

Funding Opportunities for Tribal Environmental Health

This document lists federal and regional funding opportunities that are available and may support Tribal environmental health initiatives. It also lists technical assistance programs for various Tribal projects and initiatives. This document is updated regularly.

The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center (GLITEC) offers free grant writing and funding application assistance to Tribes and Tribal-affiliated organizations. For support, please contact GLITEC Director Will Funmaker at wfunmaker@glitc.org.

Federal Funding Programs for Tribal Drinking Water Projects

- **Drinking Water Infrastructure Grant – Tribal Set-Aside (DWIG-TSA)**
 - Provides funding for infrastructure improvements to public water systems serving Tribes.
 - [Program Overview US EPA](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A (2025)
 - **How to Apply:** Tribes are encouraged to contact their [EPA Regional Office](#) for information on how to apply for Tribal drinking water infrastructure funding





- **Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC)**

Tribal Grant Program

- Funds projects addressing emerging contaminants, including PFAS, in drinking water systems serving small Tribal communities.
- [Program InformationUS EPA](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A (2025)
 - **How to Apply:** Tribes are encouraged to contact their [EPA Regional Office](#) for information on how to apply for Tribal drinking water infrastructure funding

- **Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities (SUDC)**

Tribal Grant Program

- Assists small public water systems serving Tribes to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- [Program OverviewUS EPA+3US EPA+3US EPA+3](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A (2025)
 - **How to Apply:** Tribes are encouraged to contact their [EPA Regional Office](#) for information on how to apply for Tribal drinking water infrastructure funding

- **Reducing Lead in Drinking Water Tribal Grant Program**

- Provides funding for projects aiming to reduce lead concentrations in Tribal drinking water.
- [Program DetailsUS EPA](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A
 - **How to Apply:** Contact [EPA Regional Office](#) about availability of funding



- **Tribal Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) Grant Program**
 - Supports the implementation of the Tribal PWSS program, helping drinking water systems maintain or achieve compliance with drinking water regulations. A portion of these funds is set aside for activities that address emerging contaminants and for operator certification and training.
 - <https://www.epa.gov/tribaldrinkingwater/tribal-public-water-system-supervision-program>
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A
 - **How to Apply:** Once a Tribe has primacy over their PWSS program or have been granted “Treatment in the Same Manner as a State (TAS) contact [Regional Tribal Drinking Water Direct Implementation Coordinators](#) for assistance from the program

- **EPA Multipurpose Grant for States and Tribes**
 - Intended to be used at state & Tribal discretion, for high-priority activities to complement activities funded under established environmental statuses. Encourages grantees to consider using funds to address PFAS & other contaminants.
 - [Final_fy21_mpg_guidance_for_states.pdf](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** October 2030
 - **How to Apply:** follow directions on link to apply according to your specific eligibility

- **Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program**
 - To assist underserved, small, and disadvantaged communities for the purpose of increasing drinking water facility resilience to natural hazards.
 - [Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability | USEPA](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** current funding is currently closed, but has potential for future funding



- **SEARCH — Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households in Minnesota**

- Helps very small, financially distressed rural communities extend & improve water/waste treatment facilities that serve local households & businesses
- [SEARCH - Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households in Minnesota | Rural Development](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A but OPEN
 - **How to Apply:** Contact state specific project officer for project eligibility and directions

- **Water and Waste Facility Loans and Grants to Alleviate Health Risks on Tribal Lands in Minnesota**

- Helps get safe, reliable drinking water & waste disposal services to low-income communities that face significant health risks
- [Water and Waste Facility Loans and Grants to Alleviate Health Risks on Tribal Lands in Minnesota | Rural Development](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A but OPEN
 - **How to Apply:** Contact state specific project officer for project eligibility and directions

- **Tribal General Assistance Program (GAP) Grants**

- Funding to Tribes for planning, developing & establishing environmental protection programs & for developing & implementing solid/hazardous waste programs on Tribal lands
- [Indian Environmental General Assistance Program \(GAP\) | US EPA](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** Active for Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
 - **How to Apply:** Contact EPA Project Officer for availability and application deadline



