



TRIBAL ACCESS PROGRAM

FOR NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION
ENSURING THE EXCHANGE OF CRITICAL DATA

OVERVIEW

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) launched the Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP) to provide selected federally recognized Tribes access to national crime information systems for federally authorized criminal and non-criminal purposes. TAP allows Tribes to more effectively serve and protect the public by ensuring the exchange of critical data across the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) systems and other national crime systems.

FUNCTIONS

DOJ SERVES AS THE CJIS SYSTEMS AGENCY (CSA) FOR SELECTED FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

DOJ assumes responsibility for providing Tribal access to CJIS systems. TAP extends the Federal CSA model of information technology (IT), mobility, physical security, vetting and on-boarding; testing; training, and auditing to Tribes.

TAP PROVIDES TWO METHODS TO ACCESS CJIS SYSTEMS

Name-based record checks and entry of person and property information.
Fingerprint-based provides the additional hardware necessary to conduct fingerprint-based criminal and non-criminal justice transactions.

TAP PROVIDES ASSISTANCE AND ENHANCED TRAINING

TAP provides a selection of appropriate resources to address Tribal needs. TAP maximizes the value of these resources through virtual and on-site training and support.

NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION SYSTEMS

National Crime Information Center (NCIC) is a criminal records database allowing criminal justice agencies to enter or search for information about stolen property, missing persons, arrest warrants, domestic violence protection orders, criminal histories, and to access the National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR).

Next Generation Identification (NGI) is formerly known as the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS). A database of palm, fingerprints, and mugshots which allows for the verification of identity, submissions of arrest information, and access to fingerprint-based criminal histories.

National Data Exchange (N-DEx) is a national investigative information sharing system providing access to records from across the nation to aid criminal investigations. Investigators can review criminal justice data from state, local, Tribal, regional, and federal agencies, 24/7, from any secure Internet-capable device. Data includes incident reports, arrest reports, booking and incarceration reports, pre-trial investigations, and probation and parole records.

National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) is a system used by Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs) to determine a person's eligibility to possess firearms or explosives, helping to ensure

prohibited persons are prevented from purchasing firearms, to issue firearms-related permits, and manage seized firearms.

Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP) is a gateway for criminal justice agencies to access unclassified law enforcement intelligence products, as well as, systems or services such as N- DEx, Intelink, the Regional Information Sharing Systems Network (RISSNET), National Gang Intelligence Center, eGuardian, Virtual Command Center, and others.

International Justice and Public Safety Network (Nlets) is an interstate justice and public safety network owned by the states; supporting inquiry into state systems for criminal history, driver's license, and motor vehicle registration, as well as supporting inquiry into federal systems, such as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Law Enforcement Support Center (LESC), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), National Drug Pointer Index (NDPIX), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Aircraft Registry, as well as the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC).

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BENEFITS OF TAP FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Tribes may use TAP for all purposes authorized by federal law. The criminal justice agencies (CJA) eligible to participate in TAP include:

CJA

- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Prosecutor's Offices
- Corrections and Detention
- Criminal Courts
- Pre-trial Services
- Probation and Parole

The non-criminal justice agencies (NCJA) eligible to participate in TAP include:

NCJA

- Civil Courts
- Human Resources
- Social Services
- Child Protective Services
- Child Support Enforcement
- Tribal Housing

A few examples include:

- Enter orders of protection making them accessible for enforcement both on and off Tribal land.
- Register sex offenders in compliance with the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006.

A few examples include:

- Perform record checks of housing applicants and tenants.
- Child Protective Services can conduct name based checks to investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of children.

“The assistance provided by the Tribal Access Program has been invaluable to the Comanche Nation Police Department. By accessing federal criminal databases, law enforcement is better equipped to investigate crimes, apprehend suspects, and ensure justice for victims. The partnership has significantly improved the department’s ability to combat crime and maintain public safety within the Tribal community.”

Jennifer Caddo
Dispatch Supervisor
Comanche Nation

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN TAP

To participate in TAP, federally recognized Tribes must apply and be selected. TAP usually accepts applications once a year. Please check the TAP website for current information on the application dates. Tribes must agree to comply with and adhere to auditing and policy requirements, personnel and physical requirements, and technical security requirements applied to all agencies when accessing national crime information systems. Tribes decide which agencies will participate in TAP and must designate a Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC) for each participating agency who is responsible for pre-deployment and post-deployment activities. Participation in TAP also requires the approval of Tribal leadership.



LEARN MORE ABOUT TAP

WEBSITE: WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/TRIBAL/TRIBAL-ACCESS-PROGRAM-TAP

EMAIL: TRIBALACCESS@USDOJ.GOV

