary’s Orders found at:

<https://www.doi.gov/document-library/secretary-order>. By applying in response to this NOFO, the applicant certifies awareness and compliance with all currently effective and applicable executive orders and secretary’s orders, including but not limited to the Executive Order titled Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing as well as the Executive Order and Secretary’s order titled Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History. Applicants are responsible for ensuring their proposed activities are consistent with the intent and requirements of these directives.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement
SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance Note: For applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Representative’s signature (or electronic equivalent) on the Application for Federal Assistance form also represents their certification of the statements in <a href="#">Appendix A to 43 CFR 18-Certification Regarding Lobbying</a>	Required from all applicants
SF-424A, Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs	Required for non-construction projects

SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	Required if requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funds <u>and</u> the applicant has used or plans to use funds other than Federal appropriated funds for lobbying related to the proposed project.
Project Abstract Summary (OMB 4040-0019). Must include, in plain language: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award purpose,</li> <li>• Activities to be performed,</li> <li>• Expected deliverables or outcomes,</li> <li>• Intended beneficiaries,</li> <li>• Subrecipient activities (if known or specified at time of award)</li> </ul>	Required from all applicants

**1. SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance [V4.0]**

Applicants must submit the appropriate Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. The form should cover the entire funding of the full 24-month period of performance. The required application forms are available with this announcement on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov). Please indicate the Legal Name of the organization that will be consistent in other Federal programs for all correspondences. For Federally recognized Tribes, please utilize the name as listed in the Federal Register Notice [91 FR 1402 01/30/2026](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/30/91-fr-1402-01-30-2026) for *Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs*.

The programmatic point of contact should be provided as the individual to contact pertaining to all matters of the application. The Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number indicated must match what is registered as a vendor in SAM and must be current. Identify the County and the Congressional Districts in the fields provided. The Authorized Representative should be the Tribal Leader or their official designee. 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 entire amount for the 24-month period of performance requested from this Federal program in the “Federal” funding box on the SF-424 Application form. All matching funds will be indicated in the “Applicant” field. 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 *SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs* section below).

The SF-424 [V4.0] form requires the County as well as the Congressional District number of the applicant, which can be found at <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>.

**2. SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs**

Reference [1. SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance \[V4.0\]](#) and [4. Budget Narrative and Line-Item Budget](#), to correlate the Object Class Categories and Totals that will be expanded and justified in this section. The form should cover the entire funding of the full 24-month period of performance. Applicants must submit the SF-424A “Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs” form.

Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles at 2 CFR 200.

Complete the SF-424A for the full 24-month term. Complete Section A – Budget Summary (page 1) columns (e) and (f) for the Federal amount requested and the non-Federal matching contribution, totaled in column (g). Complete Section B – Budget Categories (page 3) in column (1) for the first year for the appropriate rows, as applicable, totaled in the Total (5) column and Totals (k.) row.

The budget must identify the amount of grant funding requested and a comprehensive and itemized breakdown of all projected and anticipated expenditures, including contracted personnel fees, consulting fees (hourly or fixed), travel costs, data collection and analysis costs, computer rentals, report generation, drafting, advertising costs for a proposed project and other relevant project expenses, and their subcomponents.

- Travel costs should be itemized by airfare, vehicle rental, lodging, and per diem, etc., based on the current Federal government per diem schedule. See below *Required Grantee Travel and Attendance at an Annual Grantee Meeting*.
- Data collection and analysis costs should be itemized in sufficient detail for the OIED review committee to evaluate the charges.
- 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 [Limitations](#)).
- Personnel may be charged directly or covered indirectly. Do not include the personnel costs or travel of consultants or contractors under this category. For any position, provide: the name of the individual (if known), their title; time commitment to the project in months; time commitment to the project as a percentage or FTE equivalent; annual salary; grant salary; wage rates; etc. Identify the project director or principal investigator, if known at the time of application. Costs of employee fringe benefits are the allowances and services provided by employers to their employees in addition to regular salaries and wages. Typically, fringe benefit amounts are determined by applying a calculated rate for a particular class of employee (full-time or part-time) to the salary and wages requested. Fringe benefits, like salary, will also be as direct cost (Health insurance, Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes, retirement, taxes, etc.).
- Other expenses may include computer rental, report generation, drafting, and advertising costs for a proposed project.

### **3. Project Abstract Summary and Project Narrative**

The first paragraph of the project narrative must include the title and basic summary description of the proposed tourism facilitation project. The Project Abstract Summary must be submitted utilizing the appropriate form that is available with this announcement on Grants.gov. All fields must be filled with the information requested. Please provide an abstract that is a concise summary to be further applied as an accurate definition of the TTGP project.

Project Narratives are not judged based on their length. Please do not submit any attachments or documents beyond what is necessary. All information should follow the requirements as outlined in

the [Program Description Section](#).

The Project Narrative should not be duplicated elsewhere in the application. Supplemental information such as letters of support, graphs, charts, maps, photographs and other graphic and/or other relevant information may be included as Attachments and not included in the Project Narrative. At a minimum, it should include:

- A detailed technical description of the tourism facilitation project as structured in the [Program Description Section](#).
- The project narrative and supporting data should demonstrate the facilitation project is centered around an economically derived community need.
- The project narrative and deliverables should demonstrate a clear and consistent direction toward achieving Tribal tourism goals.
- A description of the project goals, milestones, and deliverables aligned with the technical description and project timeline.
- Identification of measurable tourism goals that align with project activities and can be tracked through interim reporting.
- Final project deliverables should be clear and reasonable to the project scope.

