



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
FY 2027 Tribal Budget Formulation - Preferred Program  
(Ranking) Tool



**Welcome to the Indian Affairs FY 2027 Tribal Budget Formulation - Preferred Program Ranking Tool.**

**What This Tool Is:** The Indian Affairs (IA) Budget Formulation Process includes a biennial forum for American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes to provide recommendations for Tribal initiatives, policies, and budget. This ranking tool allows the IA's Office of Budget and Performance Management (OBPM) and the Tribal/Interior Budget Council (TIBC) to contact Tribes for their input into the Budget Formulation Process. This ranking tool also allows the Bureau of Indian Education to receive recommendations for education programs and education construction priorities for input into the BIE Budget Formulation Process. This tool asks Tribes to outline their top funding preferences within eight different strategic funding categories:

- 1) Strengthening Tribal Communities;
- 2) Trust Natural Resources Management;
- 3) Trust Land & Water Rights Management;
- 4) Public Safety and Justice;
- 5) Economic Development;
- 6) Education;
- 7) Construction;
- 8) Resource Management Construction.

Within each strategic category, budget programs that support the overall accomplishment of that strategy are outlined. Each program also includes a brief description of the activities/projects/work supported by the funding provided for that budget program and a drop-down menu that allows each line to be ranked according to Tribal preference. While not exhaustive, the narrative program descriptions highlight key funding activities for Tribal stakeholders to identify in evaluating their budget priorities.

**NOTE:** The Self-Governance; Consolidated Tribal Government Program (CTGP); and Human Services Tribal Design lines that appear on the Comp Table were created by Tribal transfers of funds as opposed to appropriated program funds. Since these are not actual programs that receive appropriated dollars, they are not included for ranking purposes. Tribes with funding on any of these lines should rank the program where the funds originated, if they consider it to be a priority. Budget funding activities that do not appear separately on the comp table, i.e., school security, behavioral and mental health services, are included in updated Ranking Tool descriptions pending requested Comp Table changes in the Budget Formulation Process.

**Use of the Information:** The information gathered from the Tribes using this tool will be consolidated to determine which budget lines in each category rank highest. Information will be weighted and totaled by category. This will be done first by Tribe, then consolidated to the regional level, and then on a national scale. The National and Regional category rankings will then be presented at the TIBC Spring Budget Meeting and will be used by the full TIBC body to assist them in deciding the 2027 Budget Formulation Strategy for Indian Affairs. The Bureau of Indian Education receives information gathered from this tool from Tribal school, college, and university leaders.

**Helpful Links:** The following links will take you to documents that assist in understanding where this tool fits into the Formulation Process and provide more information on individual budget lines.

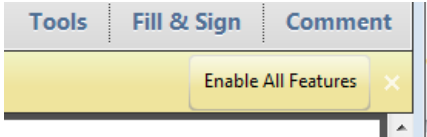
**The 2027 IA Budget Formulation Guidance:**  
<https://www.bia.gov/as-ia/obpm/budget-formulation-guides>

**The Indian Affairs Greenbook** page which provides congressional budget justifications and performance data for Indian Affairs' programs: <https://www.bia.gov/as-ia/obpm/greenbook>

# USER GUIDE

## **How to use this Tool:**

The Tool comprises of drop downs, standard input fields, and large text areas. If you are having trouble gaining access to complete the tool in Adobe, look for the "Enable All Features" button in your upper right corner. If you have one, click the "Enable All Features" button to access the tool.



## **Ranking Budget Lines Within Categories**

You will see a drop-down box next to each budget program within each category. Use this drop-down box to select where you would rank the budget program according to your Tribe's preference, listing your Top Ranked Preference as No. 1.

## **You are not required to rank all lines within each category.**

You may rank just 1 line, all lines within the category, or any portion of the lines that you wish. [Schools, for example, should only complete the Education Category Ranking.](#)

Example: Under "Strengthening Tribal Communities" you could select Aid to Tribal Gov't as your #1 ranking and leave it at that, if that is all that applies to your Tribe; or you could select Aid to Tribal Gov't #1, Social Services #2, Housing #3, and Road Maintenance as #4 and stop there; or you can rank all nine items if you find them all critical to your Tribe.

## **You can complete rankings within all 8 categories, but you are not required to complete rankings within all 8.**

You should complete rankings for whichever categories you think apply to your Tribe.

## **Ranking Categories**

Next to each category, you will see a drop-down box. Use this drop-down box to select where you would rank the category according to your Tribe's preference, listing your Top Ranked Category Preference as No. 1. You are not required to rank all eight categories. You may rank just 1 category. You should rank whichever categories you think apply to your Tribe. [Schools should only rank the Education Category.](#)

## **Justifications, Data, and Success Stories**

You are not required to but are welcome to provide justifications and/or success stories, including data to support these, in the space provided at the end of the Tool. For Justifications, you can relay why any specific Program you ranked is essential to your Tribe, what increased funding would result in, and what the funding impact at the Tribal/community level would be. For success stories, please submit any supporting photos or graphs to the same email as you send your Ranking Tool submission. In the Subject Line, please include: Success Story Supplement – [Tribe Name] – [Program] so we will know what story it belongs to. In addition, we welcome any data your Tribe can provide, including but not limited to demographic, financial, statistical, workforce, etc., information that supports the justifications and success stories of the Tribes. This data will ultimately support and improve budget requests and outline program accomplishments in Native American communities. Please send supporting data to the same email you sent your Ranking Tool submission. In the Subject Line, please include: Data Supplement – [Tribe Name] – [Program] so we will know what justification and/or success story it belongs with.

# USER GUIDE

## **Submitting the Tool:**

If you are collaborating with a team of users, please submit only one completed Tool with all the required information from your Tribe. The final Tool should be submitted by the person designated as your Point of Contact with your respective Regional Budget Office. [See the end of this document for a listing of BIA Regional Budget Offices and BIE POCs.]

## **Email**

Email a copy of your completed Ranking Tool to **TribalFormulations.TIBC.Budget@bia.gov** with the subject "FY 2027 IA Preferred Program Ranking" - [Insert Your Tribe and Regional Office or BIE-ADD or EPA].