- **Environmental Justice Grant**

- Up to \$1 million (\$200K each) to Tribes, states & communities to improve the environment & public health conditions of low-income & minority communities
- [Inflation Reduction Act Environmental and Climate Justice Program | US EPA](#)
- **Application Deadline:**
 - Closed:
 - Community Change Grants Program (Community Change Grants)
 - UPLIFT Climate and Environmental Community Action Grant
 - Open:
 - Thriving Communities Grantmaking (TCGM) Program: Date N/A
 - Not Specified:
 - Collaborative Problem-Solving (CPS) Cooperative Agreement Program
 - Government-to-Government (G2G) Program

- **Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants (ECWAG)**

- Provide to low-income communities that face significant health risks through the lack of safe drinking water & clean sanitation facilities
- [Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants | Rural Development](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A but OPEN
 - **How to Apply:** Contact state specific project officer for project eligibility and directions

- **WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects**

- 50/50 cost share funding (\$200K each) for small water efficiency improvements: installation of flow measurement or automation in specific parts of a water delivery system, lining of a section of a canal to address seepage, etc.
- [WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects | Bureau of Reclamation](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** Deadline and applications are paused currently
 - **How to Apply:** When/if available, apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)



- **Intervention Research to Improve Native American Health (R34 Clinical Trial Optional)**
 - Support research on interventions to improve health in Native American populations.
 - [PAR-25-378](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** January 7, 2027
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)
 - [PAR-25-379](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** January 7, 2027
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)

- **NIH Small Research Grant Program (Parent R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**
 - Supports small research projects that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources
 - [PA-25-302](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** January 7, 2028
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)

- **Environmental Health Sciences Core Centers Program (P30 Clinical Trials Optional)**
 - Identify & capitalize on emerging issues that advance improving the understanding of the relationships among environmental exposure, human biology & disease
 - [RFA-ES-25-002](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** January 29, 2027
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)



- **Dissemination & Implementation Research in Health (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)**

- Support studies that identify, develop and/or test strategies for overcoming barriers to the adoption, adaptation, integration, scale-up & sustainability of evidence-based interventions, practices, programs, tools, treatments, guidelines & policies
- [PAR-25-143](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** January 7, 2028
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)
- [PAR-25-233](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** January 7, 2028
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)
- [PAR-25-144](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** January 7, 2028
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)

- **Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH) (S06 Clinical Trial Optional)**

- Fund federally recognized AI/AN Tribes & Tribal organizations to support health-related research, research career enhancement & research infrastructure enhancement activities
- [PAR-23-166](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** August 7, 2026
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)



- **Forecast to Publish a Notice of Funding Opportunity Announcement for Addressing Determinants of Health Disparities Among Rural Populations (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)**
 - Support intervention & etiologic studies in rural communities to address factors that increase, reduce, or prevent disparities in health outcomes among rural populations
 - [FOR-MD-25-003](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** Estimated close date November 26, 2025
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)

- **Resource-Based Centers for Rheumatic Diseases Research**
 - Provide critical research infrastructure, shared facilities, services & resources to groups of investigators conducting research on rheumatic disease
 - [FOR-AR-26-003](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** Estimated close date November 3, 2025
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)

- **Community Health Aide Program: Tribal Assessment & Planning**
 - Support assessment & planning of Tribes & Tribal organizations in determining the feasibility of implementing a Community Health Aide Program in their respective communities. The program is designed to support the regional flexibility required for T/TO to design a program unique to the needs of their individual communities.
 - [HHS-2025-IHS-TAP-0001](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** Deadline not established yet
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)

- **Risk & Protective Factors of Family Health & Family Level Interventions (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)**
 - Advance the science of minority health & health disparities by supporting research on family health & well-being & resilience
 - [PAR-25-217](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** May 8, 2027
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)



- **Time-Sensitive Research Opportunities in Environmental Health Sciences (R21 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)**

