

## **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Annual Awards Program to Support Tribal Climate Resilience and Ocean and Coastal Management Planning for Federally Recognized Tribes and Authorized Tribal Organizations**

**ACTION:** Solicitation, Request for Proposals (RFP)

**ELIGIBILITY:** Federally recognized Tribes are eligible as listed in the current Federal Register, Notice of Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible to Receive Services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs, which is the official listing of all Federally recognized Tribes in the U.S. pursuant to Section 104 under the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-454; 108 Stat. 4791-4792). The most recent Notice was published in the Federal Register, 87, FR 4636 (January 28, 2022). Authorized Tribal organizations, as defined at 25 U.S.C. 5304(l) are also eligible to apply.<sup>a</sup> Other entities may participate as sub-grantees.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary), through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Office of Trust Services, Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience (TCR or Branch) solicits proposals from Federally recognized Tribes and authorized Tribal organizations to receive awards to support 1) Tribal climate resilience planning and strategy implementation and 2) ocean and coastal management planning. The Branch supports Tribes as they prepare for climate change impacts on Tribal Treaty and Trust resources, economies, regenerative agriculture and food sovereignty, conservation practices, infrastructure, and human health and safety. The Branch's Annual Awards Program will provide funding for projects that support Tribal climate resilience as Tribes incorporate science, including Indigenous and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK), Indigenous languages, and technical information. This solicitation contains guidelines and instructions for writing and submitting a proposal. The Department of the Interior (DOI) is committed to equity and environmental justice in program delivery and explicitly seeks to ensure that all projects provide direct, meaningful benefits consistent with the Justice40 initiative and other related initiatives. By providing this support to historically disadvantaged Tribal communities, efforts in the TCR Annual Awards Program support the Justice40 initiative. BIA will use a competitive evaluation process based on activity standards as stated in section **D. Activity**

<sup>a</sup> Note: While both Federally recognized Tribes and Tribal organizations as defined at 25 U.S.C. section 5304(l) are eligible for funding through this solicitation, Tribal organization proposals will be reviewed and ranked separately from Tribal proposals. Pertinent language from 25 U.S.C. 5304(l) is as follows: "(1) 'tribal organization' means the recognized governing body of any Indian tribe; any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities: Provided, That in any case where a contract is let or grant made to an organization to perform services benefiting more than one Indian tribe, the approval of each such Indian tribe shall be a prerequisite to the letting or making of such contract or grant;"

**Standards and Evaluation** of this notice to select projects for funding<sup>b</sup>. Contract proposals must contain the information required by 25 CFR 900.8. If there are questions, please refer below to the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** section on how to contact the BIA Tribal Climate Resilience staff for assistance.

**AUTHORITIES:** Awards will be authorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), Continuing Appropriations for fiscal year 2022 (Public Law 117-43), the Further Extending Government Funding Act (Public Law 117-70), Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022 (P.L. 117-103), 25 U.S.C. 2, and the Snyder Act (25 U.S.C. 13), as amended, Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), 25 U.S.C.5301 *et. seq.* Tribal organizations, as defined at 25 U.S.C. 5304(l) are eligible for funding. All proposals must have Tribal resolution(s) supporting their requests in order to receive funding to enter into an ISDEAA Self-Determination contract under Title III or Self-Governance compact under Title III. Any award under this announcement does not guarantee future funding of any kind, including future BIA Tribal Climate Resilience announcements.

**DATES AND ADDRESS TO SUBMIT APPLICATION:** Application packages must be submitted no later than **7:59 pm Alaska Daylight Time/ 11:59 pm Midnight Eastern Standard Time, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**. The BIA Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience will not consider proposals received after this time and date. The required method of submitting proposals is via the USGS ECO Opps website, at <https://sciencebase.usgs.gov/eco-opps/#/>. You must request an ECO Opps account prior to submitting a proposal. Please be advised: **this process can take up to 24 hours, so you will need to submit at least 24 hours before you plan to begin the application process.** Instructions to create an account are provided in the solicitation **APPENDIX**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** If you have questions about BIA TCR or the Annual Awards Program, please contact Rachael Novak, by email at [Rachael.Novak@bia.gov](mailto:Rachael.Novak@bia.gov) or by phone at (202) 510-5198. If you have questions regarding the application process, please contact the TCR group email at [Resilience.Funding@bia.gov](mailto:Resilience.Funding@bia.gov). An FAQ webinar will be provided following the solicitation release, taking place with a live Q&A session on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm MDT. The link to register is here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1540500874348907791>.

The webinar will be recorded and archived on the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) website here: [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Training/Webinars\\_Schedule](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Training/Webinars_Schedule).

Following the webinar, TCR will update the presentation slides with new questions asked during the fiscal year 2022 webinar, and make them available on the Branch of Tribal Climate

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<sup>b</sup>Category 12, RMP Coordinator applicants will be non-competitively funded: however, if applicant requests which meet the activity standards exceed the amount of appropriations available for FY22, some applicants may be in the second or third cohort instead of the first, and will be required to re-submit their application during the following funding cycles.

Resilience website: <https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/tribal-climate-resilience-program> via the “Annual Awards Program” site page. TCR will also host a Grant-writing Webinar to build Tribal technical capacity on Wednesday, April 27th at 1:30 - 3 pm MDT. Join using this Teams link: [https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F\\_%23%2F1%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting\\_YTlkOTc5ZTAZjliMi00ZTM3LWIwYzUtZmYwMjUxMjA0Y2M5%40thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257B%2522Tid%2522%3A%25220693b5ba-4b18-4d7b-9341-f32f400a5494%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%3A%25225532f4de-7176-4fe0-9e1c-19ea5174985c%2522%257D%26anon%3Dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=f65b161b-5d3f-4dd9-b84b-47f270671cbe&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=false&suppressPrompt=true](https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F_%23%2F1%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting_YTlkOTc5ZTAZjliMi00ZTM3LWIwYzUtZmYwMjUxMjA0Y2M5%40thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257B%2522Tid%2522%3A%25220693b5ba-4b18-4d7b-9341-f32f400a5494%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%3A%25225532f4de-7176-4fe0-9e1c-19ea5174985c%2522%257D%26anon%3Dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=f65b161b-5d3f-4dd9-b84b-47f270671cbe&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=false&suppressPrompt=true)  
There is no pre-registration required. A call-in option is available (audio only) +1 202-640-1187,,431548730# Phone Conference ID: 431 548 730#

If an applicant needs BIA’s assistance with some aspect of the application process, and BIA’s help would not create a conflict of interest, the applicant should submit a written request for technical assistance to BIA. Submit requests to BIA well in advance of the deadlines established in the **DATES AND ADDRESS TO SUBMIT APPLICATION** section to allow BIA time to provide appropriate assistance. Applicants not seeking technical assistance should also submit their proposals as far as possible in advance of the deadline to allow BIA time to provide feedback concerning any possible deficiencies and allow for application revisions, if necessary.

**CATEGORIES OF AVAILABLE FUNDING:** There are 13 award categories, listed below.

Climate Adaptation (Categories 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, and 13)

- Category 1. Trainings and Workshops (maximum: \$150,000)
- Category 2. Adaptation Planning (maximum: \$250,000)
- Category 3. Travel Support for Adaptation Planning (maximum: \$15,000)
- Category 6. Capacity Building for Scoping Efforts (maximum: \$65,000)
- Category 10. Implementation of Climate Adaptation Strategies (maximum: \$2,000,000)
- Category 13. International ITEK Virtual Exchange (maximum: \$10,000)

Ocean and Coastal Management (Categories 4 and 5)

- Category 4. Ocean and Coastal Management Planning (maximum: \$150,000)
- Category 5. Travel Support for Ocean and Coastal Management (maximum: \$15,000)

Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place (Categories 7, 11, and 12)

- Category 7. Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place Planning (maximum: \$300,000)
- Category 11. Implementation of Community Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place Actions (maximum: \$3,000,000)
- Category 12. Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place (RMP) Coordinator (maximum: \$150,000 per year for up to three years)

Internships and Youth Engagement (Categories 8 and 9)

- Category 8. Internships (maximum: \$50,000)
- Category 9. Youth Engagement (maximum: \$50,000)