- For Tribes submitting from **Alaska**, please include **ak.tibc.budget@bia.gov** on the *To:* line of your email.
- For Tribes in **Midwest Region**, please include: **midwestbudgetformulation@bia.gov** on the *To:* line of your email.

## **Printing & Mailing**

Print a copy of your completed Ranking Tool and mail or fax it to your Regional Budget Office. [See the end of this document for a listing of BIA Regional Budget Offices.]

**Please remember NOT to include any Privacy & Personally Identifiable Information (PII) in your responses and success stories. Some examples of PII include information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, such as their name, social security number, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, biometric records, etc.**

## **Department of the Interior Privacy Notice:**

The Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is requesting this information for the FY 2027 and FY 2028, BIA Tribal Formulation process. The information you have provided on this Tool will only be used for the FY 2027 and FY 2028 BIA Tribal Budget Formulation process. Please do not include any Personally Identifiable Information (PII) in your responses. This information is voluntary and providing your contact information is necessary to receive future notifications. The BIA will not share this information with third parties for promotional purposes.

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## Tribal Point of Contact

Which Region are you from?

What is the name of your Tribe or Tribal Organization?

First Name

Last Name

Title

Work Email

Work Phone

Work Fax

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# Strengthening Tribal Communities

<i><b>Program</b></i>	<i><b>Priority (1-9)</b></i>
<p><b>Aid to Tribal Government (TPA)</b> Provides assistance to federally recognized Tribes to achieve and maintain stable government program and operational services, helping Tribes ensure adherence and compliance with their own governing documents. The program assists Tribal government systems by providing baseline funding for Tribal government programs and operational services to this effect.</p>	
<p><b>New Tribes (TPA)</b> Helps foster strong and stable Tribal governments by providing a stable base of funding. This line item provides TPA base funding for a newly recognized Tribe to establish and carry out the day-to-day responsibilities of a Tribal government. Once a Tribe has been acknowledged as a federally recognized Tribe, its designated funding remains in the New Tribes program line for three fiscal years at which time the funding is then base transferred for the Tribe to the Aid to Tribal Government (ATG) line item.</p>	
<p><b>Small Tribes Supplement (TPA)</b> In 1993, the Small Tribes Initiative was created to support P.L. 93-638 by fostering a stable Tribal governments' ability to exercise their authority as sovereign nations. The purpose of the initiative was to provide small Tribes with a minimum TPA base funding by which they could run viable Tribal governments.</p>	
<p><b>Social Services (TPA)</b> Under the umbrella of Social Services, Tribes operate a multitude of programs, including Financial Assistance and Social Services, Child Protection Services and Child Welfare (CPS/CW), Adult Protection (APS), supervised IIM Services, and Family and Domestic Violence. These funds provide support for front line responders handling the child and domestic violence in Indian Country. This program also supports the TAP Kiosk project - a fingerprint-based check of national crime databases and abuse/neglect registry.</p>	
<p><b>Welfare Assistance (TPA)</b> This program provides welfare assistance to American Indians and Alaska Natives who have no access to Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), who do not meet eligibility criteria for TANF, or have exceeded the lifetime limit for TANF services. The Welfare Assistance programs are designed to be secondary. Welfare Assistance has traditionally played a large role in the ability of Tribes to take care of their citizens and supports Tribal self-determination and self-governance.</p>	
<p><b>Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA)</b> This program prevents the separation of Indian families and also provides assistance for the reunification of families. Tribal ICWA directors have become central contact points for Tribes and Indian families in seeking assistance for temporary and permanent placement of Indian children. The work of ICWA staff has resulted in improved coordination and compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act, thereby recognizing the Tribal authority over Indian children in need of permanent placement.</p>	
<p><b>Housing Program (TPA)</b> Serves as a safety net program, targeting those neediest individual Indians residing within approved service areas who cannot meet income requirements set forth by Tribes administering Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) housing programs. This program improves the quality of life of Indians qualified to participate in the program by eliminating substandard housing and homelessness on or near federally recognized reservation communities.</p>	
<p><b>Road Maintenance (TPA)</b> Provides the primary source of funds for maintenance of all IA roads and bridges constructed with Highway Trust Fund (HTF) resources under the Federal Highways Administration Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) program in Indian Country. Roads Maintenance program funding supports roads that serve BIE schools in Indian Country. Annually, BIE reports nearly 14 million student transportation miles on roads serving BIE schools in Indian Country. Roads in poor condition impact BIE school attendance and the delivery of educational services including food programs, student safety, and operating extra-curricular transportation programs.</p>	
<p><b>Job Placement &amp; Training (TPA)</b> Advances economic growth in approximately 300 Tribal communities through the development of a skilled workforce and the strengthening of Tribal administrations. It is a program that is especially valuable and necessary to those with little or no work history or erratic work history. The P.L. 102-477 program is also operated from within this budget line item.</p>	

