#### **HOW TO APPLY**

Tribes can apply for this drinking water funding. Each year, usually in the spring/summer, EPA solicits proposals from interested tribes. Tribes must submit their proposals for consideration. The DWIG TSA Program does not require projects to be on the IHS Sanitary Deficiency System priority list.

It is up to each EPA Regional office to identify and rank priority projects as long as they meet the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements of public health protection and regulatory compliance. The projects are typically funded in priority order, although the Region does have the authority to postpone a project that is not ready to begin, or to award funds for unscheduled "emergency" projects.

EPA Region 8 includes 27 Federalrecognized Tribal governments located on 26 Indians Reservations, as shown below.





Region 8





#### **FOR MORE INFO**

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EPA has two funding opportunities for tribes to improve their drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. Please read on to learn more about how tribes can apply.

# Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Grant Program

The Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Grant Program (CWISA Program) provides funding for wastewater infrastructure to Indian tribes.

#### WHAT'S FUNDED?

Funds may be used for planning, design, and construction of wastewater collection and treatment systems, including collector and interceptor sewers, and onsite (septic) systems to address current infrastructure needs but not for future development. There is no specific minimum or maximum amount to be funded; the award amount will vary depending on the type of wastewater project. The program can fund up to \$100% of the costs, with no matching funds required.

## **WHO'S ELIGIBLE**

All federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for funding.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

To be considered for a grant, tribes must identify their wastewater needs to the Indian Health Service (IHS) Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS). The IHS collects data for this system typically from February through May of each year. The CWISA Program uses the IHS SDS priority list to identify high priority wastewater projects for funding. The CWISA Program coordinator and IHS work together to determine the projects to be funded, based on the ranking of the projects listed on the SDS priority list and the availability of EPA funding. The coordinator will notify the tribes when a project is selected for funding. The tribes may receive a grant directly, manage and administer the projects themselves. If the tribe wants IHS to administer the project, they may request the project funds be awarded to IHS through an inter-agency agreement. However, IHS must agree to do the work.



# Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants Tribal Set-Aside Program

The Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants Tribal Set-Aside Program (DWIG TSA Program) provides funding to tribes to improve the infrastructure of the public drinking water systems that serve tribal populations.

### **WHAT'S FUNDED?**

The funds can be used to rehabilitate or develop a source of drinking water and install or upgrade treatment, storage, or transmission facilities. The funds may also be used to conduct project feasibility studies, engineering design work, and project administration. There is no specific minimum or maximum amount to be funded; the award amount will vary depending on the type of project. The program can fund up to \$100% of the costs with no matching funds required.

# **WHO'S ELIGIBLE?**

All federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for funding.