**FUNDING LIMITATIONS:** Awards are subject to available funding. The Branch is funded through annual appropriations by Congress. There is no assurance that TCR will be funded in subsequent years. However, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding is guaranteed through fiscal year 2026. BIL funds will provide for some of the Annual Awards Program awards this year, as well as through fiscal year 2026. Tribes must maintain good standing status for the purposes of future funding requests. Any award under this announcement does not guarantee future funding of any kind, including future Tribal Climate Resilience announcements. *Note: Any information in the possession of the BIA or submitted to the BIA throughout the process, including final work product, constitute government records and may be subject to the disclosure to third parties under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, and the Department of the Interior's FOIA regulations at 43 CFR part 2, unless a FOIA exemption or exception applies, or other provisions of law protect the information.*

The Branch intends to make available approximately \$46 million for awards this fiscal year. Because funding is limited, individual awards shall not exceed the designated maximum amounts, as indicated above. There is no award minimum. Applicants are not guaranteed to be funded at the requested amount. For each applicant, there is a limit of one award per Category, and each applicant shall not receive more than two awards across the larger Categories<sup>c</sup>. An applicant shall not receive more than one implementation award in a given funding cycle (annual solicitation). Category 6 is limited to Tribes which have **not** previously received an award from one of the larger Categories. Category 6 applicants should be seeking to build Tribal capacity, thus they will not receive an award from one of the larger Categories in addition to a Category 6 award in this solicitation. Capacity building and implementation Categories 6, 10, 11, and 12 are limited to Federally recognized Tribes only (Tribal organizations are not eligible for capacity building to build internal Tribal technical staffing, nor are they eligible to receive TCR funds to implement, develop or construct on Tribal Trust lands). For more detail regarding elements and activity standards for all 13 Categories of funding, see section **D. Activity Standards and Evaluation**.

#### **PROPOSAL APPLICATION GUIDELINES:**

- A. Background
- B. Contract Proposal Content Requirements
- C. Disallowed Costs
- D. Activity Standards and Evaluation
- E. Transfer of Funds and Reporting Requirements for Awardees

#### **A. Background:**

Tribal Climate Resilience awards will be made to projects that address vulnerability to climate change impacts through the following: development of regionally focused or topically focused

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<sup>c</sup> Larger Categories are those Categories with maximum amounts greater than \$100,000, specifically, Categories 1, 2, 4, 7, 10 and 11.

training; adaptation planning and data development; internships and youth engagement; travel to access training and attend technical workshops to build resilience skills and capacity; planning and design of relocation, managed retreat, and protect-in-place (RMP) efforts for coastal and riverine communities; implementation projects identified in previously completed planning documents (planning projects are not limited to BIA funded plans); capacity building to support RMP coordinators; and international ITEK virtual exchanges. Awards will also support projects that ensure Tribal participation in ocean and coastal (including the Great Lakes) cooperative planning, projects for ecological health, regenerative agriculture and food sovereignty, conservation practices, resilience, community safety and health, and economic security for present and future generations. Applications should describe how proposed projects will incorporate science, including ITEK, Indigenous languages traditional governance, and technical information to address vulnerability to climate change.

## **B. Contract Proposal Content Requirements**

Section 25 CFR 900.8 requires that initial contract proposals contain the information listed below. Applications in every Category of funding must satisfy all five Content Requirements.

If an incomplete proposal is received at least one week prior to the deadline to submit applications, it will be returned to the Tribe with an explanation of missing components. An applicant whose application package is returned for this reason will be allowed to address the missing component(s) and resubmit the application for consideration, provided all issues are resolved and the complete application is resubmitted before the deadline listed in the **DATES AND ADDRESS TO SUBMIT APPLICATION** section above. See the Table 1 at the end of section **B. Contract Proposal Content Requirements** for visual clarification of Content Requirements by funding Category.

### 1. Content Requirement 1: Eco Opps Info

Include the following information:

- a) *Category*: Category of funding the application is for.
- b) *Title*: A unique project title with work product in the name: e.g., adaptation plan, relocation plan, etc. Do not use “BIA Tribal Climate Resilience” or “Category” as part of the proposal title.
- c) *Request*: The total amount of funding requested from the Annual Awards Program, including indirect rates but not including any matching amounts.
- d) *Applicant Name*: The full name of the proposing Tribe or Tribal organization.
- e) *Partners* (who **will** receive funding): Indicate whether the proposal includes partners that will receive funding from BIA, such as Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) partner academic institutions, etc. Formal partnerships must include signed letters of support from the partnering entity.
- f) *Partners* (who **will not** receive funding): Indicate proposed partners that will not receive funding such as other Tribes or entities, if any. Formal partnerships should include signed letters of support from other Tribes or entities.
- g) *Number Benefitting*: The estimated number of Indian people who will benefit under the proposals. This number is likely to be more specific than the overall number of Tribal members/citizens.

- h) *Previous Recipient*: Indicate whether the Tribe has received a Category 1, 2, 4, or 7 award from BIA Tribal Climate Resilience since 2014.
- i) *Previous Capacity Building Recipient*: If applying for a Category 2 award, indicate whether the Tribe has previously received a Category 6, Capacity Building award from the BIA-TCR since 2014. If the Tribe has already received a Category 2 award following their Capacity Building award, the Tribe is **not** eligible to indicate that they are a previous Capacity Building recipient (must check “no”).
- j) *Summary*: A proposal summary to be made public, if awarded.
- k) *Ecosystem Restoration Potential*: This is an optional criterion which the applicant may choose to address if the proposed project applies to ecosystem restoration, and is only applicable to Category 2, 4, 7, 10 and 11 applications. See **D. Activity Standards and Evaluation** section for more information.
- l) *Co-stewardship Potential*: This is an optional criterion which the applicant may choose to address if the proposed project applies to co-stewardship of Federal or other non-tribal lands.
- m) *Sacred Site and/or Treaty Rights Access and/or Protection Potential*: This is an optional criterion which the applicant may choose to address if the proposed project applies to access or protection of sacred sites or Treaty rights.
- n) Confirmation of other completed Content Requirements.

2. Content Requirement 2: Tribal resolution and/or cover letter with signature summarizing interest and leadership support

**Tribal resolutions are required to enter into P.L. 93-638 contracts, if the proposal is selected for award.** Signed Tribal resolutions must summarize interest and intent. Self-governance (compact) Tribes are to submit a cover letter summarizing interest and leadership support but do not need to submit a resolution. For Tribal organizations proposing to develop a product (e.g., plan, assessment, etc. such as for a Category 2 or 4 proposal) on behalf of a Tribe, they must have a resolution from the Tribe, however, if the proposal is for a training (e.g., Category 1) open to any interested Tribe, only a cover letter from the tribal organization leadership is required.

3. Content Requirement 3: Proposal describing the proposed project and associated activities  
Proposals shall be clear and brief, and **should not exceed 6 pages in length.** The Tribal resolution, budget table, and negotiated indirect cost rate agreement are part of the application but not subject to the proposal length limit. Supplemental materials such as letters of support, charts, graphs, maps, photographs, graphics, planning documents, and/or other relevant information may be included in an appendix and do not count against the 6-page proposal limit. See **D. Activity Standards and Evaluation** for more information on required content for each type of application.

4. Content Requirement 4: A detailed budget table and budget narrative

Budgets should identify funds requested for the work, including identification of the programs, functions, services, or activities specified in the proposal. Tips:

- a) A budget narrative will need to be provided within Eco Opps or as an attachment in

- proposal.
- b) Attach the budget table in a spreadsheet as a separate attachment (Microsoft Excel preferred).
  - c) Ensure that the requested amount indicated accurately reflects the requested amount summarized in the budget table, and is at or below the maximum for the Category sought (see the **CATEGORIES OF AVAILABLE FUNDING** section). *Note: Total amounts should only include those requested by the TCR Annual Awards Program and should not include Tribal match, in-kind, or leveraged funds from other agencies and/or organizations.*
5. Content Requirement 5: A copy of the Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) or other statement
- One of the following must be submitted to identify indirect costs of the proposed project:
- a) A copy of the current approved NICRA (should not be expired); or,
  - b) if negotiations are ongoing and not yet final, a statement of the estimated amount requested for indirect costs, pending timely establishment of a rate or negotiation of administrative overhead costs; or,
  - c) a statement accepting a 10% de minimus rate if the Tribe or Tribal organization has never received a NICRA and does not currently have one in negotiations.

