



No. 2011-02  
April 25, 2011

# PROGRAM GUIDANCE

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**PROGRAM:** Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)

**FOR:** All Tribal Government Leaders

*T.G.L.*

**FROM:** Rodger J. Boyd, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs, PN

**TOPIC:** Posting of Fiscal Year 2011 Notice of Funding Availability for the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Program

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this guidance is to provide tribes with a summary of the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages, also known as the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program, posted on April 20, 2011. The General Section of the NOFA was posted on April 4, 2011, and describes HUD's FY 2011 policy and submission requirements. Both documents can be downloaded from [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail)

**Program Description:** The purpose of the ICDBG program is the development of viable American Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons with low and moderate incomes.

**Eligibility Information:** All federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native Villages are eligible to participate in the ICDBG program. Tribal organizations, as described in 24 CFR 1003.5, are also eligible applicants. To apply for funding, an applicant must meet this eligibility criterion by the application submission date. Eligible categories of funding include housing rehabilitation, land acquisition to support new housing, homeownership assistance, public facilities and improvements, economic development, and microenterprise programs. For a complete description of eligible activities, please refer to 24 CFR 1003, subpart C.

**FY 2011 Funding Availability:** The total approximate amount of funding available for the ICDBG program for FY 2011 is \$64,870,000, less up to \$3,952,080 retained to fund Imminent Threat Grants. The Area Office of Native American Program (AONAP) allocations in FY 2011 are:

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Eastern/Woodlands	\$ 6,915,116
Southern Plains	\$13,069,190
Northern Plains	\$ 8,683,954
Southwest	\$22,691,804
Northwest	\$ 3,099,524
Alaska	<u>\$ 6,458,332</u>
Total	\$60,917,920

**Changes in the FY 2011 NOFA:** There are few changes in the FY 2011 ICDBG NOFA. This Program Guidance provides only a summary; interested applicants should read the entire NOFA carefully to be aware of each and every change.

### *Section III – Eligibility Information*

For eligibility purposes, the NOFA updates the reference to the notice entitled “Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible to Receive Services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs” to October 1, 2010, and the supplemental notice of October 27, 2010.

### *Section IV – Application and Submission Information*

ICDBG applications must be received by Grants.gov no later than 11:59:59 p.m. eastern time on June 15, 2011. As explained in ONAP Program Guidance 2011-01, dated April 15, 2011, and in the General Section to HUD’s FY 2011 NOFAs, “received” means the application has been successfully uploaded to the Grants.gov server and the applicant has received confirmation of successful submission.

In FY 2011, HUD is amending its one-day grace period policy. Applicants that successfully upload an application prior to the deadline date and time and who receive a rejection notice from Grants.gov have one day beyond the deadline date and time to submit a corrected application. Applications uploaded to Grants.gov after the deadline date do not qualify for the grace period and will not be considered for funding. Applicants should ensure that e-mail notification addresses contained in the Grants.gov registration are up to date so messages about the status of their applications from Grants.gov can be delivered. Applicants should also read the General Section closely for application submission information.

Applications must be submitted electronically unless the applicant submits a request and receives approval for a waiver of the requirement. Applicants must submit the request to the applicable AONAP Administrator and must include a good cause for the waiver. In FY 2010, applicants were required to submit their waiver requests to headquarters. The grace period provided for applicants submitting electronically does not apply to applications submitted in paper.

### *Section V – Application Review Information*

#### A. Criteria

In Rating Factor 1, in the subfactor on past performance, AONAP reviewers will take into account the timeliness of submission of close-out documents for all open grants. In FY 2010, reviewers only looked at grants received in the last 3 years.

In Rating Factor 3, in the subfactor on the description and rationale for the proposed project, applicants can receive up to 12 points. In the FY 2010 NOFA, the maximum points for this subfactor was 13 points.

In Factor 3, in the subfactor on HUD Policy Priorities, there are two policy priorities in FY 2011 to choose from: Job Creation/Employment and Sustainability. Applicants that undertake activities to create jobs and further local economic development particularly targeted to low-income populations and communities will receive one policy point. Applicants that propose to retrofit existing housing or community facilities, and support energy efficient new construction will receive one sustainability policy priority point. Applicants that promote universal design and visitability in the construction of buildings and communities will receive a sustainability policy priority point as well. In total, in FY 2011, applicants can receive up to three points for HUD policy priorities. In FY 2010, applicants could receive two points.

**B. Review and Selection Process**

In FY 2011, successful applicants will have 14 days to submit responses to pre-award requirements. In FY 2010, the time period was 30 days.

*Section VI*

Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Applicants are informed in this section of the NOFA that they will be required to submit an annual report on employment, training, contracting and other economic opportunities required by Section 3 of the Housing Act of 1968 if they receive an ICDBG award. This has been a long standing requirement but the first time that the NOFA expressly states it.

The NOFA also informs applicants that grantees (and their subrecipients) that receive more than \$10 million of federal funds will be required to report to the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System in the future. These requirements were authorized in Section 872 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2009 (Section 872). Regulations on these new provisions have not been finalized. The NOFA puts applicants on notice that they will be soon. Grant agreements executed pursuant to the FY 2011 NOFA will contain requirements related to Section 872 as well as the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.

**Technical Assistance:** Contact staff at your Area ONAP for general guidance and technical assistance regarding the NOFA. ONAP staff is not permitted to help you prepare your application. Contact the Grants.gov Support Center for assistance with electronic submission requirements.

**Training on ICDBG NOFA Requirements:** Training on the requirements of the FY 2011 ICDBG NOFA will be provided as follows:

- A broadcast training for the ICDBG NOFA will be held within a few weeks of the date of the NOFA's posting. Applicants may view the broadcast at HUD's website at <http://www.hud.gov/webcasts/archives/>. The NOFA Webcast schedule can also be found at HUD's website at <http://www.hud.gov/webcasts/index.cfm>.
- The Area ONAP in your jurisdiction will also conduct training specific to the ICDBG NOFA and electronic submission requirements. Contact your Area ONAP for training dates.

**Applicants should not rely solely on information in this Guidance since it does not include all applicable NOFA requirements on the subjects addressed.** Contact your Area ONAP Grants Management Specialist if you have any questions.