Applicants must provide milestones and projected outcomes of their project(s) to demonstrate a successful outcome of the grant. The proposal should address grant awardee requirements:

- Awardee must:
  - **Increase in the number of visitors to Tribal tourism operations**  
This indicator measures the extent to which the project contributes to increased visitation at Tribal tourism destinations. Applicants should describe how they will track changes in visitor numbers over the project period and connect those changes to project activities.
  - **Demonstrate expansion and promotion of Tribal tourism activities and visibility**  
This indicator assesses how the project enhances tourism offerings and increases awareness of Tribal destinations. Applicants should describe how activities such as marketing, programming, or coordination efforts contribute to expanded tourism experiences and improved visibility.
  - **Demonstrate economic and community impact, including participation, partnerships, and benefits**  
This indicator evaluates the broader impact of the project on the Tribal community and economy. Applicants should describe how the project supports economic activity, strengthens partnerships, and increases participation from community members, businesses, or cultural practitioners.

Applicants must indicate if this proposal is a portion or component of a much larger tourism project. Care should be taken to demonstrate the applicant has the capacity and financial systems to carry out the project, and to properly delineate the purpose, costs and deliverables of this TTGP funded portion.

Additional items to consider:

- A description of additional project objectives and goals for the 24-month term;
- Deliverable products that the grant is expected to generate, including interim deliverables (such as status reports and technical data to be obtained) and final deliverables; and
- Resumes of key consultants and personnel to be retained, if available, and the names of subcontractors, if applicable. This information may be included as an attachment.

In addition, unless prohibited by Tribal procurement procedures, please include a description of any consultant(s) and partnership(s) the applicant wishes to retain, including their contact information, technical expertise, training, qualifications, and suitability. These documents may be included at the end of the Project Narrative or as an attachment.

#### **4. Budget Narrative**

Applicants must describe and justify items and costs listed in their budget. The budget narrative must identify the following cost items: total estimated costs, non-Federal cost share, third-party contributions, and any pre-award costs. Total project cost is the sum of all allowable costs, including required and voluntary cost share and third-party contributions.

Budget items must be:

- Reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary
- Compliant with [2 CFR §200 Subpart E](#) cost principles

Reference [1. SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance \[V4.0\]](#) and [2. SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs](#), to correlate Object Class Categories and Totals that will be expanded and justified in this section. The budgets should be separated by year.

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 provided by contractors or sub-recipients. Applicants shall include a narrative description of the items included in the project budget. Cost categories can include, but are not limited to, those costs items included on the SF424A.

The Budget Narrative will include additional spreadsheets and narrative formats to help itemize and fully break down the individual budget items. Do not provide any blanket budget estimates that are not supported with documentation, itemized breakdown, and narrative justification. Rounding can be done to the nearest \$100s.

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 Federally 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.

Appropriate summations of various budget sections should be correctly tabulated within each Object Class Category of the SF-424A. The budget should include the mandatory Grantee Meeting

attendance budget that is fully itemized to Washington, DC per the current GSA standards (See *Required Grantee Travel and Attendance at an Annual Grantee Meeting* below). Do not provide unsupported travel costs for the Grantee Meeting. Travel by consultants, contractors, etc., should be justified and included in the Travel category if it is paid by the Grantee directly, or added into the Contractor category if they will be reimbursed.

### **Required Indirect Cost Statement to be submitted with Application**

Applicants must indicate in their budget narrative how they will charge indirect costs, including the rate to be applied:

- *De Minimis* Rate: If eligible, state if your organization is opting to use the *de minimis* rate of up to 15% of total modified direct costs. Entities that do not have a current Federal negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate) may propose to use the *de minimis* rate. For more information, refer to [2 CFR 200.414\(f\)](#).
- Negotiated Rate: State if you will negotiate with your cognizant agency. If your organization has previously negotiated a rate, attach a copy of the most recently negotiated rate agreement (active or expired).

The Applicant utilizing indirect cost (IDC) must submit a current copy of their signed Indirect Cost Agreement, with all mandatory documents (Budget Narrative, SF-424, SF-424A, etc.) supporting the appropriate application of those negotiated rates. 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 15%. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate; must be lower than 15%]. 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 15%] 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 15% or higher. Our indirect cost rate is [insert your organization’s indirect rate; must be 15% 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 15% 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 15%. 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.

### **Limitations**

TTGP funding is for Tribal tourism facilitation projects that have not been previously funded under other Federal assistance. The OIED will verify that all sources of Federal funding have not overlapped in any way to be considered “double-dipping” ([Subpart E of 2 CFR 200.400](#), and [2 CFR 200.403](#)). All program goals and targets must adhere to the submitted budget, and no portion may be utilized for anything outside of TTGP grant objectives.

TTGP grant funding must be expended in accordance with applicable Federal statutory and regulatory requirements, including [2 CFR part 200](#). As part of the grant application review process,

OIED may conduct a review of an applicant's prior OIED grant(s). Applicants currently under BIA sanction Level 2 or higher resulting from noncompliance with the Single Audit Act are ineligible for a TTGP grants. Applicants at Sanction Level 1 will be considered for funding.