	Fillable PDF Application Template	Mandatory Component 1: Tribal Cover Page	Mandatory Component 1: Tribal Resolution and/or Cover Letter	Mandatory Component 2: Proposal	Mandatory Component 3: Budget Table and Budget Narrative	Negotiated Component 4: Indirect Cost Rate Agreement	Mandatory Component 5: Indirect Cost Rate
Category 1: Trainings and Workshops			X	X	X	X	X
Category 2: Adaptation Planning			X	X	X	X	X
Category 3: Travel Support for Adaptation Planning	X			X	X	X	X
Category 4: Ocean and Coastal Management Planning			X	X	X	X	X
Category 5: Travel Support for Ocean and Coastal Management	X			X	X	X	X
Category 6: Capacity Building	X			X	X	X	X
Category 7: Relocation, Managed Retreat or Protect-in-Place Planning			X	X	X	X	X
Category 8: Internships	X			X	X	X	X
Category 9: Youth Engagement	X			X	X	X	X
Category 10: Implementation of Climate Adaptation Strategies			X	X	X	X	X
Category 11: Implementation for Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place			X	X	X	X	X
Category 12: Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place Coordinator	X			X	X	X	X
Category 13: International Indigenous Exchanges	X			X	X	X	X

*Table 1 (left): Content Requirement by funding Category. To ensure no Content Requirements are missed during application development, adhering to the necessary components indicated with “x’s” in this table will ensure applications are complete.*

### C. Disallowed Costs

Elements or activities that cannot be funded include:

- a) Establishing or operating a Tribal office and/or purchase of office equipment not specific to the proposed project.
- b) Supplementing employment for current positions not significantly and directly involved in the proposed project. This includes fringe benefits of positions not significantly and directly involved in the proposed project (e.g., an Executive Director with little to no described involvement in proposed work).
- c) International travel.
- d) Legal fees or contracted negotiation fees (e.g., legal counsel).
- e) Application fees associated with permitting.
- f) Non-negotiated indirect cost rates (unless the entity is in the process of negotiations or has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate, then the 10% de minimus rate may be used).
- g) Entertainment.
- h) For remote training or conference locations (where eating establishments are not within a reasonable distance), food costs are allowable, but should not exceed \$10,500 or 7% of the total requested amount (whichever is less). Refreshments for non-remote training or conference locations are allowable up to \$1,000 per proposal.
- i) Any other activities not authorized by the Tribal award letter (e.g., a change in scope).

#### **D. Activity Standards and Evaluation**

Activity standards must be met in any Contract Proposal submitted under 25 CFR 900.8. The following sections outline the activity standards for each funding Category. All applications will be evaluated for responsiveness to the following activity standards outlined below under each type of application and will be scored accordingly. Types of applications include: trainings and workshops (Category 1), planning (Categories 2, 4, and 7), travel (Categories 3 and 5), capacity building (Category 6), youth (Categories 8 and 9), implementation (Categories 10 and 11), relocation, managed retreat, or protect-in-place coordinator (Category 12), or international ITEK virtual exchanges (Category 13).

The mission of the BIA Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience is to build climate resilience at the project level through leadership engagement, delivery of data and tools, training, and Tribal capacity building. The funds announced in this notice support Federally recognized Tribes in their planning efforts to build Tribal climate resilience through Tribally designed training, planning, vulnerability assessments, supplemental monitoring, capacity building, implementation, and informational exchanges. The ocean and coastal management categories of funding support planning, science and tool development, and capacity building for coastal Tribes including the Great Lakes Tribes. Ocean and coastal management projects do not necessarily need to address climate resilience. The following sections outline the information needed in each proposal, the activity standards, and the scoring system for each type of application. Each of the activity standards are worth up to 100 points, while supplemental points administer additional point value.

#### ***Trainings and Workshops Activity Standards: Category 1***

Maximum per award: \$150,000

Category 1, Trainings and Workshops awards support Tribes to design and host regional or national Tribal training(s) or workshop(s) that will assist Tribal leaders, program coordinators, planners, and managers in developing the skills necessary to address climate change by developing Tribal adaptation plans, or management options, through in-person and webinar trainings and workshops.

The following information must be addressed within the proposal:

##### *Executive Summary (0-10 points):*

1. Provide a brief executive summary.

##### *Project Design and Implementation Feasibility (0-50 points):*

1. Describe training design, intended audience, method of delivery (in-person instruction, webinar, facilitated instruction, including remote delivery ability, recorded sessions, or webinars), and project deliverables which may include (15/50 points):
  - Tribal case studies of climate adaptation planning
  - Adult learning techniques to be employed

- Best practices appropriate to the subject
  - Example documentation or templates
2. Describe capacity to design and deliver regionally or topically focused trainings and/or workshops which may include (10/50 points):
    - Previous subject-matter expertise and experience in adaptation planning and science, communicating technical information or other relevant content
    - Presenters' experience in adult education and/or Tribal training experience of partners or presenters
  3. Describe how proposed work will include online or on-demand reporting, proceedings, presentations, or recordings to permit Tribes who cannot attend in person to benefit (5/50 points).
  4. Provide a one- to two-year timeline for the schedule of planning and delivery for the proposed training(s) and/or workshop(s) (10/50 points). A table format is preferred.
  5. Identify how science (including ITEK if the applicant chooses to incorporate it) will be incorporated to identify best practices to manage resources and adapt to changes in the environment (10/50 points). If ITEK will be incorporated into work or training, explain:
    - The use of ITEK and how it will inform decision-making. Also, briefly explain the general methods to be used (e.g., literature review, semi-directed interviews, consultation with a cultural expert, etc.). A brief description of potential methods can be found: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/tek/learning.htm>.
    - Discuss the standards of practice that will be used during the project to protect ITEK. Any information shared should be of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) to ensure ethical research sharing in the details of the proposal. For information on FPIC and protections, see <https://climatetkw.wordpress.com/>.

*Tribal Capacity Building (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how the proposed work builds Tribal capacity to address preparedness and increased ability to develop adaptation plans of the Tribes to be served.

*Indigenous Language and Traditional Governance (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how Indigenous language will be utilized throughout the project and how Tribal traditional governance structures and/or decision making will inform project implementation. For Tribal organizations, detail how languages and governance structures will be considered.

*Budget (also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

*Note: Travel and lodging of attendees may be included in the training budget but may not exceed \$75,000.* Budgets should include the following:

1. Identify funds requested for the work in the budget table (10/20 points).
2. Include a budget narrative. Make sure to link any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the "Personnel Plan" within the proposal. Personnel rate of pay should be identified, along with number of hours expected to perform project work. Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative (10/20 points).

*Supplemental points (0-5 points):*

1. Proposal is from Tribe who has not received a larger award (i.e., Categories 1, 2, 4, or 7) since 2014 from BIA Tribal Climate Resilience. Indicate this to be considered for supplemental points.

<b><i>Planning Activity Standards: Categories 2, 4, and 7</i></b>
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Planning awards are designed to support the development of formal planning documents, vulnerability assessments, and the development of data analysis efforts including supplementary monitoring<sup>d</sup> in the following areas. If management plans have already been established, funds may be used for planning and design related to implementation, such as feasibility studies and desktop assessments. Highlight co-stewardship opportunities and treaty rights protection efforts if they are elements of planned work. *Note: the development, movement, or relocation of critical infrastructure are not allowed activities in these Categories.*<sup>e</sup>

Category 2 maximum per award: \$250,000

Category 4 maximum per award: \$150,000

Category 7 maximum per award: \$300,000

Category 2, Adaptation Planning awards are designed to support Tribal governments in the development of adaptation plans, vulnerability assessments, and data analysis efforts including supplementary monitoring to address climate change impacts to Treaty and Trust resources. Funding must not be used for existing routine monitoring programs or research projects. Outreach to community members including elders and youth throughout the planning process may help incorporate cultural values and capture key insights to better integrate Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledges (ITEK) to more effectively plan assessment strategies and prioritize options.

Category 4, Ocean and Coastal Management Planning awards are limited to coastal or Great Lakes coastal Tribes and Tribal organizations. Category 4 proposals may extend to Tribal participation in Regional Ocean Partnerships and other cooperative marine resource planning, restoration planning, ecosystem and/or vulnerability assessments, emergency management, marine spatial planning, coastal adaptation and/or resilience analysis, resource inventories, identify monitoring protocols and critical indicator species, implement a unique pilot study or project that would advance Tribal resilience and adaptation, ocean and coastal management knowledge, and/or infrastructure planning related to ocean and coastal challenges.<sup>f</sup> Proposals in Category 4 do not need to address climate resilience. Funding should build Tribal capacity and can be used to assist with a Tribe's efforts to restore and provide resilience of coastal resources. Awards will not duplicate elements of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. If management and

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<sup>d</sup> “Supplemental monitoring” refers to monitoring which is not included in baseline programmatic monitoring and/or resource inventory.

