



**FEMA**

## **Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program (THSGP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **1. What is the purpose of the FY 2019 THSGP?**

The purpose of the FY 2019 THSGP Program is to make grants available to Federally recognized directly eligible tribes to provide them 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 2019 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 2019 THSGP also plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities and lifelines essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation.

### **2. What legislation authorized funding for the FY 2019 THSGP?**

Section 2005 of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, Pub. L. No. 107-296, codified as amended at 6 U.S.C. § 606.

### **3. How much funding is available under the FY 2019 THSGP?**

In FY 2019, the total amount of funds distributed under THSGP, as a carve-out of the FY 2019 State Homeland Security Program, will be \$10 million. FY 2019 THSGP funds will be allocated based on self-certified tribal eligibility per section 2001 of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, Pub. L. No. 107-296, codified as amended at 6 U.S.C. § 601, and the effectiveness of the applicant's THSGP Investment Justification (IJ) as determined through a federal review process. THSGP authorizing statutes place final funding determinations at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security, as long as the final determination is not less than the statutory threshold.

### **4. Are there changes in funding levels between FY 2018 and FY 2019?**

The FY 2019 funding level for the THSGP is unchanged from FY 2018.

### **5. Where is the FY 2019 THSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) located?**

The FY 2019 THSGP NOFO is located online at <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

## 6. Who is eligible to apply for FY 2019 THSGP funds?

To be eligible to receive THSGP funding, recipients must be directly eligible tribes. Directly eligible tribes are Federally recognized tribes that meet the criteria set forth in section 2001 of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, codified as amended at 6 U.S.C. § 601.

Federally recognized tribes are those 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, codified at 25 U.S.C. § 5131.

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 2214(a)(2) [of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended (6 U.S.C. § 1241(a)(2))] 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 [of Homeland Security] that a State has not provided funds under section 2003 [Urban Area Security Initiative] or 2004 [State Homeland Security Program] of [the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, codified as amended at 6. U.S.C. §§ 604, 605, respectively] 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, directly eligible Tribes must meet each of the requirements set forth in (A)(i), (A)(ii), and (A)(iv). Tribes must also meet at least one of the requirements set forth in (A)(iii), that is either (A)(iii)(I), (A)(iii)(II), (A)(iii)(III), or (A)(iii)(IV). Finally, under subparagraph (B), a consortium may also be eligible to be a recipient if each Indian Tribe in the consortium meets the criteria for a directly eligible Tribe under 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.

## **7. How will the FY 2019 THSGP applications be submitted?**

Applying for an award under the THSGP is a multi-step process. Eligible applicants must submit their initial application at least seven days prior to the May 29, 2019 (at 5 p.m. ET) application deadline through the Grants.gov portal at <http://www.grants.gov>. Applicants needing 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](#) by the application deadline. Applicants needing technical support with the ND Grants System should contact [ndgrants@fema.gov](mailto:ndgrants@fema.gov) or (800) 865-4076, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. ET. Completed applications must be submitted in both ND Grants and Grants.gov by no later than **Wednesday, May 29, 2019** at 5 p.m. ET.

## **8. What are the key dates associated with the FY 2019 THSGP?**

- Friday, April 12, 2019: Release date for FY 2019 THSGP NOFO.
- Wednesday, May 29, 2019, 5 p.m. ET: Final applications due to FEMA.

## **9. How will the FY 2019 THSGP funds be allocated?**

Applications for FY 2019 THSGP funds will be awarded based on eligibility and effectiveness.

- Eligibility is defined in section 2001 of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, codified as amended at 6 U.S.C. § 601, 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 federal reviewers who analyze and score the anticipated effectiveness of each individual proposed investment.

Applicants who have not received THSGP funding in prior years will receive five additional points towards their final score in addition to the federal reviewers' overall average normalized score for each investment submitted as part of their IJ. THSGP authorizing statutes place final funding determinations at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

## **10. What is the FY 2019 THSGP period of performance?**

The period of performance is 36 months.

## **11. 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](mailto:AskCSID@fema.gov), 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.
- For support regarding financial grant management and budgetary technical assistance, applicants may contact the DHS/FEMA Grant Operations Help Desk via e-mail at [ASK-GMD@fema.gov](mailto:ASK-GMD@fema.gov).