

funding contractor support necessary to implement these activities. EPA is awarding grants which will provide approximately \$1.4 million for Tribes or Tribal Consortia to perform these activities. Decisions on awarding the grant funds will be made based on the evaluation of the proposals using the criteria specified in Unit III. Tribes or Tribal Consortia that submit qualifying proposals will be notified by EPA and will be required to submit official grant applications.

III. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Grant Proposal?

A. Scope and Purpose

The purpose of these grants is to support Tribal lead awareness outreach (educational) activities and the efforts of Indian Tribes to identify children's risks to lead by conducting a baseline assessment of existing exposure and/or potential lead exposures. The outreach activities may be provided to children, parents, daycare providers, and legal custodians on the potential health risks associated with lead exposure. As a result of the baseline assessment, Tribes may use the resulting data to evaluate whether there is a need to develop and implement an authorized Tribal lead-based paint program (40 CFR 745.324).

B. Eligibility

Eligible recipients are any Federally Recognized Indian Tribes or Tribal Consortia only. Federally Recognized Indian Tribes are listed in the **Federal Register** document published by the BIA on March 13, 2000 (65 FR 13298). Only one grant proposal may be submitted by each Tribe or Tribal Consortia under this notice. However, the grant proposal may include outreach activities, baseline assessment activities, or both. There are no requirements for matching funding under this grant program. There is no requirement that a Tribe provide documentation that it meets the treatment in a manner similar to a State (TAS) standard.

C. Activities to be Funded

EPA will provide financial assistance in the form of grants to Indian Tribes or Tribal Consortia to conduct any or all of the following activities:

1. *Outreach (educational) activities.* EPA will provide financial assistance in the form of grants to Indian Tribes or Tribal Consortia to develop and conduct organized outreach efforts to educate Tribal families about the dangers to children from exposure to lead-based paint hazards, distribute educational information, and encourage Tribal families to have their children screened

for lead poisoning and have their homes tested for lead hazards. Activities may include, but are not limited to, training medical professionals, developing culturally specific lead outreach materials, distributing pamphlets, and establishing an in-home education program to visit the homes of young Tribal children.

Tribes may develop their own outreach materials; however, the use and reproduction of pre-existing products is strongly encouraged and preferred. EPA is aware that many State, Tribal, and local departments of health and environmental protection, as well as advocacy groups and community development groups, have developed useful lead poisoning prevention materials to conduct outreach and awareness (educational) activities. EPA and other Federal agencies have developed, and currently provide, a wide range of outreach materials available from the National Lead Information Center (1-800-424-LEAD). Trained specialists at the Center can help identify specific types of lead awareness materials that already exist and thereby avoid spending the limited resources to recreate these materials. Grant funding may be used to duplicate existing lead outreach materials or to develop and implement a lead poisoning awareness and prevention program. Any new lead awareness materials developed must be consistent with the Federal (EPA, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, formerly the Centers for Disease Control)) lead hazard awareness and poisoning prevention programs (www.epa.gov/lead, www.hud.gov/offices/lead/, and <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/lead.htm>) and receive approval from the appropriate EPA Regional Lead Contacts (see list of Regional Lead Contacts in Unit III.C.2.v.) prior to distribution.

2. *Baseline assessment activities—i. Conduct blood-lead screening of Tribal children age 6 years and under.* For blood-lead screening activities, the focus should be on Tribal children between the ages of 12–36 months because blood-lead levels tend to be highest in this age group, and more children in this age group tend to have blood-lead levels >10 (micrograms/deciliter (µg/dL)). The CDC's recommended level of concern that encourages followup activities is 10 µg/dL, with specific actions/interventions recommended at various elevated blood-lead levels. All blood-lead samples collected from Tribal children must be analyzed using a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)-

certified laboratory. Portable, hand-held blood-lead analyzers may be used, but must be operated by a laboratory that is CLIA certified for moderately complex analysis. CLIA, published in 1992 (42 CFR part 405), is administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS, formerly the Health Care Finance Administration). CLIA-certified laboratories must successfully participate in a testing proficiency program that is CLIA approved. Information regarding CLIA may be downloaded from the CMS web site at <http://www.cms.gov/clia/>.

ii. *Conduct inspections and risk assessments of pre-1978 Tribal housing and/or child occupied facilities for lead-based paint hazards.* (Housing and facilities may be owned or occupied by Tribal members.) This includes collection and analysis of paint, dust, and soil samples for hazardous lead levels. Inspections and risk assessments may only be conducted by individuals certified by EPA for Indian country in the EPA Region where the Tribe is located or certified by the recipient Tribe if the Tribe has received EPA program authorization. Inspections and risk assessments must be conducted according to the work practice standards found in 40 CFR 745.227 or those of the authorized Tribal program. Analysis of paint, dust, and soil samples must be conducted by a National Lead Laboratory Accreditation Program (NLLAP) recognized laboratory. EPA has established the NLLAP to recognize laboratories that demonstrate the ability to analyze paint chip, dust, or soil samples for lead. NLLAP provides the public with a list of laboratories that have met EPA requirements and demonstrated the capability to accurately analyze paint chip, dust, or soil samples for lead. A current list of NLLAP-recognized laboratories can be obtained by calling the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD.

iii. *Train workers to perform lead inspections and risk assessments.* Grant funds may be used for initial, refresher, or any other training and/or third party testing required to obtain certification (as discussed in Unit III.C.2.ii.) to perform lead-based paint inspections and risk assessments. Grant funds cannot be used to pay for any administrative fees for certification to conduct lead inspections and/or risk assessments.

iv. *Compile and summarize demographic data collected from activities listed in Unit III.C.2.i-iii.* In order for Tribes to qualify for other Federal funds for lead activities, sufficient data needs to be compiled and well organized. It is strongly