<sup>e</sup> “Critical infrastructure” is considered to be the assets that are essential for the functioning of a society and economy.

<sup>f</sup> “Ocean and coastal” as used is defined under 16 U.S.C. 1453.

implementation plans have already been established, funds may be used for planning and design related to implementation, such as feasibility studies and desktop assessments.

Category 7, Relocation, Managed Retreat, and Protect-in-Place (RMP) Planning awards are designed to support Tribes facing questions and decisions regarding managed retreat, expansion, protect-in-place, and relocation options due to threats from intensifying coastal or riverine erosion, flooding, permafrost degradation, sea level rise, and similar impacts. Examples of planning activities can include design of expansion, protect-in-place, or relocation activities; analysis of options; development of Tribal community mitigation efforts; and design of emergency drills and exercises. Examples of risk assessments can include those for coastal and/or riverine erosion, flooding and storm surge, permafrost vulnerability, structural engineering, etc. Examples of data development and monitoring include obtaining information on erosion, sediment transport, ground temperature, bathymetric mapping and orthoimagery, tidal determination, shoreline infrastructure (e.g., photos), flood elevation/extent, as well as geotechnical and geophysical investigations. If management plans have already been established, funds may be used for planning and design related to implementation, such as feasibility studies and desktop assessments.

The following information must be addressed within planning proposals:

*Executive Summary (0-10 points):*

1. Provide a brief executive summary.

*Project Design and Implementation Feasibility (0-50 points):*

1. Geographic location to be covered by the plan or assessment and background information describing challenges the Tribe(s) is facing from climate change specific to the geographic area. Include maps when appropriate. *Note: maps may be an approximation in the case that resource location is considered sensitive information* (10/50 points).
2. Provide a brief overview of existing information and data gaps (10/50 points).
3. Planning strategy that includes objectives, milestones, deliverables (e.g., plan or vulnerability assessment), expected outcome(s) and measurements of success (10/50 points). Describe how the proposed work would advance the Tribe to the next step in planning or preparedness and allow for incorporation of resilience considerations into Tribal adaptation and resilience (for Category 2), ocean and coastal (for Category 4), or RMP (Category 7) program management.
  - Describe how the plan, assessment, or study will aid the Tribe in the development of informed solutions and build Tribal community support.
4. Describe the proposed work and how it would advance the Tribe in the next step in planning for management options or alternatives. (10/50 points).
5. Explain how science (including ITEK if the applicant chooses to incorporate it) will be incorporated into the strategic planning effort and how this effort will enable Tribal program managers to prioritize, make progress on Tribal goals and objectives, and incorporate resilience into more detailed program level management plans (10/50 points). If ITEK will be incorporated into work, explain:
  - The use of ITEK and how it will inform decision-making in the project planning process.

Also, briefly explain the general methods to be used (e.g., literature review, semi-directed interviews, consultation with cultural experts, etc.). A brief description of potential methods can be found here: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/tek/learning.htm>.

- Discuss the extent of disclosure of specific ITEK information: any information shared should be of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) to ensure ethical research sharing in the details of the proposal. For information on FPIC and protections, see: <https://climatetkw.wordpress.com/>.

*Tribal Capacity Building (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how the proposed work builds Tribal capacity to address preparedness and increased ability to develop adaptation plans of the Tribes to be served. Include, if applicable:
  - Training to be attended
  - Technical, leadership, and community planning skills gained by Tribal staff
  - How the proposal builds capacity to address future adaptation management planning, perform data analysis, or implement plans.
  - Development of partnerships with institutions (e.g., academic), local communities, other land holders, or stakeholders that are non-tribal cooperators and/or partners.
  - Methods used to share capacity and skills acquired with the broader Tribal community.

*Note: Skills gained by contractors or consultants do not contribute to Tribal capacity building.*

*Indigenous Language and Traditional Governance (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how Indigenous language will be utilized throughout the project and how Tribal traditional governance structures/decision making will inform project implementation.

*Ecosystem Restoration, Sacred Site Access/Protection, and/or Treaty Rights Access/Protection Potential (Note: this criterion is optional and will be reviewed for prioritization. Points will not be additional to or scored against general activity standard points, but rather, will be a criterion scored separately. (0-15 points, if the applicant chooses to participate.)*

Background: **This additional criterion is optional** and may be used if the submitted planning project applies to the Ecosystem Restoration (ER)<sup>g</sup>, Sacred Sites Access/Protection, or Treaty Rights Access/Protection prioritization. If the applicant chooses to participate, as funding allows, the highest scored projects will be funded in each of the planning Categories 2, 4 and 7. *Note: each of the following components must be applicable to the purpose of the funding Category that the proposal is submitted to, whether Category 2, 4, or 7.* Proposals that meet this criterion should elaborate on how they address the following guiding priorities:

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<sup>g</sup> Project planning funded through prioritization of this criterion will be related to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's (BIL) ER Program efforts. Learn more about the BIL ER Program on the "Dear Tribal Leader Letter BIL" fact sheet under the "Tribal Consultation on Department of the Interior Implementation of Ecosystem Restoration Programs" section (pp. 10-11 of the pdf: [https://www.bia.gov/sites/bia.gov/files/assets/as-ia/raca/pdf/DTLL\\_Bipartisan-Infrastructure-Law-Consultation\\_Signed\\_FINAL\\_508.pdf](https://www.bia.gov/sites/bia.gov/files/assets/as-ia/raca/pdf/DTLL_Bipartisan-Infrastructure-Law-Consultation_Signed_FINAL_508.pdf)). The overall project purpose must meet the BIL ER Purpose: "...to improve the functioning, resilience, and ecological adaptability of ecosystems. Program investments will be planned and implemented collaboratively across the DOI and with communities when appropriate, while improving opportunities and equitable access to healthy ecosystems" ...

1. Build climate adaptation and resilience for ecosystems and communities (5/15 points). Expand upon how restoration planning activities will maintain or improve the ability of an ecosystem to be resilient or adapt to current and future climate change.
  - a. Explain how proposed work will provide critical ecosystem services and equitably supports the sustainable, ITEK, or cultural uses which are important to the surrounding ecological communit(ies).
2. Restore or improve connectivity (5/15 points). Explain how restoration planning activities will maintain or improve the condition of Trust high quality, critical, or otherwise prioritized “cores” of ecosystems, habitats, sacred spaces, or areas of functioning natural processes and climate-robust connectivity between the cores.
  - a. Please identify any cores and connections classified at highest risk to transformation, invasion, reduced functioning, altered disturbance regimes, or other climate- or human-induced hazards.
3. Build and leverage partnerships for restoration at scale (5/15 points). Planning activities that achieve greater restoration impact by leveraging other restoration projects and programs or by building partnerships for collaborative conservation with State, local, Tribal and/or territorial partners.
  - a. Highlight any co-stewardship opportunities with other Tribal and/or non-tribal partners, in a manner consistent with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) memorandum to recognize ITEK (November 15, 2021).

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Identify funds requested for the work in the budget table (10/20 points).
2. Include a budget narrative. Make sure to link any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal. Personnel rate of pay should be identified, along with number of hours expected to perform project work. Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative (10/20 points).

*Supplemental Points (0-20 points):*

1. For Category 2, the applicant was previously a Category 6, Capacity Building awardee in one of the 2016-21 award cycles and has not yet received a Category 2 Award (5/20 points).
2. Broad benefits (5/20 points). If multiple Tribes, Tribal programs, or communities will be served or benefited, identify them. Proposals that serve multiple Tribes, multiple Tribal programs, or multiple communities within a Tribe result in the broadest range of benefits.

*Note: To be eligible for “broad benefits” supplemental points, letters of support or resolutions are required from Tribes that will be involved or benefit. Examples include:*

- High level adaptation plans, strategic adaptation frameworks for a plan, dataset development for use in decision-making, or cooperative planning efforts covering multiple Tribal programs, Tribal government functions, or multiple Tribes.
- Broad scope vulnerability assessment(s) that serves multiple Tribes (e.g., vulnerability

- assessment by a Tribal consortium, ecosystem wide vulnerability assessment for natural, ocean, and/or coastal resource(s) that can be used by multiple Tribes for planning efforts, or is the foundation of a program-wide training package for Tribal program managers).
3. Proposal is from a Tribe who has not received a larger award (i.e., Category 1, 2, 4, or 7) since 2014 from the BIA Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience (5/20 points)
  4. Risk Prioritization (0-5 points). If the Tribe was identified on a priority list of at-risk communities in a national, regional, or state-wide document, describe: this document's risk ranking, where the Tribe is listed within the ranking, and provide hyperlink to the document.

