

# EPA Indian Environmental General Assistance Program FY26 Notice of Funding Availability

NOVEMBER 12, 2024



**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 10 Tribal Programs**

Serving Alaska • Idaho • Oregon • Washington • 271 Tribal Nations

# Introductions

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**Adam Baron, Division Director and Manager, Region 10 Tribal Trust and Assistance Division**

**Santina Gay, Project Officer, Alaska**

**Sherry Davis, Project Officer, Alaska**

**Lucas Dusablon, Project Officer, Washington**

**Susan Conbere Project Officer, Washington**



# Agenda

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- NOFA Overview
- Uniform Guidance Changes
- QUESTIONS!



# FY26 Funding Announcement

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- Read the [Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\)](#). Note there is a national NOFA and a regional supplement.
- ***Work beginning on or after October 1, 2025.***
- Go to our [Region 10 Tribal Programs website](#) and click on banner 4.

# What GAP Funds

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The Indian Environmental General Assistance Program provides financial and technical assistance to **Tribal Governments and Intertribal Consortia** to help Tribes:

- (1) plan, develop, establish, and maintain the capacity to implement federal environmental programs administered by EPA, and
- (2) implement Tribal solid and hazardous waste programs.

## BASE FUNDING

## SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

*Depending on program need and existing balances:*

- Applicants may apply for up to \$134,000.
- Tribes with large reservations:
  - Umatilla, Spokane, and Quinault: up to \$160,000.
  - Coeur d'Alene, Nez Perce, Shoshone Bannock, and Warm Springs: up to \$170,000
  - Colville and Yakama: up to \$180,000.

- EPA Region 10 is not accepting new applications for supplemental funding this year.
- If you would like to revisit an application that you submitted last year that was not funded, contact your Project Officer.

# Deadlines

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- Email the ***initial proposal*** by **January 21, 2025**. Negotiations begin. (*Applicants in Alaska without access to email may fax their applications to 907-271-6340.*)
- Work plan(s), budget(s), **latest indirect cost rate or proposal (if applicable)**
- When all parties agree, submit the ***final application*** (**the forms**) by the date you negotiate with your Project Officer (but no later than **May 16, 2025**).
- For Year 1, submit in Grants.gov.
- For Years 2, 3, 4 (or 5 for PPGS), email the application to your Project Officer.
- Tribal Consortia entering a NEW grant cycle: By **March 14, 2025**, each GAP-eligible member must provide documentation authorizing the consortium to apply for and receive the award on their behalf.



## Performance Partnership Grants

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- PPGs allow a Tribe to combine funds from at least two eligible EPA grant programs, including GAP, into a single grant: reduces administrative burden by a lot!
- [19 grants](#) are eligible.
- [Learn more about PPGs.](#)
- Attend our webinar on December 18.



# Application Review Criteria (1)

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## Current grant recipients must:

- Be **making satisfactory progress** (meeting project goals and completing work plan commitments in a timely manner, and overseeing finances) and, if not, have a corrective action plan in place.
- Be **current with all reporting requirements** (progress reporting, closeout requirements for prior GAP grants, and annual federal financial reports).
- Ensure that the **proposed work plan is not identical to previous work plans**.
- Have a **demonstrated history of being responsive to EPA requests** for information and modifications.

# Application Review Criteria (2)

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Regions will consider:

- The **amount of GAP funding** the region receives and the number of Tribes and Intertribal Consortia that apply.
- Whether the **application was received on time.**
- The applicant's level of **unexpended GAP funds and federal debt.**
- Whether a current grant recipient is **making regular drawdowns** per the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