Under no circumstances can OIED fund construction or construction-related activities.

Grants awarded with OIED discretionary grant funds must stay in alignment with the approved Statement Of Work (SOW). This announcement and the facilitation of OIED discretionary grant programs prohibit any changes to the SOW once selected for funding. This is due to the systematic process from which proposals are selected through the evaluation and ranking procedures. This maintains consistency and integrity in the grant program(s), as well as fairness to those entities who were eligible and submitted complete applications but were not selected for funding.

Only one application will be accepted from an eligible Tribe or Tribal Organization. Applications should address one cohesive project and any submissions that contain multiple project proposals will not be considered. OIED will apply the same objective ranking criteria to each proposal. The purpose of TTGP grants is to fund tourism facilitation projects only. TTGP awards **may not** be used for:

- Supplemental employment, including fringe benefits, for current positions not significantly and directly involved in the proposed project (e.g., positions like Executive Directors with little to no described involvement in the proposed work);
- International travel;
- Outside Fees, Legal or Contract Negotiation fees, and application fees associated with permitting that are outside the scope of the grant award;
- Entertainment costs
  - For remote training/conferences locations (where eating establishments are not within a reasonable distance), food costs may be allowable, but should not exceed the GSA meals and incidental costs per attendee for that location, not to exceed \$5,000 for one event, and not more than twice in a calendar year;
  - Refreshments for non-remote training/conference locations are allowable for \$5/attendee/day, not to exceed \$1,000 per event,
  - All other food costs are disallowed;
  - However, travel stipends for training participants are allowed, including costs for meals which must follow the GSA Per Diem rates.
- Sub-awarding to another Federal agency;
- Establishing or operating a Tribal office or department, nor to openly staff an office;
- Projects with core administration functions that essentially support only the applicant's ongoing administrative functions and are not related to the proposed project;
- Travel by staff, contractors, consultants, etc., that is not reasonable or necessary for the project. Additional scrutiny will be placed on repeated travel, blanket travel rounded and not itemized, travel in excess of common GSA rates, and travel that is considered unnecessary to the project.
- Implementation projects of energy, mineral, energy legal infrastructure, broadband related projects, businesses, or technologies that are addressed by the Energy and Mineral

Development Program (EMDP) or Tribal Energy Development Capacity (TEDC);

- Projects that require funding for feasibility studies, business plans, marketing plans, or written materials such as manuals that are not an essential part of the applicant's long-range tourism implementation plan;
- Projects that support ongoing social service delivery programs or the expansion, or continuation, of existing social service delivery programs;
- And any other activities not authorized by the grant Notice of Award letter.

TTGP funding is for Tribal tourism facilitation projects only. All costs should be necessary and reasonable as they relate to the overall project. Allowable costs may include, but are not limited to:

- Leasing and renting of any necessary equipment for the duration of the 24-month Period of Performance is the preferred option over purchasing, unless the Useful Life is less than two-years;
- Equipment and technology supplies as related to the project (i.e. software), allowable up to \$10,000;
- Upgrades, retrofits to existing travel, tourism and outdoor recreation infrastructure, to increase travel or tourism;
- Support for travel, tourism and outdoor recreation sectors consistent with guidelines for safe travel;
- Costs of communication pertaining to specific activities or accomplishments which result from performance of the Federal award. These costs are considered necessary as part of the outreach effort for the Federal award, allowable up to \$5,000;
  - Interpretation costs;
  - Brochures, digital enhancements, signage;
  - Web announcements;
  - Arts and Culture events to support cultural expression such as festivals, museums, historical sites, art shows or concerts to promote tourism
  - Workforce training that supports travel, tourism and outdoor recreation to improve job opportunities and work skills when implementing the tourism project;

## **5. Attachments [V1.2]**

See [7. Other Required Information](#) for more information. Utilize the “attachments form” to include items that will focus information in the Project Narrative, Budget, and other sections, as applicable.

## **6. Key Contacts [V2.0]**

Applicants must include the Key Contacts information page(s) that includes the individuals who will be responsible for the programmatic, financial, leadership and associated communication roles:

- Please identify the lead Project Point of Contact information of who will oversee the project, including address, email, desk, and cell phone number.
- Please identify the lead Fiscal Point of Contact information including address, email, desk, and cell phone number.
- Please identify any Tribal Leader information including address, email, desk, and cell phone number.
- Please identify individuals for the following roles in the GrantSolutions system that will

manage the grant, communicate with the OIED staff, as well as be responsible for reporting:

- Grantee Administrative Official / Grantee Authorized Representative
- Grantee Principal Investigator / Program Director
- If there is more than one contact, please provide an additional key contacts form.

## **7. Other Required Information**

Note: The U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Native Hawaiian Relations is managing NATIVE Act tourism grants to Native Hawaiian Organizations. For additional information on grants for Native Hawaiian Organizations, please visit their webpage at <https://www.doi.gov/hawaiian/grants>, or contact directly at [hawaiian@ios.doi.gov](mailto:hawaiian@ios.doi.gov).

### **Conflict of Interest and Unresolved Matters Disclosures:**

If any actual or potential conflict of interest exists related to this project at the time of application, the applicant must provide sufficient information to support a program determination of significance per [2 CFR 1402.112](#). Refer to [2 CFR 200.112](#) Conflict of Interest and [2 CFR 200.113](#).