# Trust - Natural Resources Management

<i>Program</i>	<i>Priority (1-14)</i>
<p><b>Natural Resources (TPA)</b> Supports the strategy of improving the management, protection, and development of Indian land and natural resource assets by allowing Tribes to manage their own natural resources and compliance with various regulations and requirements related to natural resource assets. Funding also supports the Navajo Region to support Bennet Freeze.</p>	
<p><b>Irrigation Operations &amp; Maintenance</b> Ensures prudent management of water resources on Indian lands by providing funding to operate, maintain, and rehabilitate irrigation infrastructures in accordance with accepted industry standards. Payments required by established legal directives comprise much of the requested budget for this program.</p>	
<p><b>Rights Protection Implementation</b> Supports the implementation of Federal court orders that result from decisions in complex, off-reservation treaty rights litigation. These cases were based on large land cession treaties in which the signatory Tribes conveyed land to the United States and reserved the right to hunt, fish, and gather within the territory ceded. These rights apply beyond particular reservation boundaries and are shared among multiple Tribes.</p>	
<p><b>Tribal Management/Development Program</b> Individual Tribes have jurisdiction over hunting and fishing activities on trust lands and supports Tribal self-determination by allowing Tribes to determine how best to ensure the proper management of Tribal fish and game programs on Indian reservations.</p>	
<p><b>Endangered Species</b> This program coordinates IA and Tribal responsibilities associated with compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), P.L. 93-205, and the related protection and preservation of trust lands and resources. It supports the improvement of conditions for the environment, cultural resources, and endangered species on Indian lands by coordinating activities required to comply with the ESA.</p>	
<p><b>Tribal Climate Resilience</b> Supports Tribal governments and trusts land managers in understanding communities' potential vulnerabilities to landscape-level change. The program funds proposals for Tribal planning and preparedness, foundational information needs (vulnerability assessments and monitoring), training, pilot projects, cooperative management coordination, identification of science needs, and youth development. Provides the tools for Tribes and managers to identify and address risks through adaptation management.</p>	
<p><b>Agriculture Program (TPA)</b> Under the authority of the American Indian Agricultural Resource Management Act, P.L. 103-177, and the Indian Self Determination Act, P.L. 93-638, this program promotes conservation and beneficial use on the 47 million acres of trust lands dedicated to agricultural and livestock production through both direct administration and support of Tribal agriculture programs under contract or compact.</p>	
<p><b>Invasive Species</b> On-the-ground management and treatment is the primary emphasis of this program. The program uses several implementation strategies to accomplish its goals, such as coordinating with all land users and government entities through the development of integrated pest management strategies. The funding within this line is primarily for noxious weed eradication, but a small portion of funding is appropriated for wildlife and water invasives as well.</p>	
<p><b>Forestry Program (TPA)</b> Undertakes forest land management activities on Indian forest land to develop, maintain, and enhance the forest resources in accordance with the principles of sustained yield and with the standards and objectives set forth in forest management plans.</p>	
<p><b>Forestry Projects</b> Focuses on the development of forest management plans, reforestation, thinning and other management of forest lands for the protection and enhancement of Indian forestland and natural resource assets.</p>	
<p><b>Water Resources Program (TPA)</b> The primary goal of this program is to assist the improvement of water resource management capabilities by providing the support to Tribes and regional offices for administration and management.</p>	

<p><b>Water Management, Planning &amp; PreDevelopment</b></p> <p>Used primarily by Tribes for priority projects that aid in the protection and management of their water resources. These projects typically include, but are not limited to, ground and surface water studies regarding quantity and quality of water, water needs assessments, stream gauging, and the preparation of comprehensive water management plans.</p>	
<p><b>Wildlife &amp; Parks Program (TPA)</b></p> <p>Supports the agency or Tribal level by providing funding to Tribes through a local priority setting process determined by the Tribe and BIA to fund Tribal activities in the areas of fisheries, wildlife, outdoor recreation, and public use management, conservation enforcement, and related fields.</p>	
<p><b>Fish, Wildlife &amp; Parks Projects</b></p> <p>This funding is provided to fish-producing Tribes in support of Fish Hatchery Operations and associated hatching, rearing, and stocking programs. Tribal fish hatchery facilities are provided with base funding for aquaculture and enable cost share/in-kind cooperative work with neighboring Tribes, Federal agencies, and state fishery managers. Funding also supplements Fish Hatchery Maintenance for 85 Indian hatcheries. Maintenance is mandatory to extend the life of the hatcheries and rearing facilities so Tribes can continue their fishery programs.</p>	

## Trust - Land/Water Rights Management

<i>Program</i>	<i>Priority (1-18)</i>
<p><b>Trust Services (TPA)</b></p> <p>Supports the overall management responsibility for the operation of trust functions at the agency and Tribal levels with regard to real estate services, probate, environmental cultural resource compliance, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) and Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (ANILCA) programs, Rights Protection, and implementing the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act. This sub activity also funds the lockbox coordinators who distribute trust funds to individual Indian beneficiaries.</p>	
<p><b>Navajo-Hopi Settlement Program</b></p> <p>This supports the Indian Affairs mission by improving the management of land and natural resource assets and providing for the protection and preservation of Indian trust lands and Indian trust resources of the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe by implementing the provisions of the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-531).</p>	
<p><b>Probate (TPA)</b></p> <p>Indian Affairs is responsible for the preparation and submission of the record of probate documentation to Federal administrative adjudicators for determination of the legal heirs or devisees, and for the subsequent distribution of the trust estate. The program is working to improve the accuracy and efficiency of estate distributions by improving probate case preparation and distribution activities.</p>	
<p><b>Land Title &amp; Records Offices</b></p> <p>Improves ownership information and protects and preserves trust lands and trust resources through efficient and accurate processing of land titles. The program will provide for the normal day-to-day operations and maintenance costs of the eight program offices. The timely processing of all trust land title conveyance and encumbrance transactions supports upholding the trust responsibility.</p>	
<p><b>Land Acquisition</b></p> <p>Strengthens Tribal land acquisition efforts on and off current reservations to support sustainable land practices. The land acquisition efforts foster and restore, at regional authority levels, the development of conservation practices, law enforcement, applicable regulatory policies, and foster sustainable Tribal communities and economic development.</p>	
<p><b>Integrated Resource Info Program</b></p> <p>The Office of Trust Services (OTS) Geospatial Support Function (formerly the National Geospatial Resource Center) provides Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software, training, and system support for sound management of natural resources on Indian lands such as irrigation flood plain analysis, forestry harvesting, wild land fire analysis, oil and gas management, and other economic analysis.</p>	
<p><b>Real Estate Services (RES) Program (TPA)</b></p> <p>Improves ownership information and administering and managing all land held in trust for the benefit of individual Indians and Tribes. Activities include land ownership record-keeping, which is often complicated by highly fractionated ownership, both surface and subsurface. Staff provide real property management, counseling and land use planning services to individual Indian allottees, Tribes and Alaska Natives. The program also provides resources for the Ft. Berthold Oil &amp; Gas office located in Great Plains Region.</p>	



