



TRIBAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

Based on the nationwide emergency declaration for the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on March 13, 2020, tribal governments have the option to request Public Assistance from FEMA as either a Recipient or Sub recipient. For more information, see [HERE](#).

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC)

The CDC has released several funding opportunities to expedite the release of COVID-19 response resources to support tribal communities. For more information and instructions for applying, see [HERE](#).

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) - RURAL TRIBAL COVID-19 RESPONSE PROGRAM:

The RTCR program is a HRSA initiative focused on addressing the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Specifically, this program will provide funding to assist tribes to engage in activities that may include, but are not limited to: establishing testing sites, purchasing test kits, implementing telehealth strategies/activities, purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) and other supplies, and hiring and/or training health care providers and other health care personnel to provide care for COVID-19 patients. The application is available [HERE](#).

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS)

For updated information, funding announcements, and frequently asked questions about the Indian Health Service's response to the pandemic, see their COVID-19 website [HERE](#).

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (BIA EM): The BIA EM is responsible for policy development and program management of Bureau activities concerning disaster preparedness, planning, response and recovery, and continuity of operations; and represents the bureau in coordinating interagency

emergency management activities related to tribal affairs. For more information, see [HERE](#).

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS: The CARES Act authorizes \$522 million in additional direct appropriations resources for COVID-19 response activities through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE). For a detailed Dear Tribal Leader letter, describing the funding allocations, see [HERE](#). For assistance from the BIA, see [HERE](#).

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (DHSEM)

Responsible for coordinating requests for Personal Protective Equipment and other resources. If you have questions, please contact the State Emergency Operations Center Tribal Liaison at: (505) 476-9624 or at DHSEM.TribalLiaison@state.nm.us. All resource requests are to be submitted with a 213RR form. For more information, visit the [DHSEM website](#).

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ISOLATION SITE

NM DOH has organized an isolation and quarantine site at Buffalo Thunder Resort. For more information, contact Captain Nathan Barton with the State Emergency Operations Center at (505) 819-2190.

IHS NATIONAL SUPPLY SERVICE CENTER (NSSC)

For supply support to federal, tribal, and urban Indian Health care facilities. The NSSC coordinates and manages the purchase and distribution of pharmaceuticals, medical, and other health care related supply items. Visit [HERE](#) for local contacts.

PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act makes Tribes eligible for the Small Business Act Section 7(a) Paycheck Protection Program, which will provide 100% federal loan guarantees up to \$10 million to cover costs like employee salaries, paid sick leave/medical leave, mortgages/rents, and employee health insurance premiums. This applies to any Tribal Business Concern. See [HERE](#) for more information.

SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM FOR INDIANS (SDPI) EXTENTION

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act extends the SDPI mandatory authorization at FY2020 levels (\$150 million) through November 2020. For more information on the SDPI, see [HERE](#).

INDIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (IHBG):

The CARES Act provides a \$200 million increase to the IHBG, to be distributed through formula funding. For more information on the IHBG and tribal allocations, see [HERE](#). HUD’s implementation notice can be found [HERE](#) with instructions for application.

INDIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (ICDBG):

The CARES Act provides a \$100 million increase to the ICDBG to respond to COVID-19, through Imminent Threat Grants. The funds will be allocated on a first come-first served basis in noncompetitive grants. For more information, see [HERE](#). For updated information on the application, see [HERE](#).

FOOD DISTRIBUTION FOR INDIAN RESERVATIONS:

The CARES Act provides an additional \$100 million to this program, which provides USDA commodity foods to low-income households, including the elderly, living on Indian reservations. For a program fact sheet, see [HERE](#).

USDA MEALS-TO-YOU PROGRAM:

Meals-to-You is a collaboration between the United States Department of Agriculture and Baylor University. The program is now being adapted as capacity allows, to serve students affected by recent school closures. USDA can provide shelf stable commodities for children under 18 via USPS. These can be delivered directly to the individuals’ door or to a centralized location if a tribe’s borders are closed. See the eligibility guidelines [HERE](#).

OLDER AMERICANS ACT TRIBAL NUTRITION:

The CARES Act provides an additional \$20 million for delivery of nutrition services to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian elders. Learn more about the program increases [HERE](#). To see awards by tribal organization, visit [HERE](#).

INDIAN CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT:

The increase to the Child Care Development Block Grant program includes \$70-96 million for Indian child care programs that serve low-income families to help defray the costs of COVID-19 response, including for continued payments to child care providers during center closure and to provide emergency child care for health care workers, emergency responders, and other COVID-19 “front line” workers. This program is administered through formula. For more information, see [HERE](#). For New Mexico state resources and FAQs, see New Mexico Kid’s website [HERE](#).

TRIBAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS

The CARES Act provides a \$4.5 million set aside for tribal domestic violence shelters through the Family Violence and Prevention Services Act. All federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for FVPSA Tribal Formula grants. For a program fact sheet, see [HERE](#). Guidance is coming soon about how the funding will be released.

TRIBAL LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE (LIHEAP)

The CARES Act provides an additional \$900 million for LIHEAP, including Tribal LIHEAP. This program assists eligible low-income households with their heating and cooling energy costs, bill payment assistance, energy crisis assistance, weatherization and energy-related home repairs. For Tribal contacts and to check eligibility, visit [HERE](#).

RECONNECT PILOT PROGRAM

The USDA ReConnect program has received a \$100 million increase to help aid coronavirus response through broadband access for telehealth, telework, and distance learning. Ninety percent of the households to be served by a project must be in a rural area without sufficient access to broadband. For FAQs and application instructions, visit [HERE](#).

DISTANCE LEARNING AND TELEMEDICINE (DLT) GRANT

An additional filing window is open that makes available up to \$25 million received from the CARES Act. While the CARES Act requires these funds be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, the agency believes that all DLT projects already serve that purpose. The DLT Program provides financial assistance to enable and improve distance learning and telemedicine services in rural areas. For more information, and to apply, see [HERE](#).

** IHBG and ICDBG can be used for broadband and connectivity purposes. For more information, see [HERE](#).