### ***Travel Activity Standards: Categories 3 and 5***

Travel awards support direct travel costs for Tribal leadership or staff participation in, coordination of, and/or to provide access to training and technical workshops. *Note: Salary costs, international travel, and consultant travel will not be funded.*

Maximum per award: \$15,000

Category 3, Travel Support for Adaptation awards are designed to support the maintaining or building of adaptation knowledge and skills for resilience against impacts of climate change, to participate in cooperative resilience and adaptation efforts including existing and relevant Fish and Wildlife Service resilience training, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, DOI Climate Adaptation Science Centers and other Regional Science Centers (e.g., USGS Water Science Centers, Regional Integrated Science Assessments, USDA Climate Hubs), and other adaptation management forums.

Category 5, Travel Support for Ocean and Coastal Management awards are designed to support travel costs for interagency ocean and coastal spatial planning, including the Great Lakes. Awards will not duplicate elements of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. This funding will provide travel support to attend organizational meetings, working sessions, or official meetings in support of collaborative planning efforts, including meetings of: Regional Ocean Partnerships (ROP), technical workshops or trainings, targeted pilot studies or projects.

The following information must be addressed within travel proposals:

*Identify the Participant or Tribe that will Participate in the Event (0-10 points):*

1. If applicable, describe any previous attendance or leadership role the participant has had in past meetings (such as the Regional Ocean Partnership (ROP)), or if the Tribal participant serves in a communication and issue coordination role on behalf of other Tribes that cannot attend the meetings.

*Proposed Courses and Cooperative Participation (0-30 points):*

1. Describe the specific workshops, technical sessions, work group and/or cooperative entity meetings (if the travel is not part of an ROP). If for an ROP meeting, identify the schedule to be attended (15/30 points).

- If the exact course is not yet known or scheduled, list a similar training, or attach a related course outline that will match the objectives (whether Category 3 or 5, respectively) and be sure to add to the course title “EXAMPLE”.
2. Identify if the event is part of a series or development plan to build Tribal adaptation (for Category 3) or ocean and coastal (Category 5) capacity and expertise (15/30 points).

*Summary of Training Benefits (0-25 points):*

1. Explain how the travel funding supports Tribal or Tribal organization leadership ability to build or maintain adaptation and resilience (for Category 3), and/or ocean and coastal (for Category 5) capacity and expertise (5/25 points).
2. Describe the participant's role in the Tribal adaptation planning process. Examples: “The participant is a member of the Tribe's adaptation planning team.” or “The participant is an elected Tribal leader” (5/25 points).
3. Describe how the participant will share and use the knowledge gained with other Tribal staff, Tribal programs, Tribal community, or with other Tribes to develop a strategic adaptation plan (for Category 3) or improve ocean and coastal management (for Category 5) (5/20 points).
4. Identify whether or not the Tribe has Treaty rights for the planning area (5/20 points).
5. Discuss whether the travel supports co-management opportunities or treaty rights protection (5/20 points).

*Tribe’s Commitment to Developing a Strategic Plan (0-15 points):*

1. Tribes and Tribal organizations must have a statement that signifies their commitment to either 1) being in the process of developing, or 2) will soon develop a strategic plan. Include information on whether the adaptation (Category 3) or ocean and coastal management (Category 5) plan is part of a larger regional or sub-regional planning effort.

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

1. Identify funds requested for the work in the budget table, ensuring that the budget is reasonable and free of disallowed costs (10/20 points).
2. Include a budget narrative (10/20 points). Please elaborate each corresponding line item in the budget table in detail. Make sure to link any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal.
  - Travel costs should use Federal per diem rates for travel location lodging and meal costs, include registration fees, and estimates of transportation travel costs.

<b><i>Capacity Building Activity Standards: Category 6</i></b>
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Maximum per award: \$65,000

Category 6, Capacity building awards are designed to support Tribes with limited technical or staffing capacity to hire part time staff or consulting to develop a Category 2 proposal for subsequent award cycles. Capacity building awards support Tribes in performing risk scoping activities with the community to address climate change impacts to Tribal Treaty and Trust

resources and economies. These efforts highlight risks and alternative options for Tribes to begin to plan, thus building greater capacity for climate resilience. Proposals under this Category will fund staff to develop a general scoping needs assessment (or similar process). Proposals in this Category highlight how the Tribe will: coordinate efforts to identify general resilience concerns regarding climate change, prioritize strategic planning and vulnerability assessments, provide staff travel support for training and coordinating with regional resilience efforts, and to gather data to support related proposal writing for a Category 2 proposal as the next step to resilience. Permissible activities include attending resilience and/or adaptation training and consulting with resilience experts (such as more experienced Tribes or through regional resilience networks).

*Note: this Category is **not** available to Tribes that have received funding in FY 11-21 from the BIA Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience other than travel or youth funding. Proposals in this Category disqualify a Tribe from applying for other Categories, except travel, youth, or international ITEK virtual exchange Categories, to compliment capacity building through training or participation in regional coordinating bodies. Only Federally recognized Tribes are eligible for funds from this Category to directly build Tribal capacity, **not** Tribal organizations.*

The following information must be addressed within the proposal:

*Project Design and Implementation Feasibility (0-80 points):*

1. Describe the Tribe's recognition of current climate change risks and threats to Tribal resources and values (economic, social, cultural, natural resources or other) (30/80 points).
2. Provide a one- to two – year work plan that identifies priority funding needs and next steps toward building resilience, and the percent of FTE (full time equivalent) staff to be funded (50/80 points). This should provide an idea of the extent to which a project will result in appropriate scoping efforts.

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Identify funds requested for the work in the budget table (10/20 points).
2. Include a budget narrative. Make sure to link any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the "Personnel Plan" within the proposal. Personnel rate of pay should be identified, along with number of hours expected to perform project work. Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative (10/20 points).

### ***Internships and Youth Engagement Activity Standards: Categories 8 and 9***

The BIA Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience helps to foster the next generation of Tribal climate leaders. Categories of funding are available for two types of youth engagement to support Tribal climate adaptation, ocean and coastal management, or relocation, managed retreat, or protect-in-place (RMP) activities. *Note: interdependent proposals are not recommended. Internships and Youth Engagement activities should not be contingent upon any other proposed Category of funding being awarded. For example, if a Tribe is not awarded a Category 2*

*proposal, proposed intern duties or youth engagement activities should still have relevant work and mentoring.*

Maximum per award: \$50,000

Category 8, Internships awards are designed to support college, graduate, or professional school students or recent graduates (within one year of graduation at the start of the internship) employment opportunities working with Tribal programs, or Tribal organizations to support integration of climate adaptation planning, ocean and coastal management, or RMP planning into programs for the benefit of Tribes.

Category 9, Youth Engagement awards are designed to support the integration of climate resilience, ocean and coastal management, or RMP challenges into new or existing youth programs. Awards support Tribes or Tribal organizations with activities for primary or secondary school-age youth and their engagement in science, technology, engineering and/or ITEK education as they relate to and address management challenges.

The following information must be addressed within internship and youth engagement proposals:

*Provide a general description including (0-35 points):*

1. How a funded intern(s) or youth will contribute to achieving the Tribal program mission as related to climate change, ocean and coastal management, or RMP goals (15/35 points).
  - Or, if applicable, describe how the intern should be adding elements to the Tribal programs' mission and support research into related issues facing the Tribe(s) or Tribal organization(s).
  - Detail the total percent of the project that is related to the planning tasks (whether climate, ocean and coastal, or RMP planning). Include details such as: objectives, assessment of needs, and applicability of work tasks for Tribal program(s).
2. General overview of climate, ocean and coastal, or RMP internship and/or youth engagement curriculum (10/30 points). Include the host's past experience, program size, and subject matter experience with this curriculum.
  - Describe the extent to which the proposal provides a cost-effective means of encouraging Tribal youth to consider climate challenges for Tribes and Tribal programs, and ultimately careers in fields of management influenced by climate change impacts or ocean and coastal management.
3. If for Category 8, describe the intern(s) role in the project. If for Category 9, describe whether or not the youth will play a role in the broader Tribal project planning (10/30 points).
  - For Category 8, identify the number of intern(s) and if available, who they are.
  - For Category 9, identify of the number of youth and target ages.

*Describe intern work and development plan or youth learning plan including (0-35 points):*

1. For Category 8, proposed intern objectives, milestones, deliverables, expected outcomes, measurements of success, one- to two-year timeline and work plan (10/35 points).