<p><b>Real Estate Services (RES) Projects</b></p> <p>The program supports the management of Tribal and individually owned trust and restricted surface lands (surface and subsurface) through the determination of the legal boundaries to ensure that property and resources are accounted for, managed and protected. This program improves ownership information by securing Bureau of Land Management (BLM) cadastral surveys of trust lands (both Tribal and allotted).</p>	
<p><b>Land Records Improvement (LRI) - Central</b></p> <p>Supports the Department's trust reform efforts by improving trust asset management by funding the Trust Asset and Accounting Management System (TAAMS). The TAAMS System provides mission critical land ownership information to process trust land resource management conveyances and encumbrances, and to allocate trust income to the owners of trust and restricted lands and resources throughout all of Indian Country.</p>	
<p><b>Land Records Improvement (LRI) - Regional</b></p> <p>Enhances the Bureau's ability to protect and preserve trust land and resources and enables the landowners to maximize income by providing adequate services to Alaska Natives who are the beneficial recipients of the trust resources. The Alaska Region processes documents associated with the Alaska Native Allotment Act of 1906, which allows for eligible Alaska Natives to receive an allotment of land.</p>	
<p><b>Environmental Quality (EQ) Program (TPA)</b></p> <p>Provides direction, oversight, planning and policy guidance to ensure consistent regulatory compliance, thorough documentation of environmental conditions and impacts, and reliable protection of the environment and cultural resources in Indian country. The program also maintains the inventory and assesses the condition of Indian Affairs owned museum property; and administers permits under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA).</p>	
<p><b>Environmental Quality (EQ) Projects</b></p> <p>The primary responsibility for achieving and maintaining Indian Affairs' federally mandated environmental compliance with all provisions of federal environmental and cultural resources statutes, regulations and policies, as well as with applicable state, local, and Tribal requirements.</p>	
<p><b>Alaskan Native Programs (TPA)</b></p> <p>Upholds the directives prescribed in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), which provides for the coordination and consultation with Alaska's Federal land managing agencies, the State of Alaska, Alaska Tribal governments, and the Federal Subsistence Program's Regional Advisory Councils, on the subsistence preference for rural Alaskans, including Alaska Natives living in rural areas, and the administration of programs affecting Native allotments under the 1906 Native Allotment Act.</p>	
<p><b>Rights Protection (TPA)</b></p> <p>Indian Affairs staff consults and cooperates with Tribes involved in negotiating or litigating their water rights; establishing or protecting Tribal treaty hunting, fishing and gathering rights; addressing issues concerning trespass on Tribal trust lands; protecting Tribal cultural resources; natural resource damage claims; and addressing other unresolved land management issues.</p>	
<p><b>Water Rights Negotiations/Litigation</b></p> <p>The funds in this program are used by the United States and Tribes for activities associated with establishing or defending Indian water rights through negotiations and/or litigation. Program funding is critical to supporting and advancing on-going Indian water rights litigation cases and the Federal and Tribal negotiations being conducted to secure adjudicated water rights in lieu of litigation.</p>	
<p><b>Litigation Support/Attny Fees</b></p> <p>Supports Indian natural resource trust assets management. There are a variety of ecological threats to natural resources that are the subject of treaty reserved rights, both on and off reservation. Tribes have and will continue to use litigation support funds to address those threats, including habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, and land use change.</p>	
<p><b>Other Indian Rights Protection</b></p> <p>Supports water rights negotiation/litigation staff at the regional level. Program staff provides consultation and technical support.</p>	
<p><b>Indian Land Consolidation</b></p> <p>Reduces land fractionation and achieves Tribal majority ownership in lands. It also supports Tribal sovereignty by enabling Tribes to make decisions about land management, use, and protection that facilitate climate resilience. The program also supports Tribal climate mitigation and adaptation efforts through land consolidation.</p>	

# Public Safety & Justice

<i>Program</i>	<i>Priority (1-10)</i>
<p><b>Criminal Investigations &amp; Police Services</b> Pays for Police Officers and Criminal Investigators and their necessary equipment. These officers are responsible for investigating crimes committed on or involving Indian Country. This program also supports the Drug Enforcement program.</p>	
<p><b>Detention/Corrections</b> Pays for detention staff and contract bed space for 93 detention programs of which 73 are Tribally operated and 20 are IA operated to provide direct services. The program also includes funding for juvenile detention education. This program coordinates with the student's home, Indian Health Service, and the Office of Tribal Justice Support to allow for the continuous education of the student in the core subjects of math and language arts during the student's absence from school.</p>	
<p><b>Inspections/Internal Affairs</b> The Professional Standards Division, which houses Inspections and Internal Affairs, provides guidance and direction to law enforcement and detention programs, conducts internal affairs investigations, inspections, and performs program evaluations in Indian Country.</p>	
<p><b>Law Enforcement Special Initiatives</b> Provides funding for initiatives involving law enforcement in high priority and high crime areas, data collection, and radio communication.</p>	
<p><b>Indian Police Academy</b> The Academy is located at the Department of Homeland Security Federal Law Enforcement Training Center at Artesia, New Mexico and provides basic police, criminal investigation, and detention training programs.</p>	
<p><b>Tribal Justice Support</b> In accordance with the Tribal Justice Support Act, court reviews are provided on a regional basis and based on the Tribal Court Program Standards (TCPS). This court review process allows BIA to determine the specific needs of the individual Tribal court in regard to training and technical assistance, provide guidance and specific hands-on training for the particular Tribal court, and identify any potential for funding Tribal court pilot programs. Funding is also included on this line to allow for the assessment of Tribal court needs for Tribes impacted by P.L. 83-280.</p>	
<p><b>Law Enforcement Program Management</b> Pays for Federal administrative management needs of the Office of Justice Services.</p>	
<p><b>Facilities Operations &amp; Maintenance</b> Operates and maintains detention centers including janitorial services, utilities cost, refuse disposal, fire protection, maintenance of vehicles, communication cost, pest control, personnel services, equipment, material and supplies, travel, and training.</p>	
<p><b>Tribal Courts (TPA)</b> Provides funding directly to Tribes to support their courts. Tribes use this funding for salaries and related administrative costs for judges, prosecutors, public defenders, court clerks, pre-trial and probation officers, juvenile officers, victim witness specialist, and other court support staff central to the operation of Tribal justice systems. This program also supports operations and maintenance (O&amp;M) for Tribal courts.</p>	
<p><b>Fire Protection (TPA)</b> Supports over 40 Tribal fire protection programs, which support Tribal staff, train volunteer firefighters, repair existing firefighting equipment, and purchase additional equipment. The program also purchases smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and emergency lights for Tribal buildings.</p>	