### **Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement:**

Applicants must state in their application if the activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel proposed in this application overlap with those in any other Federal proposal or award or not. If no overlap exists, include a statement to that effect. If any overlap exists, provide:

- Activities: Description any overlapping activities.
- Costs: Description of any overlapping costs.
- Time: Description of any overlapping key personnel time.
- A copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity.
- Details on when any overlapping proposal was submitted, to whom, and the expected date of the funding decision.

### **Tribal Resolution or Authorization Letter**

A Tribal Resolution or formal Authorization Letter from an authorized official such as the President, Chairman, Governor or Chief of the Tribe will be required. The Tribal Resolution or Authorization Letter will be from the Tribe or Tribal Organization issued in the fiscal year of the grant application, authorizing the submission of the TTGP grant application. The Tribal Resolution or Authorization Letter must also include a description of the tourism facilitation project. An application submitted without a Tribal Resolution or Authorization Letter will be considered incomplete. In the event formal signatures or approval cannot be obtained in time, draft copies may be submitted, with finalized documents at a later date.

### **Grantee Meeting**

Grantees will be required to include in their budgets the costs for two individuals who work directly on the project to attend an in-person annual DOI/OIED grantee meeting, or to convene as a group to a designated conference determined by OIED during the term of the grant award term. Applicants

must include an itemized budget for a week duration according to GSA guidelines for Washington, DC. Travel costs must not exceed \$8,000 for those two individuals. Applicants should follow their own travel policies to budget for this meeting, plus travel days, with a complete itemized breakdown of those anticipated costs. While the meeting may be anywhere in the U.S., we will plan on costs per Washington, DC, area. Additional funds for these expenses will not be available once the grant is awarded. In the event the meeting is canceled, converted to a virtual meeting, shortened in length or the location changes to a cheaper venue, any additional unused funds may be repurposed into the grant.

**BIA ASAP Registration**

Please make sure an active Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) number is provided. Applicants must have an active enrolled ASAP number with the BIA to be eligible.

**GrantSolutions**

Please confirm registration in the GrantSolutions system with identified Roles for the Grantee Principal Investigator / Program Director and the Grantee Administrative Official / Grantee Authorized Representative (See [Application Documents Section](#)). You may also assign additional roles or duplicate roles as necessary.

**Application Forms**

All mandatory forms will be found on Grants.gov. Other necessary system registration forms will be found at the registration sites (i.e., ASAP, GrantSolutions).

**Mandatory Components Checklist**

The applicant is responsible to confirm submission of all mandatory and necessary documents, enrollments, and registrations are submitted prior to the announcement close date. All supporting documentation to ensure demonstration of eligibility and a complete application must also be submitted. See [Application Documents Section](#).

Component	Grants.gov Form
Narratives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Project Narrative including Table of Contents</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Line-Item Budget and Associated Spreadsheets</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Budget Narrative</li> </ul>	Use the Project Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2]
Standard forms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Project Abstract Summary [V2.0]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) [V4.0]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A) [V1.0]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Key Contacts [V2.0]</li> </ul>	Upload using each required form

<input type="checkbox"/> Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (if applicable)	
<b>Attachments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Resolution or Authorization Letter</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conflict of Interest Disclosure (if applicable)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Indirect Cost Rate Statement and Agreement</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Certification Regarding Lobbying</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Single Audit Statement</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Registration in BIA ASAP with an established Recipient ID</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Registration in GrantSolutions for identification of roles</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other relevant attachments</li> </ul>	Insert each in the Other Attachments Form

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

### Address to Request Application Package

All Applications must be electronically submitted in grants.gov, no physical or electronic submissions will be accepted. All correspondence will be via email or phone at the contacts below.

#### **For Further Information Contact**

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

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](mailto: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>

#### **Questions and Requests for OIED Assistance**

Technical consultation from OIED may include clarifying application requirements, confirming whether an applicant previously submitted the same or similar proposal, and registration information for SAM or ASAP. The applicant is solely responsible for the preparation of its grant proposal. The OIED cannot provide application pre-screening nor provide eligibility determination

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

Grants.gov Customer Support

1-800-518-4726

[Support@grants.gov](mailto:Support@grants.gov)

## Submission Dates and Times

**Closing Date for Applications:** August 7, 2026

### Closing Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM, ET, on the listed application due date.

## Submission Instructions

### Apply Through Grants.gov

To apply through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov), please follow the instructions in the [Quick Start Guide for Applicants](#). Before applying, ensure that at least one person at your organization is registered and has the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR). Only the AOR can submit the application. If you need more users, they must create their own Grants.gov account. Follow these steps below to apply:

- *Create a Workspace:* Creating a workspace allows you to complete it online and route it through your organization for review before submitting.
- *Complete a Workspace:* Invite participants to the workspace so you can collaborate on the application. Required applications forms are included in the Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Package and can be completed in the Workspace, unless noted otherwise in the Required Forms table above. Check for errors before submission.
- *Submit a Workspace:* An application may be submitted through workspace by clicking the Sign and Submit button on the Manage Workspace page, under the Forms tab
- *Track a Workspace Submission:* After successfully submitting a workspace application, a Grants.gov Tracking Number (GRANTXXXXXXXX) is automatically assigned to the application.

