



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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CONSUMER AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS BUREAU ANNOUNCES SECOND ROUND OF ACP TRIBAL OUTREACH GRANT PROGRAM AWARDS

WC Docket No. 21-450

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) today is announcing final funding allocations for the Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program (ACP Outreach Grant Program), Tribal Competitive Outreach Program (TCOP) Round 2. The total amount of final funds announced today for TCOP Round 2 is over \$1.2 million.

In March 2023, the FCC adopted the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Fifth Report & Order making available a second funding opportunity for the ACP Outreach Grant Program.¹ The ACP plays an integral role in helping to bridge the digital divide, which remains a top priority for the Commission.² As part of its efforts to encourage participation in the ACP, the Commission established the ACP Outreach Grant Program in order to engage with partners around the country to help inform ACP-eligible households about the program in their local communities, with funding and resources to support such outreach and community engagement.³ The extensive demand for ACP outreach funding so far underscores the need for these funds and the importance of reaching the eligible households that have not yet enrolled in the ACP.⁴ This new funding opportunity for ACP outreach is intended to provide funding to five additional Tribal organizations, beyond the 20 TCOP grant recipients that were announced as part of the Commission's March 10, 2023 funding announcement.⁵

In determining funding allocations for the second round of TCOP final allocations, the FCC reviewed seven grant applications to determine the impact of proposed projects against the grant program's goal, objectives, and priorities. Submitted applications were assessed using the following three-step review process:

- 1. Eligibility** review to determine if the applicant is eligible and submitted a complete application package as required in the TCOP Round 2 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO);

¹ *Affordable Connectivity Program*, Fifth Report and Order, WC Docket No. 21-450, FCC 23-15 (rel. Mar. 15, 2023) (*ACP Fifth Report and Order*).

² See *Affordable Connectivity Program, Emergency Broadband Benefit Program*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, WC Docket Nos. 21-450, 20-445, FCC 22-2, at 98, para. 211 (2022) (*ACP Order*) (“Narrowing the digital divide has been an ongoing priority for the Commission....”).

³ *Affordable Connectivity Program*, Second Report and Order, WC Docket No. 21-450, FCC 22-64, at 2, para. 2 (2022).

⁴ *Id.* at 4-6, paras. 4-6 (discussing the need for and importance of ACP outreach).

⁵ *Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau Announces ACP Outreach Grant Program Target Funding*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 21-450, DA 22-194 (CGB Mar. 10, 2023).

2. **Merit** review to determine the quality of proposed projects against program objectives, activities, and costs/budget using pre-determined criteria; and
3. **Risk** review to determine the fiscal stability of an applicant using many factors including the quality of the management systems, history of grant performance, and audit reports and findings.

At the conclusion of the three-step review process, applicants were selected for funding consistent with the funding determination process outlined in the TCOP Round 2 NOFO.

Entity-specific final funding allocations are enclosed as part of the Appendix contained within this Public Notice. Following today's announcement, the FCC's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau will contact applicable entities over the course of the next few weeks to prepare for and issue Notices of Award (NOAs). Entities that have been selected for funding do not need to reach out to the FCC as the FCC will initiate outreach and coordination for award issuance. Once NOAs are issued, entities will have no more than 30 days to accept their award which will mark the start of their one-year (12 months) period of performance for TCOP Round 2.

Further questions regarding today's announcement can be directed to: acpgrants@fcc.gov.

– FCC –

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The FY 2023 TCOP Round 2 funding recipients announced on September 6, 2023 and final funding amounts are provided in the table below. Eligibility for TCOP Round 2 was limited to governmental and non-governmental Tribal entities that will conduct ACP outreach and enrollment assistance to eligible households on qualifying Tribal Lands.

ACP Outreach Grant Program Tribal Competitive Outreach Program (TCOP) Round 2			
#	Applicant Name	State	Final Award Amount
1	Shoshone-Bannock Tribes	Idaho	\$305,571
2	Waimanalo Hawaiian Homes Association	Hawaii	\$309,103
3	Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Radio	South Dakota	\$282,046
4	Burns Paiute Tribe	Oregon	\$87,360
5	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Washington	\$231,959
TOTAL:			\$1,216,039