



# FACT SHEET

## Department of Justice 2017 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation

### What is CTAS?

In Fiscal Year 2010, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) launched the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) initiative, which encompassed most of the Department's available Tribal government-specific grant programs. Through CTAS the Department has awarded over 1,600 grants totaling more than \$722 million to hundreds of American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The Tribes are using these funds to enhance law enforcement, bolster justice systems, prevent and control delinquency, strengthen the juvenile justice system, serve sexual assault and elder victims, and support other efforts to combat crime.

### How does it work?

CTAS is administered by the DOJ's Office of Community Oriented Policing (COPS), Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), which manage awards by Purpose Area, subject to available funding. Each Tribal government-specific grant program is referred to as a "Purpose Area." Applicants select the Purpose Area(s) that best address their individual public safety, criminal and juvenile justice, and victimization needs.

Grant funds are subject to available funding. Tribes or Tribal consortia may be eligible for other, non-Tribal specific DOJ grant funding and are encouraged to apply. More information on those opportunities is available on the Tribal Justice website, [www.justice.gov/tribal](http://www.justice.gov/tribal).

### Why is this necessary?

American Indians and Alaska Natives experience disproportionate rates of violence and victimization and often encounter significant obstacles to identifying and accessing culturally-relevant services. CTAS funding helps tribes to develop and strengthen tribal justice systems' response to crime, while significantly increasing programs and services available to them.

### How was CTAS created?

In 2009, the DOJ decided to decrease the number of required applications tribes and tribal consortia submitted to receive grant funds following meetings across the country addressing violent crime in tribal communities. Since then, the DOJ has conducted numerous meetings, solicited tribal written comments, and participated in face-to-face tribal consultations, focus groups, and listening sessions to further refine CTAS annually to gather feedback on applicant experiences applying for CTAS.

### How to apply for CTAS

**APPLICATION PERIOD IS  
OPEN NOW**

**Deadline  
Feb. 28, 2017, 9 p.m. (EST)**

To apply visit:  
<http://www.justice.gov/tribal/grants>

CTAS application assistance is  
available via the CTAS Response Center  
Call 1-800-421-6770 or email:  
[tribalgrants@usdoj.gov](mailto:tribalgrants@usdoj.gov).

### How can CTAS funding be used?

#### CTAS Purpose Areas:

1. Public Safety & Community Policing
2. Comprehensive Planning Demonstration Projects
3. Justice Systems and Alcohol and Substance Abuse
4. Corrections & Correctional Alternatives
5. Violence Against Women
6. Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities
7. Comprehensive Tribal Victim Assistance
8. Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court
9. Tribal Youth Program

## **Considerations for future CTAS applicants:**

### **Eligibility:**

Only federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, may apply. This includes Alaska Native villages and tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian tribes. Additional eligibility criteria and exceptions by Purpose Area are available in the 2017 CTAS Solicitation.

### **Tribal Community & Justice Profile:**

Before applying for funding, applicants should review their community, public safety and justice systems to identify gaps in services that grant programs can fill. The Tribal Narrative Profile portion of the application should illustrate the specific characteristics of a tribe, including community strengths, resources, challenges and needs. Applicants should identify problem(s) the tribe will address, the strategy for addressing the problem(s), and the purposes area(s) through which funding is requested.

### **Demographic Form:**

Each applicant should complete the Demographic Form portion of the application to illustrate the unique characteristics of each tribe in an effort to identify the tribes' strengths and challenges.

### **Decision Making Process:**

The DOJ is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for awarding grants. Each relevant DOJ component reviews applications to ensure that the information and proposal are reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the solicitation.

A peer review process determines if applicants meet eligibility and basic minimum requirements. Each appropriate DOJ component uses either internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination thereof. External peer reviewers are experts who are not current federal employees working in their field of expertise on subject matter relating to the grant program. An internal reviewer is a current federal employee who has expertise in the subject matter of the particular grant program.

Applications that meet eligibility and basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only, although their views are considered carefully. The DOJ may elect to make awards for applications submitted under this solicitation for FY 2018 depending on the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations. Individual Purpose Areas may consider FY 2017 applications for FY 2018 and not solicit for new applicants in the FY 2018 CTAS.

### **Registration & Application Submission:**

All applications are submitted through the U.S. Department of Justice's online Grants Management System (GMS) at <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/gmsexternal/>.

#### **To register and apply:**

- 1) Register in GMS
- 2) Complete and submit the application in GMS.

An applicant will not be able to submit an application without registering in GMS before the application deadline of 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on Feb. 28, 2017.

### **Other Resources:**

**Tribes and Tribal consortia are eligible for non-Tribal specific DOJ grant programs and are encouraged to consider these opportunities and submit separate applications to programs for which they may be eligible.**

**More information on CTAS and other resources is available at the**

**Tribal Justice Website:**

**[www.justice.gov/tribal](http://www.justice.gov/tribal)**