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Reminder Coronavirus Relief Fund Reporting for March 1 – June 30, 2020 due SEPTEMBER 21!

Tribes are required to submit their “costs incurred” from March 1 to June 30 through GrantSolutions.

Also, in order to access the GrantSolutions portal, tribes must identify three (3) individuals: two (2) designees (preparers) to input quarterly data, and one (1) official authorized to certify the data is true.

If you need assistance, contact CILS!

Treasury Releases NEW FAQs on CRF

On August 28, the Department of Treasury issued new Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) FAQs. The FAQs are in response to emailed questions and NAFOA’s listening session on August 5, 2020. The supplemental FAQs can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2ol9f9x>.

BIE Releases School Re-Opening Toolkit

On August 27, the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) released their “Return to Learn” Plan and toolkit for safely reopening BIE schools. The Plan lists 6 steps for safely opening schools: (1) Symptom Screening at home Before Coming to School (for all Staff and Students); (2) Physical Distancing and Cleaning Facilities; (3) Face Coverings; (4) Hand Hygiene; (5) Personal Protective Equipment; and (6) Return to School After Illness Protocol. The Plan and Toolkit can be found at: <https://returntolearn.bie.edu/return-to-learn-plan>. This plan was initially announced in the “Dear Tribal Leader” letter dated August 6, 2020. The letter can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y2dumxzz>.

NIH and IHS Letters to Tribal Leaders about Prevention and Treatment

On August 11, Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institute of Health’s National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases wrote to Tribal Leaders about the new “COVID-19 Prevention Network (CoVPN)” whose mission is to conduct clinical trials for COVID-19 vaccines. The CoVPN plans to assist five vaccine studies and three antibody studies and seeks partnerships with Indian country for volunteer recruitment. The letter can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/yyurwl6r>. Questions about CoVPN can be sent to Director or Community Engagement Michele Andrasik at mandrasik@fredhutch.org or Project Coordinator Jasmin Aina at jaina@fredhutch.org.

On August 17, RADM Michael Weahkee also sent letter to Tribal Leaders discussing “Operation Warp Speed,” which is the government’s plan to begin delivering safe and effective vaccines to the American people by the end of the year, and “Operation Lady Justice,” which is seeking comments regarding the missing or murdered American Indians and Alaskan Natives. The letter can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3y2dhzq>.

REMINDER: NCAI Stabilization Grants for Native-Owned Small Businesses Impacted by Coronavirus Pandemic

NCAI is offering **business stabilization grants in the amount of \$5,000 each** to a total of **28 selected Native-owned small businesses** that have been severely impacted by the curtailing of commercial activity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Awarded applicants can use the funds to address their most urgent needs to remain in business and become more resilient, such as (but not limited to):

- Making monthly payments on small business loans that have lapsed due to declining business revenues;
- Keeping employees employed;
- Paying their vendors; and/or
- Purchasing equipment/software to transition or grow their businesses online.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Rolling application process; application window will remain open until all funds are exhausted.

For more information, visit NCAI’s website here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3kq6w7z>.

TRIBAL COVID-19 RESOURCES

For updates on COVID-19 and Resources for Tribal Communities see the following links:

State of California:

A one-stop page collecting information related to COVID-19 can be located at:
<https://covid19.ca.gov/>.

CDSS Tribal Affairs: COVID-19 resources for California tribal communities:
<https://tinyurl.com/y3cjsopy>.

Federal Resources:

A one-stop page for Federal COVID-19 information:
<https://www.coronavirus.gov/>.

Indian Health Service:
<https://www.ihs.gov/coronavirus/>.

Health and Human Services:
<https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/index.html>.

Centers for Disease Control: Providing information on how to protect yourself and what to do if you are sick. Also contains the most update-to-date information on the virus and medical news related to the virus: <https://tinyurl.com/rro9sx>.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response:
<https://tinyurl.com/yyos6b28>.

Bureau of Indian Affairs: Includes resources for tribal governments when responding to COVID-19:
<https://www.bia.gov/coronavirus>.

Treasury: For more information on CARES Act funding and distributions.
<https://tinyurl.com/qsnh97g>.

Tribal Specific Webpages with Daily Updates

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI): <http://www.ncai.org/covid-19>.

Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TPLI):
<https://www.home.tlpi.org/covid-19>.

National Indigenous Women's Resource Center (NIWRC) :
<https://tinyurl.com/yyfdhxw2>.

National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA): <https://www.nicwa.org/coronavirus/>

National Indian Health Board (NIHB):
<https://www.nihb.org/covid-19/>

Turtletalk: <https://turtletalk.blog/covid-19-tribal-documents/> and <https://turtletalk.blog/tag/covid-19/>.

Native American Financial Officers' Association (NAFOA): <https://tinyurl.com/yyavoevy>.