# Economic Development

<i>Program</i>	<i>Priority (1-7)</i>
<p><b>Economic Development (TPA)</b>            Consists of Tribal base economic development funding. This funding assists Tribes in developing programs to build business and commercial capacity for individual Tribal members, as well as opportunities to enhance reservation economies. It also facilitates technical assistance for Tribes and individual Indians on accessing Federal and non-Federal resources that support entrepreneurship, capacity-building, access to capital, and business development.</p>	
<p><b>Economic Development Projects</b>            Assists Tribes in developing programs to build business and commercial capacity for individual Tribal members, as well as opportunities to enhance reservation economies. This program enables Indian Affairs to provide expert technical assistance to Tribes for economic deployment focusing on: leveraging the range of Federal and non-Federal resources/programs to help fund all aspects of economic and business development, such as feasibility studies and business plans, infrastructure funding, business resources and guidance; working with Tribes to develop a strategic approach to economic deployment in their communities; coordinating with Federal partners on how to coordinate the delivery and accessibility of resources for Tribal economic development; and enhancing Native language revitalization.</p>	
<p><b>Energy and Minerals Program (TPA)</b>            Promotes and provides technical assistance for the development of renewable energy, conventional energy, and mineral resources. In consultation with Tribes and Indian allottees, the program assists in the exploration and development of trust lands with active and potential energy and mineral resources.</p>	
<p><b>Energy and Minerals Projects</b>            Provides energy related technical assistance and competitive project funding to Tribes. The program delivers projects to Tribes that incorporate solutions for their existing and anticipated energy, mineral and economic demands to contribute to a sustainable future.</p>	
<p><b>Energy and Minerals Central Oversight</b>            Provides for staff to meet specific legislative requirements concerning trust responsibilities, such as those stated in the Linowes Commission and IMDA. This program includes support for the Indian Energy Service Center staffed by BIA, the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST). The Service Center facilitates energy development in Indian Country by expediting leasing, permitting, and reporting for conventional and renewable energy on Indian lands.</p>	
<p><b>Guaranteed Loan - Subsidies</b>            Loan guarantees provided by this program are required by private lenders to mitigate the inherent risk associated with lending in Indian Country. The risk private lenders must contend with in this type of financing includes complex and unconventional loan securitization due to land bases held in trust, and the overwhelming proportion of start up businesses in Indian communities. Historically, the program has propelled Tribal community development by promoting the creation or expansion of businesses that provide goods and services to Tribal communities, and by advancing infrastructure development.</p>	
<p><b>Guaranteed Loan - Program Management</b>            This program, in accordance with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 USC 661), receives appropriations for the administrative costs of the credit portfolio, including those loans and guarantees made prior to FY 1992 for which funds were appropriated under the Indian Loan Guaranty and Insurance Fund. These administrative costs include salaries, travel, marketing tools, and operational costs of BIA staff supporting this program.</p>	

## EDUCATION -- Schools and TCUs should only complete this category

<i>Program</i>	<i>Priority (1-19)</i>
<p><b>BIE ISEP Formula Funds</b>            ISEP formula funds represent the primary school year funding source for school instructional and operational needs supporting thousands of K-12 students attending BIE elementary and secondary schools, which include day schools, residential schools, and dormitories. . This funding provides resources for school teachers and other education administrative, and program professionals engaged in operating a school. Funding for school salaries, benefits, incentives, and professional development are funded from ISEP Formula Funds, Additionally, instructional Information Technology and after-school or extra-curricular programs utilize appropriated ISEP funding. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE ISEP Program Adjustments</b>            The ISEP Program Adjustments funding enables BIE-funded schools to address identified needs or deficiencies at the school level and address these requirements through initiatives. This funding supports a wide range of identified unmet school requirements – these may can include initiatives or priorities such as funding behavioral and mental health services, education program specialists that support specific program initiatives and goals, Funds may target required resource need such as School Security Specialists, and School Board Training Specialists, These funds are allocated to senior school leaders for specific personnel, requirements at schools and communities they serve. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Education Program Enhancements</b>            This line provides critical resources to support revitalization of Native Languages through BIE’s Native Language Immersion Grant program. This program funding supports resources for Native Language teachers and staff, as well as curriculum supplies and audio visual equipment that support language instruction. Additionally and related to Native Language revitalization, Education Program Enhancements support the targeted recruitment and retention of hard-to-fill positions through incentives, Also, the modernization and maintenance of BIE Education systems are supported annually under Education Program Enhancements, most notably the Native American Student Information System (NASIS), and related education staffing program reporting requirements. BIE School Improvement Specialists are also funded under Education Program Enhancements, critical to school leaders as they develop, plan, and execute local improvements at the schools and communities they serve. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Tribal Education Departments</b>            Tribal Education Departments (TEDs) provide a multitude of services to promoting Tribal educational priorities. The goal of this program is to build the capacity of TEDs so they can coordinate educational services within reservations to better serve all Tribal members. The program creates opportunities to strengthen TED engagement with the multitude of other school systems operating within Tribal reservations. The program works to strengthen the management and oversight of the education programs including BIE funded schools, school operations, adult education, scholarships, and other programs funded by the Tribe and other federal agencies, under their jurisdiction. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Student Transportation</b>            Transportation funds are used for bus leases, fuel, maintenance, vehicle replacements, driver salaries, staff training, and commercial costs of transporting students in support of 183 BIE-funded day and residential schools operating in 23 states. Student transportation resources supports both school operated and commercial transportation services. Each year BIE-funded school reports nearly 14 million student transportation miles driven annually, of which over 1 million miles are driven on unimproved or non-surfaced roads, which involve additional formula funding due to the high maintenance and life-cycle impacts of school buses operating in poor roads. Student transportation funding support annual school bus driver staffing requirements which may include training, safety, and recruitment incentives. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Early Child &amp; Family Development</b>            The program addresses the achievement gap for Indian children primarily located on rural reservations by teaching the skills needed to begin school. Families and Children Education (FACE) consists of early childhood education, development of parenting skills, adult education, and family literacy. Training is provided for parents and care-givers to improve parenting skills, including the recognition of the appropriate developmental stages of their child. Funding for this program supports current FACE sights and funding for new locations where early childhood education services are not available and service expansions are necessary. Early Child and Family Development services include home visits and at-home support as well as program operations at BIE-funded schools. Forward Funded.</p>	