The system generates a date and time stamp and sends it to the applicant's AOR via email as proof of submission. Make sure your application passes the Grants.gov validation checks. Do not encrypt, zip, or password-protect any files. Only registered individuals in SAM as both a user and an AOR can submit applications. Please allow 30 days to register in Grants.gov.

**Application System Technical Support:** For Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms, and application packages, contact Grants.gov Customer Support at 1-800-518-4726 or by email at [Support@grants.gov](mailto:Support@grants.gov).

## APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

### Eligibility Review

During the eligibility review, the application is checked for timely submission, completed packages (see [Application Documents](#) above) and alignment with the requirements of this announcement. The Federal agency may remove an application if it does not pass the eligibility review.

The OIED follows application review procedures as outlined in [2 CFR 200.204](#). It is important to review the [Program Description](#) and implement those identified parameters in the application project narrative which will constitute the SOW.

Any proposal that is received after the date and time, see [Submission Dates and Times](#) section of this notice, will not be reviewed. Once the announcement is closed, all applications will be reviewed for applicant eligibility and application completion. Reviews will be completed to identify any duplication or overlap with current funded Federal or OIED projects.

If an applicant selected for funding hasn't finished their SAM.gov registration (see [2 CFR 25.200](#) and [2 CFR 25.110](#)) when the Federal agency is ready to make an award, we may decide that the applicant is ineligible for the award and choose to grant it to someone else. Please refer to [2 CFR 25.205](#) for more information.

Prior to making an award, the DOI checks the anticipated recipient and their key project personnel against the current list of prohibited or restricted persons or entities in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Exclusions database. We are prohibited from making an award if a recipient or any key personnel are found ineligible, prohibited, restricted, or otherwise excluded from receiving or participating in an award, as their ineligibility condition applies to this program.

### **Ineligible and Incomplete Applications**

Applicants that do not satisfy the definition of Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations, as defined in Section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) ([25 U.S.C. 5304](#)), including Tribal Consortia, will be considered ineligible for TTGP funding and the application will not be reviewed. See [Eligibility Section](#).

Eligible applicants that do not submit a complete application (see [Application Documents](#)) will be considered incomplete for TTGP funding and the application will not be reviewed.

Please ensure that all forms, sections, mandatory components and supporting documentation as listed in this announcement are completed and submitted in grants.gov. These grants will be funded under a non-recurring appropriation of the BIA budget. The funding periods and amounts referenced in this announcement are subject to the availability of funds at the time of award, as well as the DOI and Indian Affairs priorities at the time of the award. Neither DOI nor Indian Affairs will be held responsible for proposal or application preparation costs. Publication of this announcement does not obligate DOI or Indian Affairs to award any specific grant or to obligate all or any part of available funds. Future funding is subject to the availability of appropriations and cannot be guaranteed. DOI or Indian Affairs may cancel or withdraw this announcement at any time.

If removed from consideration for ineligibility, the Federal agency will notify the applicant in writing.

### **Merit Review**

Please see [Program Description](#) and [Application Documents](#), which aligns with the review criteria below:

1. Tourism Facilitation & Enhancement
2. Capacity Building & Local Participation
3. Cultural Significance & Visitor Experience

4. Project Direction & Collaboration
5. Project Deliverables & Performance Measurement
6. Cost Appropriateness & Budget Justification

**Criterion 1 – Tourism Facilitation & Activity Enhancement      Maximum Points: 20**

The application will be evaluated to the extent which the proposed project facilitates, promotes, and increases Tribal tourism numbers. Reviewers will assess how clearly the proposal describes tourism-related activities, such as development or enhancement of tourism experiences and activities, marketing and promotional efforts, and coordination of tourism services.

Applications should demonstrate a clear connection between proposed activities and expected outcomes, including increased visitation, enhanced tourism visibility and access, and an improved visitor experience. Strong applications will show how these efforts contribute to broader economic development by encouraging engagement with Tribal cultural and community assets.

**Strength of Alignment with Tribal Tourism Development (0-10 points)**

Reviewers will assess how clearly the project centers on the facilitation, promotion, and enhancement of Tribal tourism activities. This includes the clarity and completeness of proposed tourism-related activities such as tourism experience development, marketing and promotion, and coordination of tourism services. Proposals should describe tourism goals, existing operations, and anticipated improvements. Reviewers will assess how effectively the project encourages visitor engagement with Tribal cultural and community assets and contributes to broader economic development and the overall tourism experience.

**Quality of Measurable Design and Expected Outcomes (0-5 points)**

Reviewers should be able to assess whether the proposal includes specific, measurable components and a clear explanation of how the project will increase tourism. This includes the strength of the connection between activities and expected outcomes such as increased visitation, improved visibility and access, and enhanced visitor experience.

**Administrative Costs (0-5 points)**

Applications are encouraged to minimize administrative costs and maximize the use of funds for direct program services. Proposals that clearly itemize direct costs and demonstrate low or reasonable use of indirect costs, including use of the *de minimis* rate (15%) where applicable, may receive the maximum points for this section. Applicants must identify and justify any indirect cost rate applied.

**Criterion 2 – Capacity Building & Local Participation      Maximum Points: 20**

The application will be evaluated on how effectively the project builds capacity within the Tribal tourism ecosystem and supports local participation. Reviewers will assess the extent to which the proposal demonstrates a clear community tourism need and incorporates participation from Tribal stakeholders appropriate to the project scope (i.e., Tribal businesses, entrepreneurs, artists, and/or community members).

**Demonstrated Community Need, Capacity Building and Sustainability (0-10 points)**

Reviewers will assess how clearly the proposal is centered on a specific community tourism need and explains how the project builds capacity within the Tribal tourism ecosystem. This includes strengthening systems, skills, and access that support long-term tourism development.

**Community Participation and Inclusion (0-5 points)**

The Reviewer can assess the extent to which the project meaningfully incorporates participation from local Tribal stakeholders appropriate to the project's scope. Reviewers consider how well the proposal supports local engagement in tourism, improves coordination among tourism-related entities, or expands access to tourism opportunities.

**Contribution to Ongoing Tourism Capacity and Sustainability (0-5 points)**

Reviewers will assess how the project strengthens Tribal tourism beyond the immediate project activities. This includes how the project improves coordination, builds lasting capacity, or creates conditions that support continued tourism activity and access after the project period.

**Criterion 3 – Cultural Significance & Visitor Experience** **Maximum Points: 20**

The application will be evaluated on how well the project integrates and reflects Tribal culture while enhancing the visitor experience. Reviewers will assess how effectively the proposal incorporates Tribal heritage, traditions, language, and cultural knowledge into tourism activities.

Strong applications will demonstrate that tourism experiences are respectful, community-driven, and culturally grounded, and that they promote understanding and appreciation of Tribal cultures.

Applications should clearly describe how cultural elements contribute to both visitor engagement and community and cultural benefit.

**Authentic Integration of Tribal Culture (0-10 points)**

Reviewer can clearly evaluate how effectively the project incorporates Tribal heritage, traditions, language, and cultural knowledge into tourism activities. This includes demonstrating cultural accuracy, depth, and authenticity in ways that promote understanding and appreciation of Tribal cultures.

**Cultural Respect, Community Guidance, and Appropriateness (0-5 points)**

Reviewer can assess to the extent which proposed tourism experiences are respectful, community-driven, and culturally grounded. Reviews whether cultural elements are presented in ways that are appropriate, supported by community input, and beneficial to the Tribe.

**Enhancement of Visitor Experience and Contribution to Community and Cultural Benefits (0-5 points)**

The Reviewer can ascertain from the proposal the integration of cultural components which will create meaningful, engaging visitor experiences while also generating tangible cultural and community benefits. Considers how well the project strengthens both visitor engagement and Tribal cultural vitality.

**Criterion 4 – Project Direction & Collaboration** **Maximum Points: 20**

The application will be evaluated on the quality and clarity of the proposed project approach including how effectively it integrates capacity building, cultural grounding, performance measurement, and cost appropriateness. The project direction should clearly describe all activities to

be carried out and the anticipated outcomes, demonstrating alignment with TTGP priorities to increase visitation and strengthen Tribal tourism.

The proposal should demonstrate a commitment to coordination and collaboration across available tourism assets, including building new relationships, or strengthening existing partnerships that support tourism development, self-sufficiency, and self-determination.

Reviewers will assess how clearly the proposal defines the project approach, activities, and anticipated outcomes, as well as how well it aligns with Tribal tourism goals or broader economic development strategies. Strong applications will demonstrate a high likelihood of success in facilitating tourism growth, strengthened partnership, and achieving measurable outcomes within the project period and beyond.

#### Clarity, Quality, and Alignment of the Project Approach (0-10 points)

The Application should demonstrate alignment with TTGP priorities to increase visitation and strengthen Tribal tourism. The application should be clear as it defines the overall project approach and activities to be carried out with the anticipated outcomes. It should logically integrate the facilitation, capacity building, cultural grounding, performance measurement, and cost appropriateness.

#### Coordination, Collaboration, and Use of Tourism Assets (0-5 points)

The Reviewer should be able to assess how effectively the project increases coordination and collaboration across available Tribal tourism assets. This includes how well the project promotes cohesive direction across Tribal tourism operations, the extent the proposal establishes or strengthens partnerships supporting tourism development, self-sufficiency, self-determination, and long-term sustainability.

#### Likelihood of Achieving Measurable Outcomes and Long-Term Impact (0-5 points)

The Reviewer should be convinced the proposal demonstrates a strong likelihood of success through clear measurable outcomes linked to increased visitation and strengthened Tribal tourism capacity. The integration of performance metrics that support evaluation of progress and impact should produce sustained tourism growth and community benefit during the project period and beyond.

### **Criterion 5 – Project Deliverables & Performance Measurement Maximum Points: 10**

The application will be evaluated on the clarity and strength of proposed tasks, timelines, and measurable outcomes. Reviewers will assess how well the proposal describes methods for tracking and reporting performance in alignment with program indicators.

Strong applications will include clearly defined, achievable deliverables that are directly linked to project activities and supported by appropriate measurement approaches using quantitative and/or qualitative methods.

#### Structure, Timelines, and Measurable Outcomes (0-5 points)

The proposal must clearly outline its tasks, timelines, and measurable outcomes, showing how each element aligns with program performance indicators. It should describe how progress will be tracked and reported, must include tracking increases in number of visitors, improvements in tourism visibility, and broader community and economic impacts. The application must also demonstrate that deliverables are achievable within the project period and distinct from any related larger initiative.

