

# TRIBAL (I/II) | TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS AND NEW FUNDING WILL STRENGTHEN CURRENT TRIBAL CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

## OVERVIEW

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**Official name:** Tribal Broadband Connectivity Technical Amendments

**Funding pool:** \$2.00B

**Type of program:** Grants to eligible entities with approved applications

**Program objective:** providing new funds and extending expenditure deadlines for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (established by Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Div. N, Tit. IX, Sec. 905(c))

## KEY AMENDMENTS TO PRIOR PROGRAM

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- 1 Adding \$2 billion for NTIA to distribute to eligible entities, including to fund previously-proposed programs
- 2 Relaxing time requirements of original program—after receipt of funding, eligible entities now have up to
  - 6 months to submit applications
  - 18 months to commit the funds to projects
  - 4 years to fully expend the grant funds
- 3 Allowing infrastructure grantees to expend up to 2.5% total project cost for related planning, feasibility and sustainability studies
- 4 Preserving unused allocated funds for other Tribal broadband projects instead of reverting back to the Treasury

*Note: funding amounts inclusive of all administrative set-asides*



# TRIBAL (II/II) | NO NEW RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON ELIGIBLE ENTITIES OR USES

## ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

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- A Tribal Government
- A Tribal College or University
- The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Community, including Native Hawaiian Education Programs
- A Tribal organization
- A Native Corporation

## ELIGIBLE USES

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### **As outlined in prior legislation**

- Broadband infrastructure deployment, including support for the establishment of carrier-neutral submarine cable landing stations
- Affordable broadband programs including
  - Providing free or reduced cost broadband service
  - Preventing disconnection of existing broadband service
- Distance learning
- Telehealth
- Digital inclusion efforts
- Broadband adoption activities

*Eligible entities can use no more than 2% of funds for administrative purposes*

## PRIORITY

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Eligible entities shall prioritize projects that deploy broadband infrastructure to **unserved households**