<p><b>BIE Tribal Grant Support Costs</b></p> <p>This program fosters self-determination by providing resources for Tribes that elect to assume operation of their schools. Tribes operating BIE funded schools under contract or grant authorization use these funds for administrative overhead necessary to operate a school, meet legal requirements, and carry out support functions that would otherwise be provided by the BIE school system. Examples of Tribal Grant Support Cost funding can include supporting Tribes with resources for human resource specialists, information technology specialists, budget or financial analysts, and education program administrative positions needed to support the operation of Tribal schools. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Facilities Operations</b></p> <p>Schools are operated and maintained in order to ensure their continued safety and usefulness for educational purposes. The program funds staffing and operational expenses for educational facilities at all 183 BIE funded day and residential schools. This funding also supports bureau-operated post-secondary institutions, Haskell Indian Nations University and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI). Common expenses of facilities operations for the operation of BIE-funded K-12 , Haskell and SIPI include staffing, electricity, heating fuels, communications, grounds maintenance, , refuse collection, custodial services, pest control, water and sewer service, fire/intrusion monitoring, and operations program administration and reporting.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Facilities Maintenance</b></p> <p>Funds requested for Facilities Maintenance are used for facilities maintenance staff, conducting t preventive, routine cyclic, and unscheduled maintenance for all school buildings, equipment, utility systems, and ground structures. This funding supports 183 BIE funded day and residential schools, and bureau-operated post-secondary institutions, Haskell Indian Nations University and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI).</p>	
<p><b>BIE Johnson-O'Malley Assistance Grants (TPA)</b></p> <p>The majority of American Indian and Alaska Native students attend public schools, JOM grants provide these students with resources that help them stay in school and increase their chances of success. Typically, these funds provide remedial instruction, counseling, and cultural programs, but may also cover small but important needs such as school supplies and items that enable recipients to participate in curricular and extra-curricular programs.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Haskell &amp; SIPI</b></p> <p>Haskell is an accredited school offering advanced, modern education using culturally sensitive curricula, innovative services, and a commitment to academic excellence. Haskell maintains a consortium program with the University of Kansas that permits students to apply credits earned at either institution toward graduation requirements. Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute is a national Indian community college that provides postsecondary education including career-technical and transfer degrees that have a high employment potential or that meet a specific need determined in consultation with Tribes and the Board of Regents. Haskell and SIPI further serve federally recognized Tribes by developing and conducting extension and outreach programs, materials and educational tools, workshops, seminars, distance learning, consultative, and research services. Funds for Haskell and SIPI support educational and operational needs of these institutions. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)</b></p> <p>These 29 TCUs provide Tribal communities with necessary resources and facilities to teach Indian students the skills they need for career success in a culturally knowledgeable context. Post-secondary education of Tribal members is also an important component in the economic development of many Tribes. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Tribal Colleges &amp; Universities Supplements (TPA)</b></p> <p>Tribes may choose to direct the TPA funds to supplement the operation of their TCUs. Six Tribes are providing Tribal colleges with the TPA funds which are used for policy development, curriculum additions, and general program operations designed to meet the specific needs. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Tribal Technical Colleges</b></p> <p>The 2 Tribal Technical Colleges, (United Tribes Technical College (UTTC) and Navajo Technical University). Tribal technical colleges provide resources and facilities to teach community members the skills they need to be successful in the workforce and overcome barriers to Indian higher education, while supporting economic development on their reservations. Forward Funded.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Scholarships &amp; Adult Education (TPA)</b></p> <p>The Scholarship component provides Tribes with resources to facilitate economic development by providing community members with advanced educational opportunities to attain needed skills to meet community objectives. The Adult Education component enables adults to obtain a GED or the basic skills needed to transition to a community college or job placement. The Education Tribal Design enables Tribes to design of education programs that meet the needs of their specific communities.</p>	

<p><b>BIE Special Higher Education Scholarships</b></p> <p>The Special Higher Education Scholarships Program (SHEP) provides supplemental financial assistance to Indian students for graduate level study. Emphasis is placed on students pursuing the professions of law, education, medicine, natural resources, engineering, business administration, and social work. The Loan for Service Program is designed to provide financial assistance through loans to eligible Native American degree candidates who seek employment with BIE, BIA, or a federally-recognized Tribe upon graduation. The program is designed to bring professionals to Native communities.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Science Post Graduate Scholarship Fund</b></p> <p>The Science Post-Graduate Scholarship Fund (SPGSF) program provides funding and awards specifically for post-secondary and post-graduate-level fellowships and training opportunities. These awards are provided in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) such as agricultural, geological, and biological and life sciences, computing, communications, networking, information technology; and biomedical programs.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Education Program Management</b></p> <p>This subactivity consists of education program management resources necessary to deliver bureau-level program services to the 183 BIE-funded K-12 schools, 29 TCUs, 2 Technical Colleges, and Haskell and SIPI. This funding supports, for example, grant management specialists, contracting officers and contracting specialists, auditors, financial and budget analysts, and facilities and safety managers engaged in allocating BIE resources via grants or direct funding and Tribal stakeholders. Education Program Management resources include funding of education specialists that collaborate with bureau and Tribally Controlled School leaders on local education allocations from appropriated BIE resources, as well as supporting statutory annual bureau-level policy and reporting requirements.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Education IT</b></p> <p>The BIE information technology (IT) requirements encompass the multiple and varied needs of students, administrators, teachers, and bureau headquarters operations. Education IT resources support the ongoing costs of distance learning and enhanced classroom technology, ongoing infrastructure investments including connectivity and bandwidth improvement in schools and associated improvements in operational capabilities at BIE-funded schools. Annual funding supports sustaining and continuing investments in Education Learning Management Systems and supporting online delivery of educational courses to students. Education IT resources support annual software subscriptions and licenses, and contracts needed to maintain IT system operations and investments, and life-cycle equipment planning, and personnel costs.</p>	