**Or for Category 9**, provide guidance on the proposed integration of goals and objectives, as well as the capacity of the mentor(s), including climate change, ocean and coastal, or RMP skills and technical ability.

- Please include non-subject matter guidance and skill-building.
  - Extent to which students and participants will be provided a safe learning environment.
  - Discuss whether other youth mentors or leaders are used in program delivery, and if so, highlighting whether the youth mentors will be paid or unpaid. Include how the youth mentor and/or leader work tasks lead to acquisition of climate or ocean and coastal management skills within STEM fields and/or ITEK (for example, vulnerability assessments, planning, data collection, data analysis, youth engagement, leadership, etc.).
2. Identification of mentor and/or youth leader day-to-day supervision to expand experience, range or quality of actual work assignments, as well as supplemental partner mentors and/or youth leaders. Include mentor subject matter experience, capacity, climate change skills, technical ability and/or other relative factors, etc. (10/35 points).
  3. Potential opportunities for the intern(s) and/or youth (i.e. if intern builds sufficient skills by a designated time: presentations, training, liaison, or other functions should be inserted in the intern work plan; **or** if the youth expresses their learning experience) (5/35 points).
  4. Note workplace skill building program and elements, supplemental guidance for young professionals/researchers, and exposure to Tribal values, etc. (5/35 points).
  5. Commitment to ensuring a safe work and/or learning environment (5/35 points). Include evidence of measures that will provide a safe environment.

*Indigenous Language and Traditional Governance (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how Indigenous language will be utilized throughout the project and how Tribal traditional governance structures and/or decision making will inform project implementation. For Tribal organizations, detail how languages and governance structures will be considered.

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Identify funds requested for the work in the budget table (10/20 points).
2. Include a budget narrative. (10/20 points). Make sure to link any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal. Personnel rate of pay should be identified, along with number of hours expected to perform project work. Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative.

<b><i>Implementation Activity Standards: Categories 10 and 11</i></b>
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Implementation awards are designed to support application of on-the-ground, shovel-ready activities which already have a completed plan in place and are identified in official Tribal planning document(s). Examples of completed plan types may include: Tribal climate adaptation plans, natural resources plans that contain climate change resilience considerations and integration (e.g., agricultural resource management plans, forest management plans, wildfire management plans, integrated resource management plans, comprehensive economic

development strategy plans), drought contingency plans, hazard mitigation plans, ecological restoration plans, greenhouse gas mitigation plans, community relocation plans, managed retreat plans, protect-in-place plans, etc. Implementation proposals can emphasize co-stewardship opportunities, sacred site access and/or protection, as well as treaty rights protection efforts. For Category 11 Community Relocation funding, exceptions are possible for Tribes already considered very high risk to imminently threatened (<10 years) and who have basic data such as historical erosion rates, flood data, permafrost assessment, or structural engineering assessments. Include plans as either 1) a hyperlink to the plan(s) on the Tribe's website, or 2) an appendix in the application.

Implementation awards are considered construction contracts per P.L.93-638, subpart J<sup>h</sup>. If selected, the Tribe will abide by the provisions of 25 CFR Part 900 Subpart J in all phases of the proposed implementation project. Subpart J addresses the process by which an Indian tribe or tribal organization may contract for construction activities or portions thereof.  
[https://www.bia.gov/sites/bia.gov/files/assets/bia/ots/ots/pdf/Public\\_Law93-638.pdf](https://www.bia.gov/sites/bia.gov/files/assets/bia/ots/ots/pdf/Public_Law93-638.pdf) Page 21/139

*Note 1:* As a reminder, only Tribes are eligible for implementation categories of funding. Other entities may participate as sub-grantees.

*Note 2:* Based on the Preliminary Injunction Order per Case No. 2:21-CV-01074 (Louisiana vs. Biden)<sup>i</sup>, **no** “social cost of greenhouse gas” activities shall be funded through TCR, nor any reliance upon or implementation of Section 5 in Executive Order 13990.

*Note 3:* If the proposed work is generally funded by another specific Federal funding source, please provide a rationale as to why the applicant is not applying to that existing Federal program and/or has not been able to access funding from that source. TCR cannot fund duplicative work. *E.g. renewable energy, solid mineral, and conventional energy feasibility studies are funded through BIA Division of Energy and Minerals Development (DEMD) ; renewable energy implementation projects are funded through the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Indian Energy (OIE) ; home energy efficiency and weatherization is funded through the DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) ; and the development of source reduction practices are funded through Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Pollution Prevention (P2) grant program ; thus these types of projects will **not** be funded through BIA TCR.*

The Community Resilience in Alaskan Communities Catalog of Federal Programs (July 2018) may be a useful resource to identify additional implementation resources:

<https://www.denali.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Catalog-of-Federal-Programs-for-Alaskan-Communities-27Jul2018-Final.pdf>. To the extent that other federal programs require matching funds from Tribes, and the activity is identified in an existing plan, the TCR awards can be used as a federal match as they are under P.L. 93-638.

*Note 3:* Applicants to implementation Categories of funding are especially encouraged to consider applying for Category 8 Internship awards to complement implementation activities and build capacity. However, Category 8 applications should not be contingent upon any other Category applications, including implementation Categories.

Category 10 maximum per award: \$2,000,000

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<sup>h</sup> “Subpart J may be found here <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-25/chapter-V/part-900/subpart-J>

<sup>i</sup> See the Order here: <http://blogs.edf.org/climate411/files/2022/02/Order-re-SCC.pdf>.

Category 11 maximum per award: \$3,000,000

Category 10, Awards to Implement Climate Adaptation Strategies support climate resilient applications, operations, and actions identified in existing final plans. Climate adaptation strategies fulfill planning designs that support climate adaptation and climate resilience around natural resources, cultural resources, regenerative agriculture and food sovereignty, conservation practices, Tribal infrastructure, and other priority areas identified in existing plans. (Reminder, Implementation funding will not be used for the projects identified in Note 2 above already funded by existing federal programs.)

Category 11, Awards to Implement Relocation, Managed Retreat, and Protect-in-Place (RMP) Actions support Tribes dealing with urgent and acute climate change impacts requiring the movement or protection of infrastructure. Existing, imminent, and compounding impacts such as sea level rise, coastal and/or riverine erosion and flooding, sea ice loss and storm surge, permafrost degradation, etc. and even non-coastal impacts such as extended drought, unpredictable extreme flooding or wildfire, etc. may require a Tribal community to consider RMP options. Examples include, but are not limited to, implementation of master planning, engineering designs, construction operations involved in new infrastructure and/or reinforcement of current critical infrastructure, shoreline stabilization, activities that may involve excavation, backfill, etc., or other activities associated with heavy equipment.

The following information must be addressed within implementation proposals:

*Executive Summary (0-5 points):*

1. Provide a brief executive summary.

*Implementation Project Design (0-25 points):*

1. Provide a detailed description of the proposed implementation actions to be taken, including the project background, risk level, purpose, design, and outcomes (5/25 points).
  - Geographic location of proposed actions and risks faced. Include information on the Tribal community's risk level to climate change impacts: has the community or specific infrastructure already been identified as "imminently threatened" in any previous report(s) or assessment(s)? Identify these report(s) and/or assessment(s), including a hyperlink to the published document(s).
  - Identify the planning document(s) used to determine implementation action(s) and provide hyperlink or attach it as an appendix. Describe any previous actions taken, including site preparation and infrastructure designs.
2. Include information on the Tribal community's risk level to climate change impacts (5/25 points). For example, consider whether the community or specific infrastructure has already been identified as "imminently threatened" in any previous report(s) or assessment(s).
  - Identify these report(s) and/or assessment(s), including a hyperlink to the published document(s).
3. Describe the proposed activities and how they would contribute to Tribal resilience, preparedness and ability to response to climate change impacts (5/25 points).

4. Explain the benefits of proposed actions, as well as the benefits of using the chosen design and taking the proposed approach (5/30 points).
5. Identify how science (including ITEK if the applicant chooses to incorporate it) will be incorporated, to identify best practices for managing resources and adapting to changes in the environment (5/25 points). If ITEK are proposed to be incorporated into the work, please explain:
  - The use of ITEK and how it will inform decision-making. Briefly explain the general methods to be used (e.g., literature review, semi-directed interviews, etc.). A description of potential methods can be found: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/tek/learning.htm>.
  - Discuss the standards of practice that will be used during the project to protect sensitive ITEK. Any information shared should be done so using free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) to ensure ethical research sharing in the details of the proposal. For information on FPIC and protections, see <https://climatetkw.wordpress.com/>.

