



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Office of the Assistant Secretary | 330 C Street, S.W., Suite 4034
Washington, DC 20201 | www.acf.hhs.gov

August 6, 2024

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) will host the annual **Tribal Consultation** meeting on **Wednesday, September 18, 2024, from 1:00-4:30 EDT**. During the meeting, ACF leadership will provide updates on program and regulations concerning Native children and families and be available to discuss issues of importance to Tribal leaders.

Agenda Planning:

The final agenda for the ACF Tribal Consultation will be developed through planning calls with tribal leaders. I invite you or a representative to participate in these calls to identify specific topics of interest for discussion.

ACF Tribal Consultation Planning Calls:

Monday, August 26, at 3:00PM EDT and Thursday, August 29, at 3:00PM EDT
Join ZoomGov Meeting
<https://acf-hhs-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1603055567?pwd=cIthpF5UxFaaWWUVP1wnQwDQyMpv2E.1>
Meeting ID: 160 305 5567
Passcode: 263900

If you are unable to attend either of the planning calls, you may submit your topics and questions to Michelle Sauve, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist, at michelle.sauve@acf.hhs.gov, or during the consultation registration process. The final agenda may change based on comments received in the planning and registration process.

More information about registration and the meeting site will be posted here: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ana/news/2024-acf-tribal-consultation>. In addition, the ACF Tribal Consultation final agenda will be emailed to all registrants and posted on the ACF Tribal Consultation website above.

Below is a list of potential topics for discussion at the ACF Tribal Consultation based on previous engagement with tribal leaders and program administrators and Administration priorities.

- Processes for [477 integration across ACF programs](#).
 - Public Law 102-477, known as the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act (25 U.S.C. 3401 et seq), was established to enhance the ability of federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native entities to address

their employment and training needs. The primary intent of the 477 program is to streamline and consolidate various federal grant programs related to employment, training, and related services into a single, cohesive plan, budget, and reporting system.

- ACF implementation of [Executive Order 14112- Reforming Federal Funding and Support for Tribal Nations to Better Embrace Our Trust Responsibilities and Promote the Next Era of Tribal Self-Determination](#) (see more below)
 - **Sec. 4.** *Embracing Our Trust Responsibilities by Assessing Unmet Federal Obligations to Support Tribal Nations.*
 - **Sec. 5.** *Agency Actions to Increase the Accessibility, Equity, Flexibility, and Utility of Federal Funding and Support Programs for Tribal Nations.*

Meeting Logistics:

The ACF Tribal Consultation is being held immediately following the Great Lakes Tribal Economic Summit, scheduled on September 17-18, in New Buffalo, Michigan.

The in-person Tribal Consultation meeting will be held on September 18th at the Silver Creek Event Center, owned by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, from 1:00-4:30 EDT, with a virtual option available for those unable to travel.

ACF Tribal Consultation
September 18, 2024
Silver Creek Event Center
11111 Wilson Rd.
New Buffalo, MI 49117
1:00-4:30 EDT
(Virtual Option Available)

Registration: [Registration Link](#)

For any tribe unable to attend in person, ACF will provide a link for virtual engagement. Tribal leaders or their designee may request to speak and provide input and testimony during the meeting.

If you need assistance with registration or have any questions on the ACF Tribal Consultation meeting, please call 1-877-922-9262.

Written Comment Period:

In addition to the Tribal Consultation session, ACF will accept written comments by email sent to Jeff Hild, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, performing the delegable duties of Assistant Secretary, at: tribalaffairs@acf.hhs.gov. The testimony record will be kept open for 30 days after the date of the consultation.

Consultation Questions

ACF is considering ways to estimate unmet needs, which will be used to administer and design policy recommendations that reflect ACF's commitment to self-determination and implementing Executive Order 14112 – [Reforming Federal Funding and Support for Tribal Nations to Better Embrace Our Trust Responsibilities and Promote the Next Era of Tribal Self-Determination](#).

The executive order requires federal agencies to take action to ensure federal funding for tribes is accessible, flexible, and equitable, creates a one-stop-shop for federal funding available to tribes, and better embraces our trust responsibilities by assessing unmet federal obligations to support tribal nations.

ACF invites tribal leaders to provide input on the following questions related to the implementation of Executive Order 14112, and specifically, sections 4 and 5.

1. What suggestions do you have regarding a methodology to calculate and assess unmet federal obligations to support tribal nations?
2. What information or data would ACF need to assess tribal unmet need in competitive grant programs and grant programs where funds are distributed using a formula?
3. The Department will be asked to report on the funding needed for existing programs and the funding needed to better live up to the federal government's trust responsibilities and help address the needs of tribal nations. What budgetary, statutory, regulatory, or other changes do you recommend for the Department to take steps toward upholding the U.S. Government's trust responsibilities and help address the needs of tribal nations?
4. What administrative requirements create burden during the application process and subsequent implementation of the grant? (e.g., *cost-sharing, matching, draft agreements, requirements applicable to all grants, such as [HHS Administrative National Policy Requirements](#) or OMB's Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR 200, etc.*)?
5. How can ACF use its efforts to design, revise, provide waivers for, and otherwise administer federal funding and support programs for tribal nations, to minimize administrative burdens?
6. How can ACF improve outreach on grants that are not directed specifically at tribes but for which tribes may be eligible?

I look forward to our continuing partnership with you to build healthy and thriving communities.

Sincerely,



Jeff Hild

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Administration for Children and Families, performing the delegable duties of the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families