



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OCT 07 2009

OFFICE OF  
ECOSYSTEMS, TRIBAL AND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**RE: FY 2011 INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (GAP)  
FUNDING INVITATION**

Dear Honorable Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10 would like to invite your Tribe or tribal consortium to submit a grant proposal for the FY 2011 (for proposals beginning October 1, 2010 and later) Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP). All proposals should be emailed or **postmarked no later than Wednesday, December 30, 2009**. Please refer to the enclosed funding announcement for details on required proposal elements and the GAP application process timeline.

**GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT GAP GRANTS**

All federally recognized Tribes as well as tribal consortia are eligible for GAP funding to build capacity in managing and implementing environmental programs. Base funding will not be less than \$75,000 and not more than \$115,000 per year for most Tribes. Tribes with large reservations may receive up to \$165,000. Tribal consortia must submit resolutions from GAP-eligible member Tribes who will benefit from a consortium GAP grant with their proposal. Consortia may apply for base funding between \$75,000 and \$115,000. However, funding will depend on the number of requests and the amount of funds available. Our policy is to provide funding to tribal governments prior to funding tribal consortia.

GAP funds cannot be used to implement environmental programs, with the exception of solid/hazardous waste programs. For more information, please refer to the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Guidelines for the Award and Management of General Assistance Agreements for Indian Tribes, March 2000 (<http://www.epa.gov/indian/pdfs/gap2000.pdf>) and the 2006 Grant Administration Guidance, February 2006 (<http://www.epa.gov/indian/pdfs/gap2006.pdf>). Please contact your Project Officer for clarification in developing a reasonable cost proposal for these activities.

For FY 2011, in order to receive base GAP funding, all applicants must provide the following elements in the grant proposal:

- Narrative description of risks to human health and the environment to be addressed by the applicant, and their relation to any environmental assessment or strategy efforts conducted to date;

- Work plan and detailed budget describing tribal capacity building actions to address environmental and human health risks;
- Environmental outputs, outcomes, and milestones related to the capacity building actions and description of how these outputs, outcomes, and milestones are expected to contribute to eliminating or reducing environmental and human health risks;
- Other specific requirements as described in the enclosed Funding Announcement.

In addition, all applicants must demonstrate sound financial, administrative, and programmatic management capability. For current or previous recipients, this includes:

- Timeliness and completeness of reports
- Progress under the current work plan
- Absence of duplicative activities in proposed work plan and budget
- Amount of unexpended funds
- Responsiveness to Project Officer requests

#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FY 2011 FUNDING PROCESS**

- To be considered for base grant funding, your grant proposal, including the work plan and detailed budget, must be submitted to EPA Region 10 via email or postmarked **no later than Wednesday, December 30, 2009**.
- Work plans must be presented using a standardized template as discussed in the Indian General Assistance Program (GAP) 2006 Grant Administration Guidance. The work plan template is to be used by Tribes and tribal consortia applying for GAP funds.
- EPA Project Officers will contact tribal staff to negotiate a final work plan and budget and to resolve any capability issues. Tribal leaders will be informed of any issues that could result in a denial of funding. After negotiations are complete and any capability issues resolved, Tribes will be requested to submit a formal application package. Please review the enclosed funding announcement carefully for additional information regarding the FY 2011 funding process and timeline.
- If you are requesting funding to host the Tribal Leaders Summit, a one-page abstract must also be submitted.

For applicants in Alaska, general questions regarding the FY2011 Indian Environmental GAP Funding Announcement can be directed to the Tribal Trust and Assistance Unit (TTAU) staff at 1-800-781-0983. For applicants in Idaho, Oregon, or Washington, please directly contact your Region 10 TTAU Tribal Coordinator.

Sincerely,



Richard B. Parkin, Acting Director  
Office of Ecosystems, Tribal and Public Affairs

Enclosure: Funding Announcement