- Understand the consequences of natural & human-made disasters, emerging environmental public health threats & policy changes in the US & abroad
- [RFA-ES-25-003](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** December 1, 2025
 - **How to Apply:** Apply here [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)

Regional Funding Opportunities in the Midwest

- **EPA Region 4 – Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants**
 - For Tribes in EPA Region 4 administers the DWIG-TSA program.
 - [Regional GuidelinesUS EPA](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A
 - **How to Apply:** Contact the EPA Project Officer for availability and application deadline
- **Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program in MN**
 - Provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas
 - [Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program in Minnesota | Rural Development](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A but OPEN
 - **How to Apply:** Contact state state-specific project officer for project eligibility and directions



- **The Community Hear & Soul Seed Grant Program**
 - Provides start-up funding for resident-driven groups in small cities & towns
 - [CHS Seed Grant Program Grant Guidelines](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** OPEN, monthly submission deadlines
 - **How to Apply:** View “Application Process” in the link above for application directions

- **Environmental Response Fund (ERF)**
 - Addressing the legacy of environmental issues, the contamination cleanup grant program
 - [Environmental Response Fund | Ramsey County](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** Proposals typically accepted twice, per year:
 - March 15 – May 1
 - September 15 – November 1
 - **How to Apply:** Before applying, please [contact Community & Economic Development](#) to discuss your project and application requirements.

- **Drinking Water Planning & Design Funds for PFAS Treatment**
 - Funding for planning & design of PFAS treatment systems for owners & operators of community drinking water supply systems in MN
 - [Drinking water planning and design funds for PFAS treatment | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** December 31, 2025
 - **How to Apply:** Review request for proposal [Drinking Water Planning and Design Funds for PFAS Treatment Request for Proposal](#)



Technical Assistance for Water Needs

- **EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) Services**
 - Offers free services to support communities in identifying water challenges, developing plans, building capacity, and preparing application materials to access water infrastructure funding.
 - **WaterTA Services:** [USEPA](#)
 - **Request Form:** [Water Technical Assistance Request Form | USEPA](#)
- **EPA Clean Water Act Section 106 Program**
 - Provides technical assistance & funding to assist in understanding, assessing & preserving water resources on Tribal lands (once given TAS status): control, prevent & eliminate water pollution
 - [Tribal Grants under Section 106 of the Clean Water Act | USEPA](#)
 - [Grants for State and Interstate Agencies under Section 106 of the Clean Water Act | USEPA](#)
 - **Contact EPA for more information and eligibility:** [Contact Us About Water Pollution Control \(Section 106\) Grants | USEPA](#)
- **Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program (TAP)**
 - Financial & technical assistance to Indian Tribes & Tribal organizations as they develop, manage & protect their water/related resources (max. \$200K each)
 - [Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program | Bureau of Reclamation](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** October 28, 2025
 - **How to Apply:** [Search Results Detail | Grants.gov](#)



- **Drinking Water and Wastewater Technical Assistance Support**

- Technical assistance & training to improve the operation & maintenance of drinking water/wastewater systems serving Tribal communities provided through IHS areas
- [Tribal Public Water System Supervision Program | US EPA](#)
- [Small and Rural Wastewater Systems | US EPA](#)
 - **Contact your EPA Regional Officer for more information**
[Regional Tribal Drinking Water Coordinators | US EPA](#)

- **Training and Technical Assistance to Improve Water Quality and Enable Small PWSs to Provide Safe Drinking Water Grants**

- Funding for this program will be used for meeting technical, financial, and managerial needs at small public drinking water and wastewater systems to achieve and maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act. It will also assist private well owners with improving water quality, including testing for PFAS contamination. Additionally, these investments can be used to address challenges with onsite wastewater management (e.g., septic systems)
- [Training and Technical Assistance for Small Systems Funding | US EPA](#)
 - **Application Deadline:** N/A
 - **How to Apply:** Contact SmallSystemsRFA@epa.gov for information and application process