

# National Indian Health Board



## COVID-19: Tribal School Readiness Mini-grant 2020

### REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

#### **FUNDING OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW**

With funding from the Indian Health Service, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) is offering a funding opportunity for Tribes and Tribal Organizations seeking to strengthen school preparation and readiness for safe operations during the COVID pandemic. This funding is intended to fulfill immediate Tribal school readiness needs.

NIHB will provide mini-grants to a maximum of **15 Tribes or Tribal organizations** in amounts up to **\$2,000** each. Tribes may use these funds for activities in one or more of these categories:

- Materials and Equipment Acquisition
- Facilities & Infrastructure
- Outreach and Education
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Evaluation and Assessment

The completed application is due by 11:59 PM EDT on Friday, August 28, 2020. The project period will run from approximately September 1 through October 31, 2020.

**[APPLY HERE](#)**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F6KJLPH>**

NIHB hosted a

**Pre-Application Webinar**

**[Click here](#) to view the webinar recording and slides!**

Additional questions about this RFA may be directed to Robert Foley  
[rfoley@nihb.org](mailto:rfoley@nihb.org)

NIHB will not answer any questions or provide any information that may provide an unfair advantage to any applicants.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

In order to be considered eligible for this funding opportunity, all of the following criteria must be met:

- Applicants must be a federally recognized Tribal Government, Tribal organization, or inter-Tribal consortium as defined in the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, as amended.
- Applications from schools on Tribal lands or schools serving a predominately American Indian/Alaska Native student population will be considered.

Applicants may be currently in receipt of or are welcome to apply for other NIHB funding opportunities.

### **FUNDING CATEGORIES AND SAMPLE ACTIVITIES**

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Activities may include but are not limited to the following:

#### **Category: Materials and Equipment Acquisition**

Sample Activities:

- Upgrading or purchasing personal protective equipment for school employees and/or students
- Upgrading or purchasing screening and/or testing equipment
- Supporting additional busing capacity
- Purchasing and distributing virtual learning hardware such as wifi hotspots, tablets, and/or laptops

#### **Category: Facilities & Infrastructure**

Sample Activities:

- Upgrading or purchasing hardware and materials to protect school employees and students
- Developing and implementing a facilities cleaning process with new and/or existing staff
- Purchasing or renting temporary additional space for school-related functions

#### **Category: Outreach and Education**

Sample Activity:

- Marketing of school readiness plans to community members
- Purchasing and distributing materials related to physical, mental, and cultural health during COVID for students and school employees

#### **Category: Training and Technical Assistance**

Sample Activities:

- Training for school employees on how to use protective equipment and/or hardware
- Training for school employees on how to use screening equipment
- Training for school faculty on effective distance learning techniques, including cultural activities
- Developing and disseminating a school quarantine/closure plan

## Category: Evaluation and Assessment

### Sample Activities:

- Conducting a school community assessment
- Evaluating school readiness level

## PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

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### Selected Tribal partners must agree to:

- Complete an agreed upon work plan that will enhance the capacity of the Tribe to implement school readiness activities.
- Sign and return a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with NIHB that stipulates the amount of funds to be distributed, a schedule of funds distribution, Tribal points of contact, and project activities. NIHB will furnish the MOA after funding decisions are made.
- Designate one main point of contact to serve as the project coordinator. Even if this person will not be leading all project activities, the Tribal partner must designate one individual with whom NIHB will directly communicate on all matters related to this project. This person will be responsible for submitting the final report, participating in conference calls, and completing evaluation activities.
- Permit NIHB to share project success, lessons learned and tangible products as part of a broader information dissemination strategy.
- Participate in project evaluation activities.
- Submit a final report and financial statement to NIHB by November 15, 2020.

### NIHB will provide selected sites with:

- Specified amount of funds.
- Technical assistance from NIHB as requested.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

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- 1) Participate in the optional pre-application conference call on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 beginning at 3:30 PM Eastern Time.
- 2) Complete the online application <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F6KJLPH> and upload the work plan, letter of support and audit documentation when prompted in the online application.
- 3) The following will comprise a complete application package:

Completed Application form	✓
Completed work plan (template provided)	✓
Copy of most recent audit letter to governance or schedule of findings	✓

Signed letter of support from Tribal official	✓
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- 4) Complete the project application and upload required documents. Contact Robert Foley, [rfoley@nihb.org](mailto:rfoley@nihb.org), if you are not able to complete the online application and need to request a word document to submit by email. No applications will be accepted by fax or postal mail. NIHB shall confirm the receipt of all applications.

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

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- Incomplete application packages will not be reviewed.
- All complete applications will be reviewed by a team of qualified public health professionals
- NIHB shall notify all applicants of the status of their application by September 4, 2020.