### Strength of Performance Measurement and Reporting Approach (0-5 points)

The proposal must explain the methods it will use to track and report performance, supported by appropriate quantitative and qualitative measurement tools. It should demonstrate a strong likelihood of achieving clearly defined, achievable deliverables linked directly to the proposed activities. Applications that present well-supported performance reporting approaches and credible pathways to measurable outcomes will be considered strongest.

### **Criterion 6 – Cost Appropriateness of Project and Budget Justification**

**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 [Application Documents](#) and [Limitations](#). 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 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.

### Reasonableness and Budget Alignment (0-5 points)

The Reviewer does not need to know if proposed expenditures are compliant to 2 CFR 200. However, the expenditures should be pragmatically aligned with the NOFO expectations, the Tribe's tourism goals, and the broader NATIVE Act intent. There should be no construction-related activities. Reviewers should assess the clarity and completeness of the budget narrative and line-item budget, ensuring that requested funds directly support measurable business development and employment outcomes on Tribal lands or within Tribal service areas. The proposal should support total project costs and cost category are necessary and reasonable, well-justified, and clearly linked to the project's anticipated economic impact.

### Financial Management Capacity (0-5 points)

The Reviewer must assess if the applicant's financial management systems are demonstrated to adhere to internal controls, procedures that ensure proper disbursement, and will adhere to prudent use and accurate accounting of Federal funds. Reviewers will evaluate the applicant's ability to distinguish this grant's scope, budget, and deliverables from other Federal or non-Federal funding sources, including for projects that are part of a larger initiative. The budget package—including the narrative, spreadsheets, and SF-424/SF-424A alignment—must be detailed, compliant with all NOFO requirements, and clearly tied to tourism-driven outcomes such as increased visitor traffic, income generation, and strengthened Tribal tourism capacity.

This program reviews proposed budgets to ensure:

- figures are correct
- estimated costs are necessary and reasonable and clearly linked to project narratives
- avoid obviously unallowable costs
- identify costs requiring prior approval
- ensure indirect cost rates are applied correctly
- confirm cost sharing requirements are reflected in the budget.

This program reviews applications for potential overlap or duplication between the proposed project and any other funded or proposed project. Depending on the circumstances, DOI may choose to not make an award.

The OIED will follow selection and award procedures as outlined in [2 CFR 200.204](#) and §1187.20. 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.

Organizations determined to be ineligible, and those applications found to be incomplete, will be notified immediately and will not be included in the consideration for funding by the Objective Review Panel. Organizations whose applications have not been selected will be advised as promptly as possible.

The OIED Review Committee will be comprised of OIED staff, staff from other Federal agencies, and subject matter experts, to evaluate the proposals against the ranking criteria. Proposals will be evaluated with a maximum achievable total of 100 points.

Apart from the NOFO and relevant statutes and regulations, reviewers will not access, or review, any materials that are not part of the application documents. This includes information accessible on websites via hyperlinks that are referenced, or embedded, in the application. Though an application may include web links, or embedded hyperlinks, reviewers will not review this information as it is not considered to be part of the application documents. Reviewers must evaluate and score an application based on the documents that are presented in the application and must not refer to, or access, external links during the objective review.

Reviewers will evaluate applications using the criteria outlined in this section, with a maximum achievable total of 100 points:

<b>Criterion 1</b> – Tourism Facilitation & Enhancement	<b>Maximum Points: 20</b>
<b>Criterion 2</b> – Capacity Building & Local Participation	<b>Maximum Points: 20</b>
<b>Criterion 3</b> – Cultural Significance & Visitor Experience	<b>Maximum Points: 20</b>
<b>Criterion 4</b> – Project Direction & Collaboration	<b>Maximum Points: 20</b>
<b>Criterion 5</b> – Project Deliverables & Performance Measurement	<b>Maximum Points: 10</b>

**Criterion 6 – Cost Appropriateness & Budget Justification**

**Maximum Points: 10**

The reviewers will assess to what degree the application addresses the parameters to be feasible, effective and if the applicant demonstrates alignment with TTGP priorities. 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.

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 reviewer scores and comments. Those who are not selected for funding may request a debrief on their application.

The Director of OIED will have 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 organization.
- 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 currently funded by other Federal agencies.
- Includes activities that were previously implemented without Federal assistance.

In accordance with Executive Order 14332 Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking and, 2 CFR 200.340, the Federal awarding agency may terminate this award, in whole or in part, when it is determined it no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities. This may occur even if the Recipient is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the award. If the award is terminated, the Recipient must take all reasonable steps to minimize additional costs and stop work as directed.

The Recipient remains responsible for completing all closeout requirements in accordance with 2 CFR 200.344, including submission of all required final financial, performance, and other reports. Allowable costs incurred prior to termination, as well as reasonable closeout and settlement costs, will be handled in accordance with 2 CFR 200.472. Nothing in this section limits the Government's authority to terminate the award for cause or under other applicable Federal regulations or Departmental policies.

## **Risk Review**

Prior to conducting the comprehensive merit review, an initial review will be performed to determine whether: (1) the applicant is eligible for an award; (2) the information required by the NOFO has been submitted; (3) all mandatory requirements of the NOFO are satisfied; (4) the proposed project is responsive to the program objectives of the NOFO (program determination); and (5) the proposed project is in compliance with all applicable executive and secretary orders, including the President's executive order on Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing as well as the executive order and Secretary order on Restoring Truth

and Sanity to American History. If an applicant fails to meet the requirements or objectives of the NOFO, or does not provide sufficient information for review, the applicant will be considered nonresponsive and eliminated from further review.