## Construction

<i>Program</i>	<i>Priority (1-15)</i>
<p><b>BIE Education Replacement School Construction</b></p> <p>The Replacement School Construction program replaces entire school campuses in poor condition that have been prioritized on a school replacement list.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Education Replacement Facility Construction</b></p> <p>This program is an essential component of the comprehensive plan to bring all 183 schools into acceptable condition. This funding source is used to replace individual facilities on school campuses when replacement of the entire school is not warranted. BIA is able to identify, by building, the status and the need for replacement.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Education Replacement / New Employee Housing</b></p> <p>This program provides funding to conduct needs assessments of employee housing at BIE locations to identify and prioritize quarters replacement projects using the Facility Condition Assessment (FCA) and Site Assessment-Capital Investment (SA-CI) programs to assess employee housing comprehensively.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Education Employee Housing Repair</b></p> <p>Indian Affairs maintains employee housing consisting of Single Family Houses, duplex, triplex, and apartment units. The majority are in poor condition with an average age of 69 years requiring frequent repairs and maintenance. These housing units are typically located in remote areas where private-sector housing is not available. Housing is provided to school employees such as principals, teachers, facility managers, security officers, and other staff as determined by the program.</p>	
<p><b>BIE Education Facilities Improvement &amp; Repair</b></p> <p>Funds requested in FY 2013 will be used to improve the safety and functionality of facilities for the program's customers. The IA will seek to maximize the use of existing educational facilities by improving or rehabilitating these facilities in lieu of new construction.</p>	

<p><b>BIE Education Tribal Colleges Facilities Improvement &amp; Repair</b>  This funding provides Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) have significant facility improvement needs. The BIE and IA conducted Tribal Consultations with Tribal leaders and other stakeholders to request input on developing a methodology for determining TCU operating and maintenance needs to inform future budget requests. The funds are equally divided and distributed among the 31 BIE-supported TCUs for use as determined by each TCU.</p>	
<p><b>PS &amp; J Facilities Replacement/New Construction</b>  Program allows for the new construction of detention or law enforcement facilities or the replacement of facilities that are in poor condition.</p>	
<p><b>PS &amp; J Employee Housing</b>  Affordable and habitable housing is a primary incentive for PS&amp;J personnel to remain in Indian country, which is often located in remote locations where available housing stock is limited. This BIA Construction program constructs employee quarters using an approved standard design that meets all BIA building codes, including health and safety standards. This approach accelerates the preliminary design review and acceptance process.</p>	
<p><b>PS &amp; J Facilities Improvement &amp; Repair</b>  Program primarily focuses on improvements and repairs or renovation of IA- owned detention and law enforcement facilities to correct critical health and safety deficiencies. Detention facilities are located in 12 states across the nation.</p>	
<p><b>Fire Safety Coordination</b>  Program provides basic support activities and technical assistance for IA’s structural fire protection program covering schools, detention centers, and all other IA funded facilities.</p>	
<p><b>Fire Protection</b>  Focuses on fire safety needs with an emphasis on educational facilities. The program ensures fire suppression responses by IA, Tribal, other Federal, and county fire departments. The program provides structural fire protection systems for IA-funded facilities. This includes upgrading or replacing non-working or outdated fire alarm and automatic sprinkler systems. The program also provides support to locations with fire trucks, structural fire training, and equipment replacement.</p>	
<p><b>Other Constr. -Telecommunications Improvement &amp; Repair</b>  Provides technical assistance, guidance, and administration on matters concerning Indian Affairs (IA) telecommunication systems and facilities.</p>	
<p><b>Other Constr. - Facilities/Quarters Improvement &amp; Repair</b>  Program strives to maximize the use of existing administrative facilities and reduce operation and maintenance repair costs by correcting infrastructure and building deficiencies.</p>	
<p><b>Other Constr. - Construction Program Management</b>  Provides for national strategic, operational, and liaison support for the facilities program operated by IA. This program also manages and oversees all maintenance programs, which are accomplished through commercial contracts, Pub. L. 93638 contracts, Pub. L. 100-297 grants, or compacts with Tribes or Tribal organizations.</p>	
<p><b>Other Constr. – Water Safety &amp; Sanitation</b>  Supports improvement and repair projects that address public health and safety compliance issues at BIA-owned drinking water and sanitation systems. Funds are used to address EPA notice of violations, contamination issues, critical risks of system failure, water quality, supply, system deficiencies, systems near end of service life, review of historic evaluations to determine potential future preventative measures, system upgrades as needed, and removal of lead plumbing from Indian Affairs facilities.</p>	