# Application Review Criteria (3)

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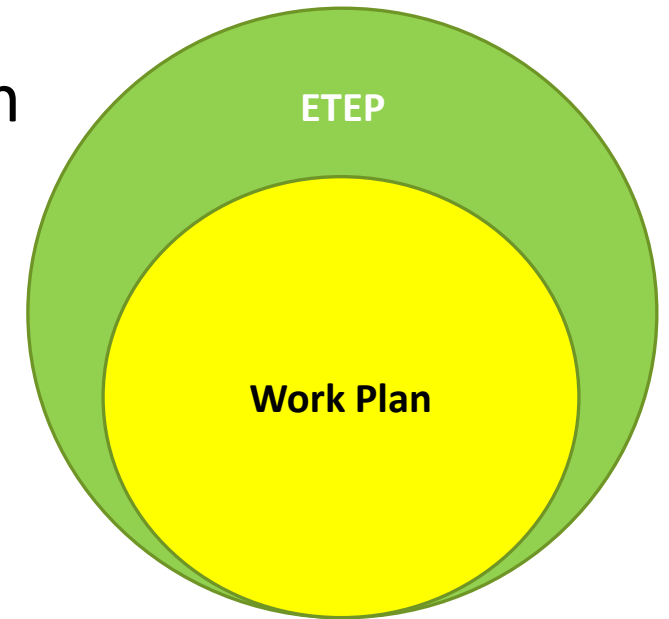
- Whether the **work plan includes all the required elements**, including commitments, long-term and intermediate outcomes, and outputs and deliverables.
- Whether proposed **activities are allowable and costs reasonable** to achieve the project goals.
- Whether proposed activities help the Tribe achieve priorities identified in the **EPA-Tribal Environmental Plan (ETEP)**.
- *If the Tribe does not have a current ETEP, the work plan should include a commitment to complete one.*

# EPA-Tribal Environmental Plans (ETEPs)

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## What's an ETEP?

- Intergovernmental planning agreement between the Tribe and EPA
- Defines mutual roles and responsibilities for environmental protection on Tribal lands
- Helps ensure that GAP work plans support the long-term priorities of the Tribe
- Work plans must reflect priorities in the ETEP.



**Work plans define specific work tasks for 1 year.  
ETEPs are 4-5-year planning documents.**

# Where to Find Templates and Forms

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## EPA'S GAP WEB PAGE

- Work Plan Template and Instructions
- Budget Templates (Adobe and Excel)
- A link to all the forms
- An optional proposal checklist.
- An optional ETEP/Work Plan template. **NEW!**

Go to GAP, Administrative Resources

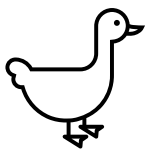
## ANTHC'S CAPACITY & TRAINING PAGE

- Air Work Plan Component Template
- Climate Change Template
- Emergency Preparedness Template
- Environmental Education Template
- Shoreline Erosion Template
- Solid Waste Template
- ANCSA Contaminated Sites **NEW!**

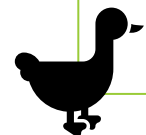
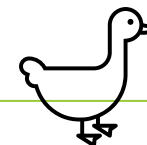
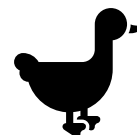
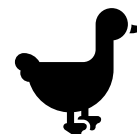
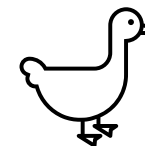
Go to the IGAP tab, then scroll down to Work Plans.

# Getting Organized

- **Start early. Start early. Start early!**
- Review your current work plan & budget.
  - How much work and funding is left?
  - Are work plan commitments complete?
  - Is progress reporting complete?
  - Are drawdowns up to date?
- Review our handy dandy [Proposal Checklist](#).



- Communicate important deadlines; plan for backup if needed.
- Check your [Indirect Cost Rate](#) (if your organization has one). If the rate has expired, propose a new rate to the *cognizant agency*.



