



Improving TIBC

May 20, 2026



Agenda

- ❖ **Budget Process**
- ❖ **History of TIBC**
- ❖ **Current TIBC (Structure)**
- ❖ **Comments Received Electronically**

	CY 2025	CY 2026							
FY 2026	Tribes may re-submit the ranking tool to their regional budget staff and OBPM through the end of January. OBPM recalculates the rankings and if it changes the regional and national rankings, OBPM presents the updated rankings at the Spring TIBC meeting			ASIA Senior Leaders and Bureau Directors discuss budget priorities and strategy.	ASIA deliberates budget decisions with Senior leaders and approves the proposed budget.	DOI conducts budget briefings with bureaus.	IA appeals passback, settles final request numbers with DOI. OMB submission is prepared according to guidance.	DOI reviews, edits, finalizes OMB submission	DOI submits budget request to OMB. OMB conducts budget and program briefings.
	OBPM works on drafting budget formulation guidance, templates, and schedules for central office. OBPM incorporates departmental and OMB guidance once it is released.			CO programs work on identifying and prioritizing budget needs, while considering tribal rankings, regional requirements, and ASIA and	OBPM drafts the budget proposal package and submits the ASIA approved budget request to DOI.	DOI marks up the budget and passes it back to the bureaus (DOI Passback).			
	Regions work on identifying and prioritizing budget needs and provide a consolidated and prioritized budget submission to OBPM.								
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>↑</p> <p>Tribes Meet w/OMB</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>→</p> <p>Tribes Meet w/Congressional Reps</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>→</p> <p>Continue Meetings w/Congressional Reps</p> </div> </div>						OBPM works with programs to update Overview/Program Narratives - thru Nov.		
FY 2027	CY 2026	CY 2027							
	OMB continues budget briefings and deliberations.	OMB marks-ups and releases passback. IA appeals and settles final request numbers with OMB.	OBPM & POB upload full package to MAX for final	President's Budget Request (Greenbook) is submitted to Congress.	Congr. Briefings to staff & Congr. Hearings; Effect and Capability Statements		Congressional Mark-Up of Budget		
		POB and OBPM review, markup, and finalize narrative and program change justifications.							
FY 2028	CY 2027	CY 2028							
	Enacted budget received, or Continuing Resolutions if no enacted budget received								
	Execute FY 2026 budget								
	<p>↑ Tribes can provide input into the Budget and the Greenbook</p> <p>↻ Tribes should meet with White House and Congressional Staff</p>								

Outline of the Budget Process

- **The Budget Formulation process begins 2 years prior to the year it is executed**
- **It all begins with Tribes and Schools**



Fall 2025

- ❖ *IA Kicks off the budget in the Fall, 2 years prior to actual execution*
- ❖ *OBPM Meets with Regions and Tribal Interior Budget Council (TIBC)*
- ❖ *OBPM/Regions Send out the Tribal Preferred Program Ranking Tool (every other year)*
- ❖ *OBPM Solicits Region and Agency Priorities*

Outline of the Budget Process

Spring 2026

- ❖ *Office of Management & Budget (OMB) provides guidance to Departments/Bureaus across government*
- ❖ *OBPM Collects Tribal and School Priorities via the Tribal Preferred Program Ranking Tool (if by-year, IA uses the prior year if no updates) and consolidates*
- ❖ *TIBC Meets/agrees on Tribal priorities and provides Tribal Budget submission*
- ❖ *OBPM Collects Region/Agency Priorities*
- ❖ *Assistant Secretary/Senior Leaders discuss budget priorities and strategy*
- ❖ *Central Office Programs begin identifying and prioritizing budget needs while considering Tribal and regional/agency requirements*
- ❖ *Deliberations begin and a budget proposal is drafted*

**** Here is where the proposal is embargoed***



Outline of the Budget Process

Summer 2026

- ❖ *Budget Proposal is sent to the Department of Interior (DOI) in June*
- ❖ *DOI conducts budget briefings with bureaus*
- ❖ *Budget proposal is marked up by DOI and passes it back to bureaus*
- ❖ *IA appeals passback and settles final request with DOI*
- ❖ *OMB submission is prepared according to guidance*
- ❖ *Department's Budget Office reviews and finalizes OMB submission*



Outline of the Budget Process

Fall 2026/2027

- ❖ *OBPM works with programs to update overview and program narratives for the Budget Justification (Greenbook)*
- ❖ *The Department submits budget request to OMB in September*
- ❖ *OMB conducts budget and program briefings with bureaus*
- ❖ *OMB marks-up and releases passback*
- ❖ *IA appeals passback and settles final request numbers with OMB*
 - *Tribes sometimes meet with OMB during this time*
- ❖ *OBPM and Department finalize narrative and program change justifications*
- ❖ *OBPM works with programs to obtain results data and estimated performance*



Outline of the Budget Process



Fall 2027

- ❖ *The Budget Justification, also referred to as the President’s Budget Request, or simply the “Greenbook”, is published in February (key date is 1st Monday)*
 - *During this time, Tribes can meet with Congressional Representatives*

Spring 2027

- ❖ *Congressional briefings to staff and Congressional Hearings are then in progress*

Summer/Fall 2027

- ❖ *Congress deliberates and provides Mark-up of Budget*

Outline of the Budget Process

October 1, 2027 (FY2028 BUDGET)

