



FEMA

Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program (THSGP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the purpose of the FY 2016 THSGP Program?

The purpose of the FY 2016 THSGP Program is to make grants available to federally-recognized “directly eligible tribes” to provide tribes with the ability to develop and deliver core capabilities using the combined efforts of the whole community, rather than the exclusive effort of any single organization or level of government. The FY 2016 THSGP’s allowable costs support efforts of tribes to build and sustain core capabilities across the Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery mission areas.

The FY 2016 THSGP also plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal (the Goal) of a secure and resilient Nation. Federally-recognized tribes are those tribes appearing on the list published by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to the *Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994* (Pub. L. No. 103-454) (25 U.S.C. § 479a-1). “Directly eligible tribes” are defined in Section 2001 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended (Pub. L. No. 107-296) (6 U.S.C. § 601).

2. How much funding is available under the FY 2016 THSGP?

In FY 2016, the total amount of funds distributed under THSGP, as a carve-out of the FY 2016 State Homeland Security Program, will be \$10,000,000. FY 2016 THSGP funds will be allocated based on tribal eligibility per the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended (self-certified), and the effectiveness of the applicant’s THSGP Investment Justification (IJ) as determined through a peer review process.

3. Who is eligible to apply for FY 2016 THSGP funds?

All federally-recognized Native American Tribal Governments that are “directly eligible tribes,” as defined by Section 2001 of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended (6 U.S.C. § 601), which appear on the list published by the Secretary of the Interior, are eligible to apply directly to FEMA for THSGP funds.

In order to be eligible to receive THSGP funding, recipients must be considered “directly eligible tribes.” Per 6 U.S.C. § 601(4), the term “directly eligible tribe” means –

- (A) any Indian tribe –
 - (i) that is located in the continental United States;

- (ii) that operates a law enforcement or emergency response agency with the capacity to respond to calls for law enforcement or emergency services;
- (iii)
 - a. that is located on or near (50 miles) an international border or a coastline bordering an ocean (including the Gulf of Mexico) or international waters;
 - b. that is located within 10 miles of a system or asset included on the prioritized critical infrastructure list established under section 210E(a)(2) [of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended] or has such a system or asset within its territory;
 - c. that is located within or contiguous to one of the 50 most populous metropolitan statistical areas in the United States; or
 - d. the jurisdiction of which includes not less than 1,000 square miles of Indian country, as that term is defined in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code; and
- (iv) that certifies to the Secretary that a State has not provided funds under section 2003 [UASI] or 2004 [SHSP] of [the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended] to the Indian tribe or consortium of Indian tribes for the purpose for which direct funding is sought; and
- (B) a consortium of Indian tribes, if each tribe satisfies the requirements of subparagraph (A).

In summary, eligible tribes must meet the requirements set forth in (A) (i), and (A) (ii), and (A) (iv). Tribes must also meet one of the requirements set forth in (A) (iii); either (A) (iii) (a), or (A) (iii) (b), or (A) (iii) (c), or (A) (iii) (d). Finally, (B) may also be satisfied, if each tribe satisfies the requirements of subparagraph (A).

Pursuant to 6 U.S.C. § 606(h), a directly eligible tribe applying for a grant shall designate an individual to serve as a Tribal Liaison with DHS and other Federal, state, territorial, local, and regional government officials.

4. What are the key milestones associated with the FY 2016 THSGP?

The key milestones associated with FY 2016 THSGP are:

- February 16, 2016: Release date for FY 2016 THSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity
- April 25, 2016: Final applications due to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

5. How will the FY 2016 THSGP funds be allocated?

Applications for FY 2016 THSGP funds will be awarded based on two factors: 1) eligibility, and 2) effectiveness.

- Eligibility is defined in the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended and must be self-certified by the applicant.

- Effectiveness is determined based on completeness and adherence to programmatic guidelines. Effectiveness is determined by a panel of peer reviewers who analyze and score the anticipated effectiveness of each individual proposed Investment.

Applicants who have not received funding in prior years will receive five (5) points in addition to the peer reviewers' average score for each investment submitted as part of their IJ.

6. Are there changes in funding levels between FY 2015 and FY 2016?

The FY 2016 THSGP funding level is unchanged from the FY 2015 funding level for the THSGP.

7. Where is the FY 2016 THSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity located?

The FY 2016 THSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity is located online at: <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on www.grants.gov.

8. How will the FY 2016 THSGP applications be submitted?

Applying for an award under the THSGP is a multi-step process. Eligible applicants must submit their initial application through the Grants.gov portal at <http://www.grants.gov>. Applicants in need of Grants.gov support should contact the Grants.gov customer support hotline at (800) 518-4726. Eligible applicants will be notified by FEMA and asked to proceed with submitting their complete application package in the [Non-Disaster \(ND\) Grants System](#). Applicants in need of technical support with the ND Grants System, please contact ndgrants@fema.gov or (800) 865-4076. Completed applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT, April 25, 2016.

If applicants have any questions regarding the application process, they should contact the FEMA Grant Programs Directorate Call Center at (866) 927-5646.

9. What other resources are available to address programmatic, technical, and financial questions?

- For additional program-specific information, please contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) help line at (800) 368-6498 or by e-mail at ASKCsid@fema.gov , 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Eastern, Monday through Friday.
- For financial-related questions, including pre-and post-award administration and technical assistance, applicants may contact the FEMA Call Center at (866) 927-5646 or via e-mail to ASK-GMD@dhs.gov.

10. What is the FY 2016 THSGP period of performance?

The period of performance is thirty-six (36) months.