

(H) Changes From 2002 NOFA

ICDBG Removed from Super Notice of Funding Availability (SuperNOFA). Based on requests from tribal leaders, the Department has determined that Indian tribes would best be served by the publication of the ICDBG NOFA separate from the SuperNOFA. The FY 2003 ICDBG NOFA is not part of or subject to the requirements published in HUD's SuperNOFA.

Grant Ceilings. The grant ceilings for tribes within the jurisdictions of the following Area Offices of Native American Programs (ONAP) have increased as follows: Southern Plains ONAP—\$800,000; Northern Plains ONAP—\$900,000, Southwest ONAP—grant ceilings for all population areas have increased as follows:

Populations	New Grant Ceiling
50,000+	\$5,500,000
10,501–50,000	2,750,000
7,501–10,500	2,200,000
6,001–7,500	1,100,000
1,501–6,000	825,000
0–1,500	605,000

Housing Rehabilitation Grant Limits. The rehabilitation grant limit (per unit) for tribes within the jurisdiction of the Northern Plains ONAP has increased to \$45,000.

Changes to the Application Forms. The following application forms are new or have been revised and/or consolidated.

- Standard Form for Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) has been revised.
- Federal Assistance Funding Matrix and Certifications (HUD-424M) is no longer required. The required information and certification has been incorporated into the new HUD-424.

Requirements. The following new requirements have been added to the NOFA:

Delinquent Federal Debts, Name Check Review, Salary Limitation for Consultants, Procurement of Recovered Materials, Executive Order 13202, Executive Order 13279, Executive Order 13166, Conducting Business in Accordance with Core Values and Ethical Standards; and Pre-Award Accounting System Surveys.

Rating Factors.

- Rating Factor 1 has been revised to stress applicant performance, outcomes, program evaluation, and timeliness. Points for subfactors have been broken out.
- Rating Factor 2 has been revised to change how Need is determined for New Housing Construction, Housing

Rehabilitation, Land Acquisition to Support New Housing, and Homeownership Assistance Projects.

- Rating Factor 3 has been revised to incorporate selected HUD Policy Priorities, which are worth 1 point.
- Rating Factor 3 has been revised to reinstate requirements for economic development projects for the submission of information regarding the separation of government functions and business operating decisions.
- Rating Factor 4 has been revised to incorporate language regarding conditional commitments.
- Point ranges are revised as necessary as the result of these changes.

Imminent Threat Increase. The amount of funds allocated for Imminent Threat grants for FY 2003 has increased to \$4,000,000.

Other Changes. Other changes have been made to clarify NOFA requirements. Applicants are advised to carefully read the entire NOFA and not rely solely on this list of NOFA changes.

(I) Streamlining Grants

The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (Pub. L. 106-107) directs each federal agency to develop and implement a plan that, among other things, streamlines and simplifies the application, administrative, and reporting procedures for federal financial assistance programs administered by the agency. This law also requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to direct, coordinate, and assist federal agencies in establishing (1) a common application and reporting system and (2) an interagency process for addressing ways to streamline and simplify federal financial assistance application and administrative procedures and reporting requirements for program applicants. This law also requires OMB to consult with the grantee community as it works with the federal agencies to develop and implement the course of action that would be undertaken by the federal agencies to establish an electronic site for accessing grant information and applications.

Over the last two years, HUD has used its Web site to provide information to the public about HUD's participation in Interagency efforts to streamline grant requirements and to seek your input as the federal agencies work together to achieve implementation. To find out about the work being done by the federal agencies to streamline and consolidate the grant application and reporting requirements please go to <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/pl-106107/pl106-107.cfm>.

(J) eGrants Initiative

HUD is working with the 26 federal grant-making agencies on President George W. Bush's eGrants Initiative. This initiative is an effort by the federal agencies to develop a common electronic grant application and reporting system. This system will be "one-stop" shopping for funding opportunities for all federal programs. This system is being developed in response to concerns that it is difficult for organizations to know all the funding available from the federal government and how to apply for funding. It also is an effort to develop common application requirements, further streamlining the grants process, making it easier for our customers to apply for funding. The first segment of the eGrants Initiative focuses on allowing the public to easily find funding opportunities and then apply via eGrants. Funding decisions would still be under the ownership of the federal agency sponsoring the program funding opportunity. The information regarding eGrants is provided for information. No response regarding this upcoming initiative is required in your fiscal year 2003 application. To find out more about the eGrants vision and implementation schedule, please visit HUD's eGrants Web site at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/egrants/egrants.cfm>.

(K) Paperwork Reduction Act Statement.

The information collection requirements in this NOFA have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB number 2577-0191 (5/31/2003) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid control number.

(L) HUD'S Strategic Goals

Implementing HUD's Strategic Framework and Demonstrating Results. HUD is committed to ensuring that programs result in the achievement of HUD's strategic mission. To support this effort, grant applications submitted for HUD programs will be rated on how well they tie proposed outcomes to HUD's policy priorities and Annual Goals and Objectives, and the quality of proposed Evaluation and Monitoring Plans. HUD's Strategic Framework establishes the following Goals and Objectives for the Department: