

[Support for 988 Tribal Response Cooperative Agreement Preapplication Webinar \(NOFO FG-23-005\)](#)

Wednesday, May 31, 2023, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM EST

**Background:**

The purpose of the 988 Tribal response program is to provide resources to improve response to 988 contacts (including calls, chats, and texts) originating in Tribal communities and/or activated by American Indians/Alaska Natives. American Indian and Alaska Native communities experience a significantly higher suicide risk compared to the general population. CDC reports that in 2021 non-Hispanic AI/AN people had a suicide rate 99% greater than the general population.

The 988 Tribal response program aims to: (1) ensure American Indians/Alaska Natives have access to culturally competent, trained 988 crisis center support; (2) improve integration and support of 988 crisis centers, Tribal nations, and Tribal organizations to ensure there is navigation and follow-up care; and (3) facilitate collaborations with Tribal, state and territorial health providers, Urban Indian Organizations, law enforcement, and other first responders in a manner which respects Tribal sovereignty.

**Questions and Answers:**

1. **Question:** We are a current grantee for the first two-year grant. Are we eligible to apply for this round of grant funding?

**Answer:** Yes, you are eligible to apply. Applicants that received funding under the FY 2022 Support for 988 Tribal Response Cooperative Agreements (SM-22-020) must describe how this funding will expand upon currently funded activities (page 24 of [NOFO](#))

2. **Question:** is there opportunity for funding after the grant ends?

**Answer:** While we do not know the FY2026 federal appropriations today, supporting 988 Tribal response is a priority for SAMHSA and we are excited to offer this 3-year program through FY2023 approved funding.

3. **Question:** Are these slides going to be available after?

**Answer:** Yes, the slides, question and answers, and recording will be available on the SAMHSA Website-Notice of Funding Opportunity page (<https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/fg-23-005>)

4. **Question:** I have a question that is tangentially related to this grant - Do you happen to know if IHS has awarded a grantee for the Zero Suicide Initiative Coordinating Center yet?

**Answer:** For more information on the Zero Suicide Initiative Coordinating Center Cooperative Agreement, please contact Indian Health Services, Division of Grants Management at 301.443.5204 or [DGM@ihs.gov](mailto:DGM@ihs.gov).

5. **Question:** Will the slides be posted on the website immediately after this Webinar?

**Answer:** Yes, the slides, question and answers, and recording will be available on the SAMHSA Website-Notice of Funding Opportunity page (<https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/fg-23-005>)

6. **Question:** Can funds from this grant be used to furnish and equip a Crisis Stabilization Center?  
**Answer:** All required activities must be completed as a part of the grant. Certain activities are allowed for the assurance of connection to identify crisis resources, including crisis stabilizations, but cannot be the central piece for the utilization of the funds themselves. Review the allowable and required activities as well as the limits from an infrastructure stance and submit response.
7. **Question:** Do we have to fulfill all required activities?  
**Answer:** You must respond on how all required activities will be accomplished. You are identifying your tribal organizations response to each of those activities. Some have concrete parameters, and some may be more open based on the amount of funding your tribe is requesting. This is not population based like the last grant. You get to request the amount between \$250,000 and \$2 million and that request must account for the required and allowable activities.
8. **Question:** Is there a certain date by which all infrastructure must be operational?  
**Answer:** Yes. Page 24 of the [NOFO](#) states be sure that service delivery should begin as soon as possible and no later than 4 months after the award.
9. **Question:** Did he say 120 days from the award?  
**Answer:** Yes. Page 24 of the [NOFO](#) states be sure that service delivery should begin as soon as possible and no later than 4 months after the award.
10. **Question:** do we have to stand up a call center?  
**Answer:** No, but that is an allowable activity. That is not a required activity. The base requirement is that you must collaborate with the 988 lifeline centers within the state that help to cover your tribal organization population.
11. **Question:** Are applicants allowed to partner with state and local crisis centers for the provision of lifeline and after-hours services?  
**Answer:** Yes. That is a critical component to this grant. There is also a 988 State and Territory grant program and requirements within that are that states need to collaborate with tribal organizations to ensure training and connection to care along with crisis centers to ensure effective 988 tribal response.
12. **Question:** Are formal MOUs required for partnerships or can Letters of Commitment suffice?  
**Answer:** As outlined in the [NOFO](#), letters of commitment (not letters of support) are required from each partner. If you are not partnering with any other organizations, indicate so in your response.
13. **Question:** Do we collaborate with our local 988 centers or all centers?

**Answer:** You should primarily collaborate with your local 988 center that is first level of response; you can also work with other centers that are backing up the primary center or state-wide approaches. You are not required to collaborate with the entire 988 Network.

14. **Question:** My organization has a current Support for 988 Tribal Response Cooperative Agreement which we received in January, would we be able to apply under this announcement to propose additional activities?

**Answer:** Yes, you are eligible to apply. Applicants that received funding under the FY 2022 Support for 988 Tribal Response Cooperative Agreements (SM-22-020) must describe how this funding will expand upon currently funded activities (page 24 of [NOFO](#)).

15. **Question:** Will this be posted?

**Answer:** Yes, the slides, question and answers, and recording will be available on the SAMHSA Website-Notice of Funding Opportunity page (<https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/fg-23-005>)

16. **Question:** Does the award ceiling (\$2,000,000/year) remain the same regardless of the number of Tribes that apply within a consortium?

**Answer:** Yes.

17. **Question:** NPAIHB is a tribally designated organization. If we apply as part of a consortium with some of our member Tribes (i.e., Oregon, Washington, and Idaho Tribes), would we be eligible to be the legal applicant/recipient of the award?

**Answer:** Yes. The NOFO states: "A single tribe in the consortium must be the legal applicant, the recipient of the award, and the entity legally responsible for satisfying the award requirements."

18. **Question:** Could you clarify what the statement below (taken from pg 9-10 in the NOFO) means in terms of the allowable activities, please? "Capitalizable infrastructure, such as computer systems/software, new buildings, or structural changes to existing facilities (e.g., to the foundation, roof, floor, or exterior or loadbearing walls of a facility, or extension of existing facility) are recoverable as depreciation through an approved negotiated indirect cost rate or 10% de minimis rate in accordance with your organization's existing capitalization/amortization policies."

**Answer:** This statement indicates that you are able to recover depreciation costs of capitalizable infrastructure. Additional information on Indirect Costs can be found in 45 CFR 75.414 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-A/subchapter-A/part-75/subpart-E#75.414>). Furthermore, additional information on depreciation can be found in 45 CFR 75.436 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-A/subchapter-A/part-75/subpart-E#75.436>).

19. **Question:** Do the tribal organizations have to be federally recognized to apply?

**Answer:** Eligibility is limited to federally recognized Indian Tribes, tribal organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations. Tribes and tribal organizations may apply individually or as a consortium. Please refer to the Notice of Funding Opportunity to learn more about eligibility:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/grants/pdf/fy-2023-988-tribal-response-nofo.pdf>  
(Beginning on Page 17)

20. **Question:** Do you have a 988 grant example I can look and use as a resource?

**Answer:** You may visit <https://www.samhsa.gov/freedom-information-act-foia> if you would like to view a funded application from a previous year or a particular Notice of Funding Opportunity. From the webinar, it was explained that you can submit a Freedom of Information Act request or FOIA Request to receive this information. As FOIA requests typical require several months to fulfill, consider using the [Developing a Competitive SAMHSA Grant Application manual](#) as a guide.