



Listening Session on the Shelter and Services Grant Program Framing Paper

February 23, 2023, 3:30-5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Overarching Consultation Questions

How should the Shelter and Services Program (SSP) be designed to meet tribal needs and assist with decompression of CBP short-term holding facilities? What considerations should FEMA and CBP take into account as they stand-up this new program?

Background

The [2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act \(H.R.2617\)](#) establishes the Shelter and Services Program (SSP). This grant program aims to support the sheltering and related activities provided by non-federal entities, including facility improvements and construction, in support of relieving noncitizen overcrowding in short-term holding facilities operated by CBP. FEMA will administer grants or cooperative agreements with Tribal Nations, state and local governments, as well as non-governmental organizations. FEMA and CBP will work with these governments and organizations to identify eligible costs of providing temporary shelter and related services to individuals released from Department of Homeland Security custody.

FEMA and CBP remain committed to their responsibility under Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, reaffirmed by President Biden's [January 26, 2021, Memorandum](#) on *Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships*, and reflected in the 2022-2026 [FEMA National Tribal Strategy](#), to engage in meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials. In addition, [FEMA's Tribal Policy](#) outlines a framework for nation-to-nation relations between FEMA and Tribal Nations that recognizes tribal sovereignty, self-governance, and FEMA's responsibilities, consistent with applicable authorities.

The purpose of this listening session is to gather feedback from Tribal leaders to inform FEMA's and CBP's implementation of SSP in order to better serve the Tribal Nations.

Discussion Questions

CBP and FEMA seek tribal input on the development of the SSP, including the grant requirements, policies, and procedures. Below are questions for your consideration. These questions are not in order of priority and are not meant to be an exhaustive list of discussion topics. CBP and FEMA welcome broader input on our activities in support of Tribal Nations.

1. What are the most critical tribal needs to support non-citizen migrants released in or near tribal lands?
2. From your perspective, what factors should FEMA and CBP consider in establishing the SSP?
3. Are there other eligibility criteria that FEMA and CBP should consider?
4. What types of activities should be eligible under this program?
5. What barriers would you anticipate to participation in this grant program (e.g., application or grant management paperwork)?
6. Are there any specific considerations FEMA and CBP should account for if construction is allowed in this program?

All listening session materials may be found at: www.fema.gov/about/tribes/consultations. The consultation record will remain open for 30 days after the session for tribal leaders to submit feedback or comments to gpd-comms@fema.dhs.gov. Final feedback and comments are due by Thursday, March 23, 2023.