*Feasibility (0-15 points):*

1. Provide the estimated project schedule showing the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates (5/15 points). A table format to show the timeline of tasks is preferred.
2. Describe the Tribe and/or community's preparedness level and project readiness to ensure that the chosen activity/activities are actionable (5/15 points).
3. Identify any permitting processes needed for proposed actions. This includes any required NEPA processes, internal Tribal policies and guidelines, as well as any procedures on co-managed or adjacent land areas (5/15 points).
  - For Category 11 applicants that are pursuing relocation or managed retreat, please explain how locations for land options are already identified to expedite processes and for viability, consolidation, and/or acquisition.

*Co-stewardship, Sacred Sites, and Treaty Rights (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how the project will support one or more activities of co-stewardship, sacred sites access and/or protection as well as treaty rights access and/or protection.

*Indigenous Language and Traditional Governance (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how Indigenous language will be utilized throughout the project and how Tribal traditional governance structures and/or decision making will inform project implementation.

*Identified Personnel and Expertise (0-15 points):*

1. Identify any Tribal expertise, knowledge holders, and personnel who will be directly involved with or contributing to the project (5/15 points).
2. Identify any contractual expertise being used for the project, including a brief background and their experience working with Tribes. Also identify the key individuals who will be corresponding with Tribal managers and/or leadership, with descriptions as to their role(s) in the proposed project work (5/15 points).

3. Describe any standards of practice, Tribal protocols or guidelines, and/or any other frameworks that will help guide the engagement between Tribal expertise and contractor expertise (5/15 points).

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section C. **Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Identify funds requested for the work in the budget table (10/20 points).
2. Include a budget narrative. Make sure to link any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal. Personnel rate of pay should be identified, along with number of hours expected to perform project work. Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative (10/20 points).
3. Append any contractor budget estimates, if they exist.

***Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place Coordinator Activity Standards: Category 12***

Maximum per award: \$150,000 per year for three years

Category 12, Relocation, Managed Retreat, and Protect-in-Place (RMP) Coordinator awards are designed to support Tribes that have limited technical staffing capacity to hire a full time Coordinator. The Coordinator would support and organize community involvement, coordinate with federal and non-federal partners, and develop community relocation, managed retreat, or protect-in-place (RMP) plans or implementation actions. Tribes at middle to high risk may apply for **non-competitive** funding for a coordinator for up to three years, as well as cohort training for that coordinator. Communities which are at the highest risk tiers (outlined in the activity standards below) will be considered for funding from this Category. Coordinators will have the opportunity to prioritize strategic planning, vulnerability assessments, and data gathering, as well as travel to trainings and coordination meetings with regional resilience efforts, as needed. Permissible activities include attending BIA RMP Coordinator cohort training and consulting with resilience experts, such as other Tribes or regional resilience networks. Please note, while this is a non-competitive category, requests may exceed funding, so points allow prioritization of communities with the highest risk for the first cohort. Eligible applicants will be considered in future years for the second or third cohort, pending funding availability. Category 12 applicants are encouraged to consider also applying for Category 8 funding for an intern to provide additional capacity. *Note: only Federally recognized Tribes are eligible for funding from this Category to directly build Tribal capacity, **not** Tribal organizations.*

The following information must be addressed within the proposal:

*Risk Level and Current State (0-35 points):*

1. Describe the current state of risk that the Tribe is facing, providing reference to report(s) and/or assessment(s) which identify the Tribal community as either imminently threatened or one of highest risk tier. Include a hyperlink to the document(s). Describe the overall current state of the Tribe’s decision-making with respect to RMP decisions. Include:

- Whether the community is already engaged in related efforts and if so, describe how (15/35 points). Include the level of experience and expertise (or lack thereof) of the current Tribal staff to address these specific resilience considerations. State whether the Tribe already has an existing and completed RMP plan.
- If applicable, identify any completed or in-progress planning document(s) used to consider and determine community actions, as well as alternatives (10/35 points).
- State whether the Tribe has an existing Coordinator in place for these efforts, and when the current funding period ends, if so. Tribes with existing Coordinators may apply, though Coordinator funding cannot be used until previous funding is expended. Describe the level of community readiness with respect to community buy-in and the level of leadership engagement (10/35 points).

*Indigenous Language and Traditional Governance (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how Indigenous language will be utilized by the Coordinator and how Tribal traditional governance structures and/or decision making will inform project implementation.

*Work Plan and Proposed Project (0-35 points):*

1. Provide an overview of the hiring/recruitment plan, including minimum qualifications, and ensure recruitment activity costs (if any) are reflected in the budget (10/35 points).
2. Provide a work plan for the Coordinator that identifies needs and next steps toward RMP actions, the percent of FTE (full time equivalent) personnel to be funded, the salary, benefits, and potential training and travel (e.g., for coordination) (10/35 points). Include technology and communication needs (e.g., laptop, cell phone) and ensure these are also reflected in the budget.
  - Ensure that any of those identified activities or items in the work plan are also clearly identified in the budget, and that both the work plan and the budget reflect one another exactly.
3. Describe how the proposed actions in the work plan relate to the Tribe’s broader planning efforts, including the project purpose, design, and approach (10/35 points).
4. State the Tribe’s commitment to the resilience cohort trainings put on by BIA and partners, if selected (5/35 points). Note: There is no cost to Tribes for first year RMP Coordinator cohort training.

*Budget (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Identify funds requested for the work in the budget table (10/20 points).
2. Include a budget narrative. Make sure to link any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Work Plan” within the proposal. Personnel rate of pay should be identified, along with number of hours expected to perform project work. Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative (10/20 points).

<b><i>International ITEK Virtual Exchange Activity Standards: Category 13</i></b>
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Maximum per award: \$10,000

Category 13, International ITEK Virtual Exchange awards are designed to support virtual projects which connect Indigenous peoples and Tribal Nations to one another, particularly through the sharing of ITEK, Indigenous languages, traditional governance, and traditional decision making approaches and methods. Across the world, Indigenous peoples share much in common. By providing a chance to interact personally and discover commonalities with respect to climate change impacts and resilience efforts, meaningful connections and productive relationships can be formed. This Category offers Indigenous representatives the means to virtually connect, share information, and potentially cooperate on projects. Areas of project scope may include education, outreach, media documentation, etc. *Note: international travel will not be funded.*

The following information must be addressed within the proposal:

*Tribe's History with International Indigenous Networks (0-35 points):*

1. Describe the Tribe's history with any international Indigenous network(s), identifying any the Tribe has engaged with in the past, as well as previous experience engaging in similar international groups (15/35 points).
  - If the Tribe has no previous history in any international Indigenous network(s), identify which networks the Tribe is interested in participating in, and why.
  - Consider whether the network(s) focus on co-management opportunities, sacred site access and/or protection, as well as Treaty rights access and/or protections around Indigenous land and/or resources.
2. Describe how the cultural aspects discussed in these exchanges *have benefitted* or *will benefit* and build upon the Tribe's own knowledge and skill-building (10/35 points).
3. Describe how the cultural aspects *discussed* or *to be discussed* in these virtual exchanges are affected by climate change, and as applicable, include examples of methods for sharing ITEK (10/35 points).

*Indigenous Language and Traditional Governance (0-10 points):*

1. Describe how Indigenous language will be utilized throughout the project and how Tribal traditional governance structures and/or decision making will inform project implementation.

*Project Description (0-35 points):*

1. Identify the proposed international Indigenous network(s) or communities that the Tribe proposes to be engaged in, and why those network(s) (15/35 points). Provide a brief background of the Indigenous network's mission, and how the Tribe's priorities align with this mission.
  - For example, are these Indigenous peoples experiencing similar climate change effects, and if so, what are these? What specific interests, resources, or lifeways does your Tribe wish to exchange with this group?
2. Include a summary of the benefits of sharing ITEK methodology, cultural preservation techniques, promising approaches, etc. in this network(s) setting (10/35 points).
3. List the overarching project goals, to include milestones and objectives (10/35 points).

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Identify funds requested for the work in the budget table (10/20 points).
2. Include a budget narrative. (10/20 points). Make sure to link any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal. Personnel rate of pay should be identified, along with number of hours expected to perform project work. Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative.

## **E. Transfer of Funds and Reporting Requirements for Awardees**

BIA’s obligation under this solicitation is contingent on receipt of congressionally appropriated funds and will be transferred from TCR to the Tribe’s region for project officer support via the Office of Self-Governance or Self-Determination program.