- ❖ *Congress comes to an agreement, or not. If there is an agreement, an enacted (full-year) budget is signed into law. If there is no agreement, a continuing resolution is normally passed to provide more time to deliberate. A continuing resolution (CR) represents a percentage of funding from the prior year enacted budget.*
- ❖ *IF A LONG-TERM CR, IA will request what is called an exception apportionment for Tribal base funding. This is where Fiscal Year Tribes and Calendar Tribes receives a full year budget from the prior year appropriation.*



Outline of the Budget Process

Fall 2028

- ❖ *We can have one or more continuing resolutions*
- ❖ *A settled or enacted budget can come in one of several forms:*
 - ❖ *Omnibus: All 12 regular appropriations into one spending bill*
 - ❖ *Minibus: A bill with more than one, but less than 12 regular appropriation bills rolled into one*
 - ❖ *Stand-alone: A bill with a single regular appropriations bill*
 - ❖ *Year long CR: Funds come in with same balances as the prior year*



History

- Established in 1999, formerly known as Tribal Budget Advisory Council (TBAC) by Indian Affairs
- Prior to the establishment of TBAC, IA would hold annual budget hearings that informed Tribes of the proposed budget after decisions had already been made
- In 2010, the name changed to Tribal Interior Budget Council (TIBC)



Purpose of TIBC

- Provides a forum and process for Tribes and federal officials to work together in developing annual budget requests for Indian programs in the Department of Interior.
- Provides cooperative participation in IA budget formulation, justification, and information.
- Serves as an education forum to better inform tribes of the budget, process, and advise on status of Indian country initiatives throughout the Federal Government



Current Structure of TIBC

- Structure is outlined in the TIBC Protocol
 - Protocol was approved by body, signed by the Tribal and Federal Co-Chairs
 - Reviewed every 6 years
 - Outlines the purpose, membership, length of service, responsibilities, meeting structure, quorum and voting, sub-committees, conflict of interest, meeting records, communications, dissemination of TIBC documents responsibilities and timelines, Protocol duration, and other information.



Current Structure of TIBC

- TIBC Body consists of:
 - TIBC Leads (Co-Chairs)
 - 3 Tribal Co-Chairs (representing direct service Tribes, PL 638 contracted Tribes, and Self Governance Compact Tribes)
 - Federal Co-Chair – Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs (or his designee)
 - 24 elected/appointed Tribal Representatives (2 from each region and 1 alternate) – advocate on behalf of Tribes in their regions



Current Structure of TIBC

- TIBC Body consists of (continued):
 - Deputy Assistant Secretary-Management and his direct reports [Office of Budget Performance and Management; Office of Facilities, Property, and Safety Mgmt.; Chief Informational Officer, and Chief Financial Officer]
 - Deputy Assistant Secretary-Policy and Economic Development: [Office of Economic Development and Office of Self Governance]



Current Structure of TIBC

- TIBC Body consists of (continued):
 - Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs and his direct reports [Deputy Bureau Directors: Indian Services, Trust Services, Office of Justice Services, and Field Operations – and his direct reports: 12 Regional Directors]
 - Director, Bureau of Indian Education and his direct reports [Deputy Bureau Director, Associate Deputy Directors: Performance and Accountability; Operated Schools, Navajo Schools, Tribally Controlled Schools]



Current Structure of TIBC



- TIBC Body consists of (continued):
 - Director, Bureau of Trust Funds Administration and her direct reports [Principal Deputy Bureau Director and Budget Officer]
- White House Representatives:
 - Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
 - Office of Management and Budget
 - White House Council on Native American Affairs (or equivalent)

Current Structure of TIBC



- **Subcommittees:** The subcommittees are formed by TIBC and tasked with researching or working through particular issues related to the budgets for the given area
- There are Tribal and Federal leads to each subcommittee
- There are seven subcommittees: Budget; Data Management; Education; Public Safety; Transportation; Land, Water & Natural Resources; and Economic Development

Current Structure of TIBC

- How Often does TIBC convene:
 - Three times per year
 - Spring (Washington, DC)
 - Summer (Tribal location)
 - Winter (Washington, DC)
 - Five days
 - Three days – subcommittee meetings
 - Two days – main session



Comments Received Electronically



- Received 19 written comments and 20 responses to the questionnaire
- Commonalities:
 - Strongly oppose elimination of TIBC
 - Instead calls for strengthening, modernizing, and expanding its role
 - Insufficient Timeliness of Budget Materials & Data
 - Capacity Barriers for Small or Under-sourced Tribes

Comments Received Electronically



- Needed Improvements
 - Provide written responses to TIBC recommendations
 - Justify decisions when tribal recommendations are not adopted
 - Create transparent processes for tracking budget changes

Comments Received Electronically



- Strengthen Tribal Capacity & Workforce support
 - Technical assistance for smaller/remote Tribes
 - Virtual participation options
- Improve Meeting Structure & Time Management
 - More time for budget discussion vs. presentations
 - Shorter, focused agendas
 - Limit speakers during sessions to maintain discipline
 - Better advance distribution of materials

Comments Received Electronically



- Expand Interagency Coordination
 - Strengthen coordination among DOI, DOJ, DOT, DOE, USDA, etc.
 - Align cross agency investments with Tribal priorities
- Institutionalize Data Driven Budgeting
 - Develop and adopt standardized need-based funding methodologies
 - Use accurate cost data across education, public safety, infrastructure, etc.

Conclusion

- As mentioned, when we first began this session, we are asking for your ideas and suggested strategies to help us to improve TIBC – making it more efficient, outcome driven, more inclusive and effective with the objective of identifying tribal priorities and securing tribal funding.





THANK
YOU!