# High Balance?

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- Should you request a no-cost extension or a reduced funding amount?  
Talk with your Project Officer.
  - **Option 1:** Request a no-cost extension that allows you to get prior work done without adding new commitments. *Request an extension at least 10 days before the end of your performance period.*
  - **Option 2:** Request reduced funding.
  - **Option 3:** Request an amendment to spend down your balance – **but timing matters!**

# Work Plans

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- **Discuss with your Council or Board the Tribal government's priorities.**
- Build on your FY25 work plan if you have one.
- Use the [current work plan template](#). (The latest template was revised in Nov. 2022 and includes a line for “ETEP Priority Supported” right below Personnel.)
- Consider whether you want to apply for 1 year or more.
- Think carefully about deliverables. What can you manage?
- **Items and tasks in the work plan and budget must align.**
- Do your best work, but it doesn't have to be perfect.
- Ask for help if you have any questions!



# Resources

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- Review the [GAP Technical Assistance Handbook](#).
- Talk with community and Tribal leaders. What are their concerns?
- Gather ideas at workshops and conferences.
- Visit EPA Region 10's [Air & Climate](#), [Land](#), and [Water](#) pages.
- Review [EPA Region 10's Sample Workplan Components](#) on the ANTHC website.
- Talk with other experienced Tribes and [Tribal Consortia](#)
- Contact a [Tribal Specialist](#)
- Reach out to your [EPA Project Officer](#)

[Administrative Resources for Work Plans](#)

Interested?  
Talk to your Project Officer.

# Multi-Year Work Plans

- Encourages long-range planning
- Saves time on annual GAP negotiations with EPA Project Officer
- Establishes a greater sense of ongoing stability for Tribal environmental programs
- Continuing grantees can apply for **one to four years** depending on past performance and where you are in your grant cycle.
- Submit a work plan and budget for each year.
- LEARN MORE HERE:  
<https://www.epa.gov/r10-tribal/multi-year-grants>



# Multi-Year Work Plans: Thinking It Through

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Discussion with Santina Gay.

# Intertribal Consortium “in Lieu of”

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- Tribal governments may choose not to receive GAP funds directly but instead may request for a consortium to receive funding to conduct environmental activities for the benefit of the Tribe.
- See Section 3.5.1 of the [GAP Guidance](#) for details.

Discussion with Santina Gay

# Budgets

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- **Must include sufficient detail for EPA to understand the expenditures.**
- Explain how costs were estimated for equipment, supplies, contracts, and other.
- You can use the PDF version, the Excel version, or a version of your own.
- Review EPA's online training, [How to Develop a Budget](#).

[Administrative Resources for Budgets](#)



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# Questions?

**Did we mention that proposals are due January 21?**

# What's New in the Uniform Grants Guidance 2024 Revision to 2 CFR 200

**REDUCED BURDEN, MORE FLEXIBILITY**



Discussion with Sherry Davis and  
Lucas DuSablón



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# Questions?

**Did we mention that proposals are due January 21?**





# Applying Online

**GET YOUR SAM.GOV, LOGIN.GOV, and GRANTS.GOV  
DUCKS IN A ROW!**

- Applicants must have a [Login.gov account](#) to sign into Grants.gov and to access SAM.gov.
- A current SAM.gov registration is required to apply in Grants.gov and to draw down existing funds through ASAP. Please update your registration **at least 3 months** before the expiration date.
- Identify your Authorized Representative NOW and ensure that he/she is prepared to submit the application in Grants.gov.
- Have the user names, passwords, and a backup plan.



# Technical Assistance Providers

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- [Region 10 Intertribal Consortia](#)
- [APEX Accelerators](#) (formerly PTAC) for SAM registration
- [Environmental Protection Network](#)
- [University of Washington Center for Environmental Health Equity](#)
- [Willamette Partnership](#)



# Coming Events

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- **EPN's SAM Office Hours**: November 20, December 4, December 18
- **Alaska IGAP Workshop (EPA/ANTHC)**: December 10-12, 2024
- **Flexibilities of a PPG: EPA Webinar**: December 17, 2024
- **GAP NOFA Webinar 2: Tips and Forms**: February 2025
- **Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE)**: February 3-9, 2025
- **Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management (ATCEM)**: March 25-28, 2025

# Contact Us

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[All EPA Region 10 Tribal Project Officers](#)

**Proposals are due January 21, 2025!**