### Annual Reporting Requirements for All Categories:

During the life of an awarded project, deliverables will include an annual project and/or technical progress update, as well as a final written report addressing components outlined in the scope of work. Both annual written progress and financial status reports are to be submitted to the BIA Project Officer and Self-Determination/ Self-Governance Officials. Reporting dates will be established by the regional AOTR/SAOTRs and written into the agreement once the award has been made but will coincide with the federal fiscal year calendar. The annual report consists of two parts: 1) a narrative report: a summary of events, accomplishments, problems and results during the year, and 2) a financial report SF-425: a listing of expenditures during each quarter, how the funds were spent, an inventory of equipment purchases > \$5,000, and the amount remaining. Annual reports are due 30 days after the end of a project’s quarter.

### Final Reporting Requirements for All Categories:

**Delivery Schedules:** The Tribal awardees will deliver all products and data generated under the project to BIA within 90 days after project completion as required by the signed agreement, and may withhold sensitive information (e.g., proprietary Tribal data or ITEK) which may be redacted at the Tribal government’s discretion because information in the possession of the BIA or submitted to the BIA throughout the process, including final work product, constitute government records and may be subject to the disclosure to third parties under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, and the Department of the Interior’s FOIA regulations at 43 CFR part 2, unless a FOIA exemption or exception applies or other provisions of law protect the information.

Digital format requirements for Reports and Data: Reports can be provided in Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF formats. Spreadsheet data can be provided in Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access, or Adobe PDF formats. All vector figures should be converted to PDF format. Raster images can be provided in PDF, JPEG, TIFF, or any of the Windows metafile formats. The Tribe’s proposal should account for the requirement that all final products be

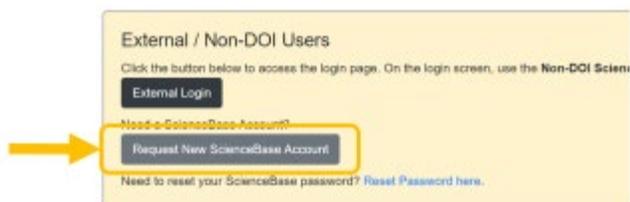
delivered in the format described above, one digital copy.

## APPENDIX

### **USGS ECO Opps Registration:**

You must setup a new ScienceBase Account at <https://sciencebase.usgs.gov/eco-opps> in order to access the ECO Opps platform. Setting up a new ScienceBase Account instructions are provided below:

Go to [X] and click “Request New ScienceBase Account”



Fill out the form and click “Send New User Request Information”. Once the form has been successfully submitted, you will see a message confirming this submission. If you get a message that the “user email already exists”, please follow the directions for Existing Users (below) and/or reset your password.

After submitting the “Request New Account” form, look for an email from [sciencebase@usgs.gov](mailto:sciencebase@usgs.gov). Click to confirm the registration. Once you click the confirmation link in the email, an administrator will need to approve your account. **This process can take up to 24 hours, so you will need to submit at least 24 hours before you plan to begin the application process.**



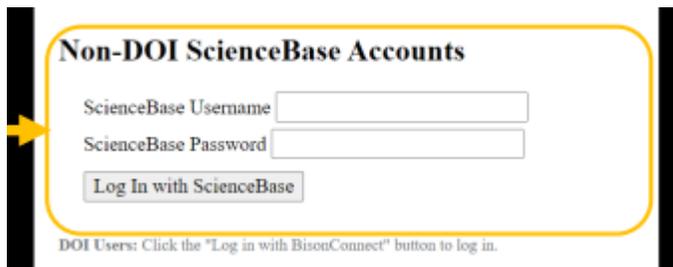
Once your account is approved, you will receive a second email from [sciencebase@usgs.gov](mailto:sciencebase@usgs.gov) with your username, a temporary password, and a link to change your password.



**External Users with Existing Accounts:** if you are an external user (not a DOI or Bureau employee) and have an existing account in ECO Opps, go to [X] and click “External Login”.



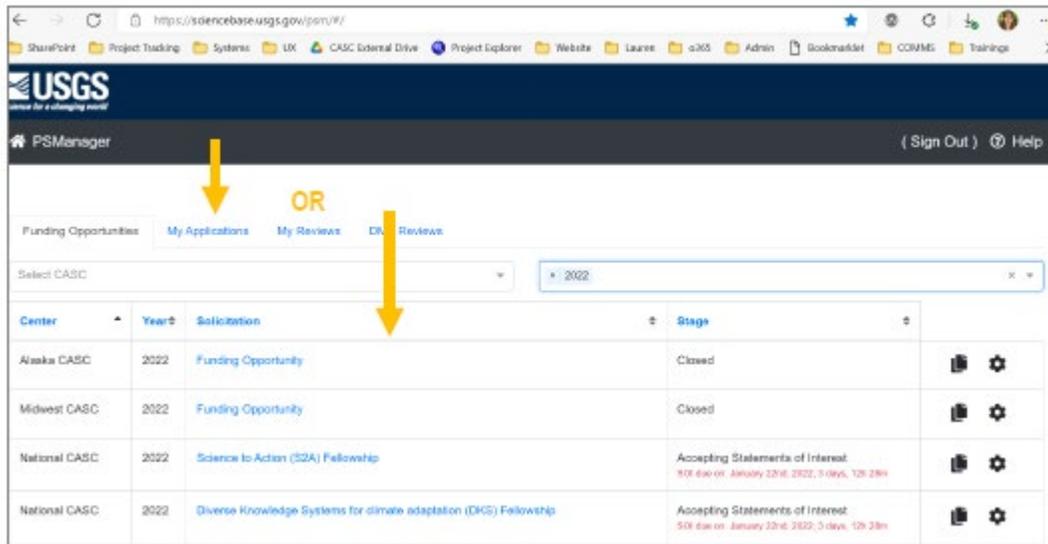
On the Login Screen, use the “Non-DOI ScienceBase Accounts” section to log in to ECO Opps. The Username = the email address associated with your account, while the Password is one that you have created. You should have previously replaced the given temporary password with your unique password.



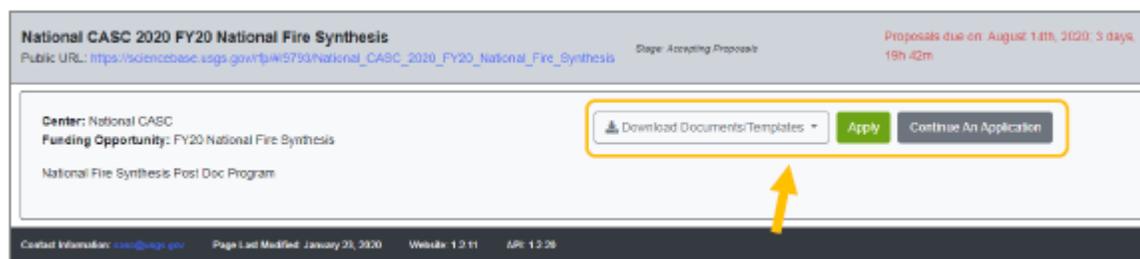
Please see the instructions on the next page for information on how to apply.

## Application Process:

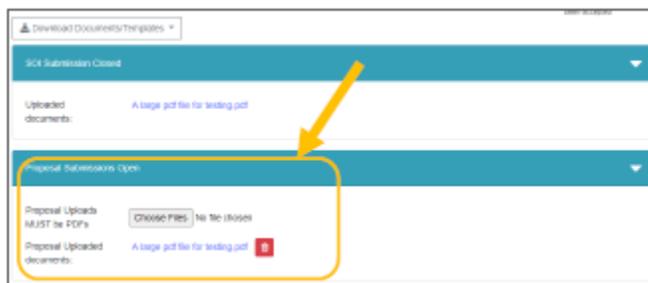
Once you are able to login, you will be able to see the live solicitation events and can search by event name to find the BIA TCR Annual Awards Program solicitation.



After clicking on the correct event name, you may download the full solicitation and/or other materials.



Your full proposal documents may be uploaded to your application on the application page.



On the submission page, follow the on-screen instructions to complete the application and upload the necessary documents. The “Submit Application” button will not be available until all required fields are completed. Make sure to click “Submit Application” button once you are done.

After submitting, you may return, edit your application, and re-submit until the submission due date has passed. You may also save and return if you should need to exit out before you submit. Ensure to only include one application per Category – do not try to submit multiple Category submissions in to one application. There is a separate event for each Category.

Center	Year	Solicitation
Alaska CASC	2022	Funding Opportunity

OR