# Resources Management Construction

<i>Program</i>	<i>Priority (1-7)</i>
<p><b>Navajo Indian Irrigation Project</b>            The Navajo Indian Irrigation Project (NIIP), authorized under P.L. 87-483, authorizes 110,630 acres to be developed with irrigation. Currently, the irrigation delivery system can deliver water to 77,685 acres through eight of the 11 blocks.</p>	
<p><b>Irrigation Projects-Rehabilitation</b>            Provides funding for Indian Affairs owned and operated irrigation facilities. Many of these irrigation facilities have antiquated infrastructure that is in need of major capital improvements. The program also address deficiencies identified in a number of audit reports by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) on Indian Affairs' irrigation projects.</p>	
<p><b>Engineering &amp; Supervision</b>            Provides technical support and assistance to the Indian Affairs irrigation and power projects. Support and assistance includes asset management, budgeting, training and technical assistance, billing and collection activities, program reviews, computerized maintenance management implementation, and various other technical support, which includes developing and writing Operation and Maintenance Guidelines for each of the Indian Affairs irrigation projects.</p>	
<p><b>Survey &amp; Design</b>            Provides the planning and technical support activities necessary to enhance and improve Indian Affairs' irrigation Resources Management Construction program performance. This program develops information required for rehabilitation and maintenance reports for the major irrigation projects operated by Indian Affairs.</p>	
<p><b>Federal Power Compliance [FERC]</b>            Provides funding, technical assistance and information development to Indian Tribes affected by Federally-licensed hydropower projects or engaged in hydropower development on Indian lands and ensures data acquisition and development in support of the Secretary's substantial evidence requirements under the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. 739a-825r).</p>	
<p><b>Safety of Dams</b>            The Indian Dams Safety Act of 1994 established that BIA is responsible for all dams on Indian lands. The BIA is developing emergency action plans and early warning systems on all of its high and significant hazard dams, performing maintenance, enhancing security, and rehabilitating dams in poor condition. Dams under the jurisdiction of the BIA potentially have more than 100,000 Tribal persons living below these dams with hundreds of millions in assets which stand to be lost if the Dams are breached. The BIA Safety of Dams Program serves and protects these people and assets.</p>	
<p><b>Dam Maintenance</b>            Performs recurring maintenance and repairs on the identified BIA high hazard dams. Funds are also distributed for recurring maintenance of high and significant hazard potential dams on Indian lands. These funds are used to perform the annual maintenance necessary to keep dams from deteriorating into an unsafe condition. In addition, annual maintenance will be performed on early warning systems, and repairs made on dams with critical repair items. The funds will be distributed to recurring maintenance first, to keep the existing structures working properly. Dam maintenance funds are used to maintain all projects throughout their useful life.</p>	



# Category Ranking

<i>Category</i>	<i>Priority (1-8)</i>
<b>Strengthening Tribal Communities</b>	
<b>Trust Natural Resources Management</b>	
<b>Trust Land &amp; Water Rights Management</b>	
<b>Public Safety and Justice</b>	
<b>Economic Development</b>	
<b>Education</b>	
<b>Construction</b>	
<b>Resource Management Construction</b>	

## Optional Justifications, Data, and Success Stories

*Please share any written justifications, supporting data or success stories you would like to include in the box below.*

# The FY2027 Tribal Budget Preferred Program Tool Feedback&EvaluationForm

Your feedback is very important. We take your opinions seriously, and use your input to continually improve our budget formulation process. Please be as specific as possible.

Please rank the following using this scoring:

- 1 = Needs Much Improvement:/Strongly Disagree
- 2 = Needs Some Improvement /Somewhat Disagree
- 3 = Satisfactory/Agree
- 4 = Above Satisfactory/Highly Agree
- 5 = Excellent/Absolutely Agree

	Please Circle Score
The Tribal Budget Program Preferences Tool as a whole.	1 2 3 4 5
The Justification Portion of the Tool.	1 2 3 4 5
The Extended Justification Format provided in the Tool	1 2 3 4 5
The User Guide provided with the Tool	1 2 3 4 5

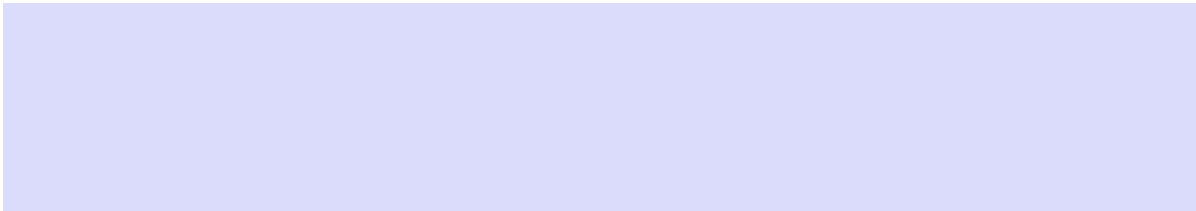
We would appreciate hearing any additional thoughts, suggestions or feedback, you may have to improve or enhance the Tribal Budget Preferred Program Tool?

We would also appreciate hearing any additional thoughts, suggestions or comments you may have to improve or enhance the overall Budget Formulation Process?

What was the most useful part of this Tool for you and why?



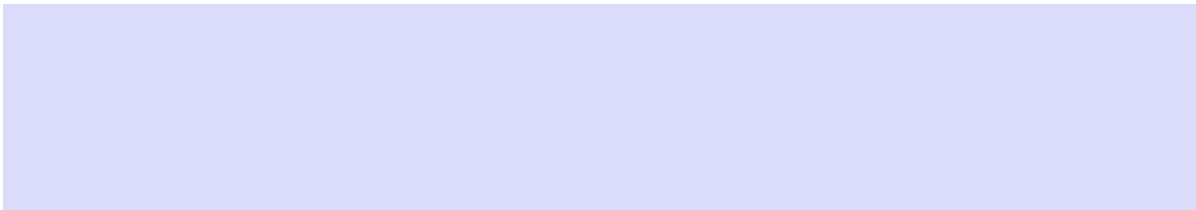
What was the least useful part of this Tool and why? How could this be improved?



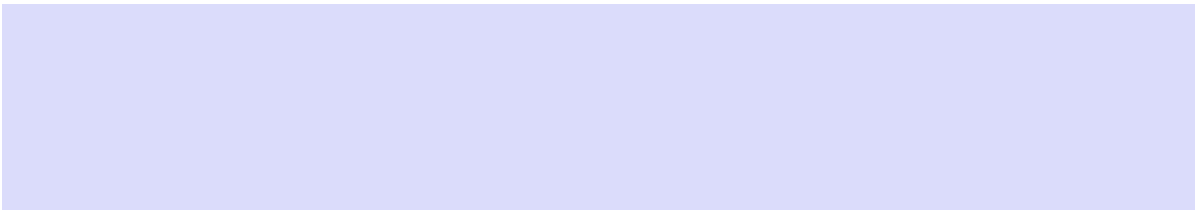
What recommendations would you make to improve your Tribe's participation in this Tool or the Budget Formulation Process, in general?



What is the best way for the TIBC Budget Formulation Team to communicate back or contact your Tribe regarding the outcomes of this Tool?



Additional Comments, Suggestions or Concerns?



Thank you for your participation.

For general assistance with this **Tool**, please contact your **Regional Office or BIE Budget POCs**

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