



No. 2005-06
April 11, 2005

PROGRAM GUIDANCE

PROGRAM: Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED)

FOR: Tribal Government Leaders and Tribally Designated Housing Entities

T.D.B.A

FROM: Rodger J. Boyd, Deputy Assistant Secretary, PN

TOPIC: Rural Housing and Economic Development Notice of Funding Availability
for Fiscal Year 2005

Purpose: On March 21, 2005, HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development published in the Federal Register as part of HUD's Fiscal Year (FY) 2005, SuperNOFA (pages 14012 –14022), the Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED) FY 2005 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). This NOFA announces the availability of approximately \$24 million in funds for RHED grants in two categories: Capacity Building (\$150,000 maximum grants) and Support for Innovative Housing and Economic Development Activities (\$400,000 maximum grants).

Eligibility: Federally recognized Indian tribes, along with local rural nonprofit organizations, community development corporations, state housing finance agencies and state community and/or economic development agencies, are eligible to apply and compete for these grants. Tribes should be sure, if completing an application, to use the tribal name as it appears on the Bureau of Indian Affairs list of recognized tribes published in the Federal Register December 5, 2003.

Electronic Application Submission: All applications for FY 2005 RHED grants must be submitted electronically through the www.grants.gov/Apply Web site. Applicants that are unable to submit an electronic application may request a waiver of this requirement. If you are seeking funding under several HUD programs, you must submit a separate waiver request for each program. Waiver requests for the RHED program should be submitted to Nelson R. Bregón, General Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Community Planning and Development, 451 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20410. Your waiver request must be in writing and state the basis for the request and explain why electronic submission is not possible. Waiver requests will be accepted beginning on the date of publication of the NOFA (March 21, 2005) and no later than 30 days prior to the application submission date. Since the submission date is May 17, 2005, waiver requests for RHED must be received by April 17, 2005. Please see page 13584 of the SuperNOFA for complete details on submitting a waiver request.

Submission Date: The application is due no later than Tuesday, May 17, 2005. Electronic applications must be submitted and received by Grants.gov no later than 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on May 17, 2005. Applicants are advised to allow time for transmitting their application to Grants.gov. Only one RHED application will be accepted from any given organization. If more than one application is submitted electronically, the last application submitted prior to the due date and time will be the one reviewed by HUD.

Applicants receiving a waiver of the mandatory electronic applications submission requirement must have an original and the required number of paper copies of the application postmarked by the United States Postal Services no later than 11:59:59 p.m. EDT on May 17, 2005. No hand delivery or services other than the United States Post Office will be accepted.

NOFA and Application Forms: The RHED NOFA and application forms may be downloaded from the Grants.gov Web site at www.grants.gov/Apply. You may call the Grants.gov support desk at 1-800-518-GRANTS, or e-mail the support desk at Support@Grants.gov for assistance in downloading the application. The NOFA contains all forms and information required for submitting an application. There are no separate application kits available. Read the NOFA and follow the instructions carefully.

Satellite Broadcast: HUD held an information webcast via satellite for potential applicants to learn more about the program and preparation of an application on Thursday, March 31, 2005. To receive the webcast go to www.hud.gov and click on "webcast" under the heading "Tools" in the column on the left. The webcast has been archived and can be viewed at any time from the HUD archive website www.hud.gov/webcasts/archives/index.cfm.

For Further Information: For all information concerning RHED applications prior to the actual awarding of grants, interested parties should contact: Thann Young, Program Specialist, (thann_young@hdu.gov), or Linda L. Streets, Community Development Specialist, (linda_streets@hud.gov) at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development, Room 7137, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410-7000; telephone (202) 708-2290.