

## Grant Programs Directorate Information Bulletin Information Bulletin No. 494 September 27, 2023

<b>MEMORANDUM FOR:</b>	All Tribal Nation Leaders
	All Tribal Nation Points of Contact

FROM:	Pamela S. Williams PLS. Will
	Assistant Administrator
	Grant Programs Directorate

**SUBJECT**: Fiscal Year 2023 Tribal Cybersecurity Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity

Today, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), both components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), announced the availability of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Tribal Cybersecurity Grant Program (TCGP).

The FY 2023 TCGP provides \$18,246,845 in federal assistance to Tribal governments to assist with managing and reducing systemic cyber risk. Accomplishment of this goal can be achieved by implementing or revising Cybersecurity Plans, priorities, projects, and addressing TCGP objectives. The FY 2023 TCGP NOFO may be found online at <u>http://www.grants.gov</u>.

FEMA and CISA developed four overarching objectives for the TCGP based on the consideration of national priorities, frameworks, and the national cyber threat environment:

- 1. Establish cyber governance and planning;
- 2. Assess and evaluate systems and capabilities;
- 3. Implement security protections commensurate with risk; and
- 4. Build and train a cybersecurity workforce.

For more information, please refer to the FY 2023 TCGP NOFO.

Applicants must meet the definition of a Tribal government under Section 2220A (a)(7) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (codified as amended at 6 U.S.C. § 665g (a)(7)) as the recognized governing body of any Indian or Alaska Native Tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, community, component band, or component reservation, that is individually identified (including parenthetically) in the most recent published list published pursuant to Section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List of 1994 (25 U.S.C. § 5131). Two or more Tribal governments may apply together as a tribal consortium and submit one application for the consortium.



The funding apportioned for the TCGP for FY 2022 and FY 2023 is \$6,000,000 and \$12,246,845, respectively. FEMA and CISA combined the funding from both fiscal years into a single TCGP NOFO, which totals \$18,246,845.

TCGP utilizes an allocation methodology which establishes four funding categories and divides the \$18,246,845 across those four categories. The funding categories allow for applications to be evaluated from among applications from similarly populated tribes. The following table illustrates the four population levels, number of tribes, and the corresponding combined funding levels for FY 2022 and FY 2023:

Tribal Population	Number of Tribes <sup>1</sup>	Maximum Allocation of Funding Per Category
100,000 or more	8	\$8,109,709
10,000-99,999	33	\$5,068,568
1,000-9,999	124	\$3,041,141
1-999	392	\$2,027,427

Eligible applicants (Tribal governments) must apply for funding through the Grants.gov portal at <u>http://www.grants.gov</u>. When applicants apply through <u>http://www.grants.gov</u>, they must submit the Standard Form 424 in the initial Grants.gov application. The FEMA Non-Disaster (ND) Grants system will retrieve the Standard Form 424 directly from the Grants.gov system and automatically populate the relevant data fields in the ND Grants application. Additional application instructions can be found in the FY 2023 TCGP NOFO.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to begin the application process as soon as possible, including obtaining a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number. The UEI, which replaced the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number on April 4, 2022, is a required application element and may take up to four weeks to obtain. Also, FEMA must conduct an initial eligibility review of the application prior to the final submission deadline. Therefore, **applicants are strongly encouraged to begin their initial application in Grants.gov at the time of this announcement** to ensure they have adequate time to start and complete their submission. Applicants should complete the initial Grants.gov application **at least one week before Jan. 10, 2024, the application deadline**. After completion of the initial review, FEMA will determine whether an applicant is eligible to proceed further and will notify the applicant to complete their submission by fulfilling additional application requirements (e.g., Cybersecurity Plan or , Investment Justification and Project Worksheet) that must be submitted for the FY 2023 TCGP. Completed final applications must be submitted in ND Grants no later than **5 p.m. ET, Jan. 10, 2024**,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The number of tribes with a population greater than 1 total 557. The remaining 17 tribes have a represented population of less than one per the US Census.gov data collected in 2020.



Only final submissions made through the ND Grants system located at <u>https://portal.fema.gov</u> will be accepted. If applicants need assistance registering for the ND Grants system, please contact the ND Grants Help Desk at <u>ndgrants@fema.dhs.gov</u> or 1-800-865-4076, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. ET. Additional questions may be directed to FEMA Grants Information Desk at <u>FEMA-grants-news@fema.dhs.gov</u> or (800) 368-6498, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET.