



Homeland Security

FY 2013 Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program (THSGP)

Overview

As appropriated by the *Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act, 2013* (Public Law 113-6); and authorized by the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended by the *Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007* (hereafter “9/11 Act”) the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program (THSGP) provides funding to eligible tribes to strengthen their capacity to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from potential terrorist attacks and other hazards. The FY 2013 THSGP plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System (NPS) by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal (NPG) of a secure and resilient Nation. Delivering core capabilities requires the combined effort of the whole community, rather than the exclusive effort of any single organization or level of government. The FY 2013 THSGP’s allowable costs support efforts to build and sustain core capabilities across the prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery mission areas.

In Fiscal Year 2013, DHS will award \$10,000,000 to enhance the ability of tribal nations to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from potential terrorist attacks and other hazards

Funding

In FY 2013, the total amount of funds distributed under THSGP, as a carveout of the FY 2013 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), will be \$10,000,000. FY 2013 THSGP funds will be allocated based on tribal eligibility per the 9/11 Act (self-certified), and the effectiveness of the applicant’s THSGP Investment Justification (as determined through a peer review process).

Eligibility

In order to be eligible to receive THSGP funding, grantees must be considered “directly eligible Tribes as well as Federal recognized 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

(<http://www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-system>), a community can understand how to best manage or reduce its exposure to risk.

Application Process and Evaluation Criteria

FY 2013 THSGP funds will be allocated based on two factors: 1) eligibility, as defined in the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended by the 9/11 Act and self-certified by applicant, and 2) effectiveness: the score of the applicant's THSGP Investment Justification (IJ). With respect to the effectiveness criteria, THSGP IJs will be evaluated through a peer review process for completeness, adherence to programmatic guidelines, and the anticipated effectiveness of the proposed Investment(s). Only the information included in the IJ will be scored in the peer review process.

Applicants must submit an Excel-based IJ Template found on <http://www.fema.gov/grants> or <http://www.grants.gov>. The IJ addresses each Investment being proposed for funding and must demonstrate how proposed Investments address gaps and deficiencies in current capabilities. Applicants will complete and submit the on-line application; including the IJ and all additional required forms. When applicants apply through <http://www.grants.gov>, the Standard Form 424 in the initial Grants.gov application will need to be submitted. The Standard Form 424 will be retrieved by ND Grants and the system will automatically populate the relevant data fields in the application. The application must be completed and only final submission made through the ND Grants system located at <https://portal.fema.gov> will be accepted. When applying for THSGP funding, it is recommended that tribes use the name of the tribe as listed in the Federal Register, which can be found at <http://www.bia.gov/idc/groups/xraca/documents/text/idc011463.pdf>

Eligible tribes with complete applications are reviewed and scored through a peer review process to analyze the anticipated effectiveness of proposed Investment(s). This peer review process is described below:

- The IJs are reviewed by voluntary peer reviewers solicited from groups including DHS HQ, FEMA HQ and FEMA Regional tribal liaisons, Native American Associations, and past reviewers. Peer reviewer nominations are reviewed and vetted by FEMA GPD. Peer reviewers are then assigned to review IJs in panels designed to ensure equitable distribution of IJs and to mitigate the potential for scoring bias.
- Reviewers evaluate the proposed Investments based on the criteria to evaluate how well the proposed Investment(s) contribute to building and/or sustaining capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to or recover from acts of terrorism or other significant events.
- Scores from individual reviewers on a panel are combined to create a Final Effectiveness Score for each individual Investment. Allocation recommendations are based on these scores, with final determinations made by the Secretary of Homeland Security.