



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PO Box 47890 1 Olympia, Washington 98504-7890
Tel: 360-236-4030 1 711 Washington Relay Service

June 11, 2024

SUBJECT: Consultation Closure – WA-DOH Tribal PHEP Allocation

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders:

I hope this correspondence finds you well. As you know, the Washington State Department of Health (WA-DOH) Tribal consultation process is a significant matter for our government-to-government relations that we hold with high regard. We greatly appreciate all of those who have participated in the recent consultation led by the WA-DOH Executive Office of Resilience and Health Security (ORHS) for the Tribal Public Health Emergency and Preparedness (PHEP) funding formula allocation.

In accordance with [43.376 RCW](#), the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), [DOH Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), and the [Dear Tribal Leader Letter \(DTLL\) Consultation - WA-DOH Tribal PHEP Allocation](#) (dated November 15, 2023) as scheduled:

- [Roundtable #1](#): Monday, December 4, 2023, 9:30 – 11:00 am
- [Roundtable #2](#): Tuesday, December 12, 2023, 1:30 – 3:00 pm
- [Consultation](#): Tuesday, December 19, 2023, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

The subject matter of this consultation focused on the Tribal PHEP funding allocation formula for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) PHEP grant in our state. Based upon the consultation meetings and feedback, a Consultation Party Response Form was issued to Tribes (and closed on January 9, 2024), for recommendation action on the matter. The consultation process resulted in the following recommendations:

Non-Competitive Project Based PHEP Funding

- Projects funded with DOH CDC Tribal PHEP funds will be aligned with the lessons learned highlighted in the American Indian Health Commission (AIHC) Tribal Pandemic After Action Report (AAR).
- An effective engagement framework (similar to the Tribal Foundational Public Health Services model) will be utilized to ensure Tribes are involved in the project selection aligned with the AIHC Pandemic AAR.

Equally Distributed PHEP Funds Amongst All Tribes (non-competitive)

- WA-DOH CDC PHEP funds will be equally distributed amongst all Tribes (non-competitive) for the next 5 years.

Honorable Tribal Leaders

June 11, 2024

Page 2

Conclusion

ORHS has considered the valuable participation and input from this consultation and will integrate the above recommendations into our plan for distributing CDC PHEP funds to Tribes in Washington. In addition to the recommendations above, ORHS is also committing to the following regarding the CDC PHEP Tribal allocation:

- For the next CDC PHEP grant cycle (2024-2029), ORHS will increase the Tribal allocation from 4.24% (\$461,060) to 10% (\$1,148,457.40) of the total WA-DOH CDC PHEP award amount (minus agency indirect) per year. This action is based on the recommendation outlined in the [National Indian Health Board resolution 22-10 \(Support for Implementation of a Department-wide Ten Percent Set Aside within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to Advance Tribal Health Equity\)](#). The 10% Tribal allocation evenly distributed will be approximately \$39,601.98 per year for each Tribe (this is non-competitive).
- ORHS will maintain its implementation of the CDC PHEP Tribal Reinvestment process, allowing unused Tribal funds to be redirected to other Tribes whose projects surpass their annual allocation of \$39,601.98.
- The ORHS Tribal contract manager will continue to work with Tribes on navigating the contract process effectively.

If you have suggestions or questions about how we can work best with your nation, community, and service audience, please direct your written comments or requests to Candice Wilson, Executive Director, WA-DOH Office of Tribal Public Health & Relations (OTPHR), at candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov, or Nathan Weed, Chief, WA-DOH ORHS, at nathan.weed@doh.wa.gov.

I am grateful to everyone who came together to address this matter of public health concern, and sincerely appreciate your time, engagement, and feedback. Every journey is marked by the steps taken together, and this is an important such step for PHEP funding efforts in our state.

Thank you all again.

Best,



Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH
Secretary of Health
Washington

cc: Amy Ferris, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Financial Services, WA-DOH
Kristopher Holiday, Chief, Office of Strategic Partnerships, WA-DOH
Elizabeth Perez, Chief, Office of Public Affairs & Equity, WA-DOH
Kristin Peterson, Chief, Office of Policy, Planning & Evaluation, WA-DOH
Jessica Todorovich, Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary, WA-DOH
Nathan Weed, Chief, Office of Resilience & Health Security, WA-DOH
Candice Wilson-Quatz'tenaut (Lummi), Executive Director, Office of Tribal Public Health & Relations, WA-DOH