Prior to making an award, the applicant will be assessed for their level of risk per [2 CFR 200.206](#). Programs document applicant risk evaluations using the BIA's "Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment" form. This assessment includes the applicant's financial management capabilities, project delivery experience, staffing resources, past award performance, administration and reporting compliance records, and overall project complexity and potential for challenges. If an award will be made, special conditions may be applied to the award corresponding to the assessed risk. For awards over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$350,000), a review of the applicant's eligibility and financial integrity information in the applicant's SAM.gov records will also be performed per [2 CFR 200.206](#). 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 to the award.

## AWARD NOTICES

Notices of Federal Award are sent electronically via GrantSolutions or e-mail. These notices outline the terms, conditions, and payment instructions per [2 CFR 200.211](#). The Notice of Federal Award signed by an authorized Grants Officer is the legal instrument obligating financial assistance to a recipient. Any other prior notice is not an authorization to begin work. If the program allows pre-award costs per [2 CFR 200.458](#), beginning performance before receiving a Notice of Federal Award is at the applicant's own risk.

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 email and public notice. 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 Notice of Award will be issued from GrantSolutions. No work or fund drawdowns can begin prior to the indicated Period of Performance. Once the first drawdown is complete, the Terms and Conditions in the Notice of Award will be binding. No pre-award costs incurred prior to the receipt of a Notice of Award and the Period of Performance will be reimbursed. The Notice of Award is the only authorizing document to begin performance.

**Anticipated Project Start Date:** 09/25/2026

**Anticipated Project End Date:** 09/30/2028

## POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

### Administration and National Policy Requirements

For award administration and national policy requirements, see the [DOI General Terms and Conditions](#). Infrastructure projects require the use of American iron, steel, manufacture products, and construction materials per [2 CFR 184](#).

## Reporting

The recipient's Notice of Award will detail all reporting requirements, including frequency, due dates, and instructions for requesting extensions. In general, but not limited to, recipients must:

- Submit Federal Financial reports and Program Performance reports.
- Use the [Federal Financial Report \(SF-425\) form](#) for financial reporting,
- Monitor award activities and report on program performance per [2 CFR 200.329](#),
- Promptly notify the awarding program in writing of any issues, delays, or conditions impairing award objectives per [2 CFR 200.329\(e\)](#),
- Disclose any conflicts of interest related to their award that arise during the award period per [2 CFR 1402.112](#),
- Report on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest per [2 CFR 200.330](#), and
- Report all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award per [2 CFR 200.113](#).
- Report any matters related to recipient integrity and performance to SAM.gov per [Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200](#).
- If the Federal share of the award is more than \$100,000 and the recipient makes or agrees to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection to the award, disclose those activities using the Disclosure of Lobbying (SF-LLL) form per [43 CFR 18.100](#).
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) requires certain recipients to report information on executive compensation through SAM.gov and information on all sub-awards, subcontracts, and consortiums over \$30,000 to the [FFATA Subaward Reporting System \(FSRS\)](#).

### Past Performance and Non-Compliance with Award Provisions

Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding. Failure to comply with any or all of the provisions of an award may have a negative impact on future funding by the BIA, and may be considered grounds for any or all of the following actions: (1) establishing an account receivable; (2) withholding payments to the recipient under any BIA award(s); (3) changing the method of payment from advance to reimbursement only; (4) imposing other specific award conditions; (5) suspending any active BIA award(s); and (6) terminating any active BIA award(s).

### Performance Reports

Performance Progress Reports (PPRs) must report on the metrics established in the approved Statement of Work. In addition, OIED requires all TTGP award recipients to track and report on the following core performance indicators:

- Increase in the number of visitors at Tribal tourism operations (measured as the difference between baseline visitation and post-project visitation)
- Number of new or enhanced Tribal tourism experiences, offerings, or marketing assets
- Strengthening of Tribal tourism through partnerships, increased visibility, and/or community and cultural benefits
- Indicators of increased economic activity and participation related to Tribal tourism, including increased revenue generation

Examples of supporting measures may include:

- Number of new jobs
- Number of Tribal entrepreneurs, businesses, or artists engaged
- Number of new or expanded guided tours or tourism experiences
- Website traffic (number of visitors)
- Number of new or expanded tourism operations or ventures
- Number of new revenue streams
- Number of new or expanded recreational activities

Applicants should propose performance measures that are appropriate to the scope of their project and demonstrate how progress will be tracked over time.

### **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 BIA 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.

### **Other Information**

#### **Payments**

The OIED's obligation under this announcement is contingent on receipt of congressionally appropriated funds. No liability on the part of the U.S. Government for any payment may arise until funds are made available to the awarding officer for this grant and until the recipient receives notice of such availability, to be confirmed in writing by the grant officer.

All payments under this agreement will be made by electronic funds transfer through the ASAP system. All award recipients are required to maintain a current and accurate UEI number to receive funds. All payments will be deposited to the banking information designated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the SAM.

The OIED will disburse grant funds awarded to eligible applicants in annual installments except that, OIED may make disbursements more frequently, on request by the applicant, as long as disbursements are not made more frequently than quarterly. TTGP grant awards may not be duplicative of existing Federal funding from another source that overlaps funding for the same activities described in the Applicant's proposal.

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.