United States Environmental Protection Agency
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Office Of Water (4201)

EPA Clean Water Act Section 106

Tribal Pollution Control Grant Program

What is a Section 106 Tribal Water Pollution Control Grant Program?

Section 106 and 518 of the Clean Water Act authorizes EPA to provide grants to States, interstate agencies, and eligible Indian Tribes to assist them in the development and implementation of water pollution control programs.

What grant funding is available?

For eligible Indian Tribes, the EPA may provide financial assistance in an amount up to 95 percent of the approved costs of planning, developing, establishing, or improving water quality programs.

What type of programs are eligible under Section 106 grants?

A few examples include:

- developing water quality management plans
- establishing water quality standards
- conducting water quality monitoring

Who is eligible?

Any Tribe which meets the requirements set forth under Section 518 of the Clean Water Act

What are the requirements under Section 518?

The Tribe must satisfy the following conditions:

- The Tribe must be federally recognized by the Department of Interior
- The Tribe must have a governing body capable of carrying out substantial governmental duties and powers
- The functions to be exercised by the Tribe pertain to the management and protection of water resources that are held by an Indian Tribe or within the boundaries of an Indian Reservation.
- The Tribe must be capable of effectively implementing the water quality program.

How is the grant funding distributed?

Section 106 funds for Tribes are allocated annually to each Region according to a formula that incorporates a base distribution plus a variable distribution. Each Region awards grants to Tribes based upon their grant application work plan. In determining which Tribes will receive awards, the Regional Administrator will consider the applicant's planning target, the available funds and the anticipated cost of the program relative to the proposed outputs and outcomes.

What is a work plan?

A work plan is a required part of an application for financial assistance. The work plan must specify the program goals, objectives, outcomes, and outputs in a time frame for their accomplishment. The work plan must also include a performance evaluation process and performance criteria/ measures for the components of the work plan.

To begin the grant application process, contact your Regional Section 106 Tribal Program Coordinators or National Headquarters.

Ask for fact sheets, Internet resources, and other related pamphlets and brochures.

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