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California Truth & Healing Council Nominations due November 1, 2020 at 11:59 PM

The Council was created by Gov. Newsom via [Executive Order](#) to include representatives from CA Native American tribes. The Council is charged with bearing witness to, recording, examining existing documentation of, and receiving CA Native American narratives regarding the historical relationship between the State and CA Native Americans. The Council will be made up of 12 voting members, all must be representatives from CA tribes. Non-voting members are may be comprised of CA Native Americans and community leaders. Nomination packets can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/y45a2bnh>.

Nominations due Nov. 1 at 11:59 PM.

Draft IHS COVID-19 Vaccine Plan: Comments Requested by October 21

The US Department of Health and Human Services released a tribal consultation plan for COVID-19 vaccine planning and the Indian Health Services (IHS) issued a Dear Tribal Leader Letter on October 14 seeking input by **Wednesday, October 21, 2020** for the IHS COVID-19 Vaccine Draft Plan. Input will help IHS assess, respond, and adapt federal guidance regarding vaccine developments.

Tribes may submit written comments on the Draft Plan to consultation@ihs.gov with the Subject Line: IHS COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccine Plan Draft. Written comments due **Wednesday, October 21, 2020**.

The 24-page Draft Plan can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/yyqcp8g>.

The Dear Tribal Leader Letter can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/yy3k7ygo>.

California Fire Updates

On September 28, 2020, Governor Newsom sent a letter to the President requesting aid for the fire in California, specifically requesting \$346 million, with \$200 million to be earmarked for the Creek Fire. The letter can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/y25n5grq>.

In a released issued on October 16, 2020, the Governor announced that the President approved California's request for a Major Disaster Declaration to bolster the State's emergency response to wildfires and to assist with recovery efforts for residents impacted in Fresno, Los Angeles, Madera, Mendocino, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Siskiyou counties. Per the press release, the state is hiring 858 more firefighters and six California Conservation Corps crews, in addition to adding new Firehawk S-70i helicopters and C-130 airplanes. The Press Release can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/y5u7nfox>.

Individual Assistance

FEMA: The deadline, for people affected by the August wildfires, to register with FEMA for Individual Assistance has been extended to November 21. This extension is for survivors living in the DR-4558-CA disaster-designated Individual Assistance counties of: Butte, Lake, Monterey, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma and Yolo. To register: 800-621-3362 or www.disasterassistance.gov.

CA Disaster Unemployment Assistance Benefits (DUA): DUA benefits have been extended to November 30, 2020. Individuals from specific counties are eligible to apply for DUA benefits if their loss of work or self-employment was a direct result of the fires, and they do not qualify for regular state unemployment insurance. Apply at: https://www.edd.ca.gov/unemployment/UI_Online.htm.

New Guidance on Extended Foster Care Program Flexibilities

California Department of Social Services (CDSS) released ACL 20-112 to for the non-minor dependent (NMD) program from the guidance,

- NMDs are allowed to continue to receive assistance even if they cannot meet participation conditions due to COVID-19 impacts through June 30, 2021;
- Temporary waivers, at county option, of Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP+) age and length of time criteria waivers through June 30, 2021; and
- Modifications to Supervised Independent Living Placement approvals.

The ACL can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/y22bgme5>.

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/rrro9sx>.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response:

<https://tinyurl.com/yvos6b28>.

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>.