



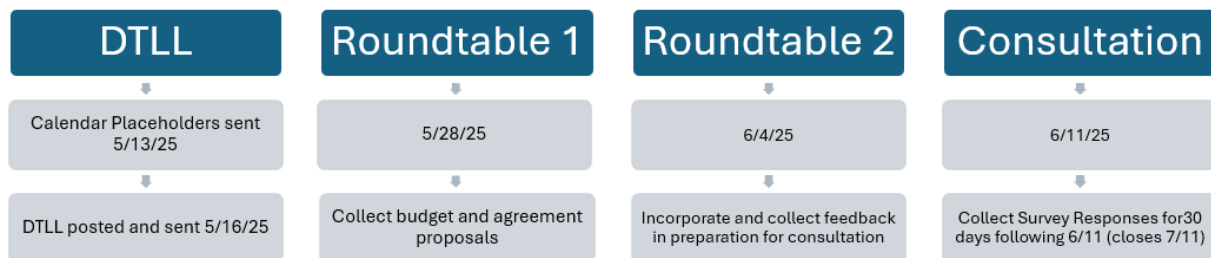
STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PO Box 47890 | Olympia, Washington 98504-7890
Tel: 360-236-4030 | 711 Washington State Relay

July 15, 2025

Re: Consultation Closure-Tribal Foundational Public Health Services Funding Allocation for State Biennium 2025-2027.

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders, Partners, and Professionals:

In accordance with chapter [43.376 RCW](#), the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), and the [Washington State Department of Health \(WA-DOH\) Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), WA-DOH would like to thank you for your time and consideration for [Consultation on the Tribal Foundation Public Health Services](#) (TFPHS) funding allocation for the new biennium 2025-2027:



The purpose was to 1) reach consensus on the Tribal allocation of state funding for Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS); and 2) review the terms and conditions of the TFPHS agreements for the new biennium, resulting in an approved Funding Agreement Template and Statement of Work (SOW) Template.

After our consultation on June 11, 2025, we sent a consultation form for any additional comments or concerns. Over the 30 days the form was open, we received eight responses (One Tribal leader, four Tribal delegates, one Tribal representative, and two Tribal organizations).

The WA-DOH's Office of Tribal Public Health and Relations (OTPHR) responded to questions and requests for additional information. After reviewing and responding to submissions, we have determined that the consultation may be closed. *Please see the attached TFPHS Consultation Closure slides for more details.*

Per RCW [43.70.515](#), the Office of Financial Management (OFM) may only allocate funding to WA-DOH *after* consultation with federally recognized Indian tribes. With consultation closure, the FPHS Steering Committee will submit the concurrence letter to OFM. Once submitted, WA-DOH will begin the process of sending the funding agreement and SOW to Tribes and Tribal Organizations to release funds for State Fiscal Year 2026, based on the consultation allocation amounts.

Legislative Funding Summary

On April 27, 2025, the Washington State Legislature's [conference budget](#) appropriated \$300,230,000 in General Funds for FPHS. FPHS was reduced by \$5 million for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025, \$22 million for SFY 2026, and \$22 million for SFY 2027 along an increase in spending authority of \$10 million per year in SFY 26 and SFY 27. Despite reductions in state funding, the FPHS Steering Committee (SC) reached consensus to not reduce the Tribal allocation, keeping it the same as the 2023-2025 biennium.

Based on an American Indian Health Commission (AIHC) recommendation, the FPHS Steering Committee in March 2024 recognized the inequity in the distribution of FPHS funds to the Tribal sector and has committed to working toward a 10% allocation. On April 3, 2025, FPHS SC members reached a consensus that should there be budget cuts from the legislature to FPHS, while the Tribal allocation remains under 10%, the SC prioritized not to reduce the Tribal funding allocation.

Tribal FPHS funding allocation 2025-2027 biennium:

FPHS Funding Distribution to the Tribal FPHS sector:

Tribal Orgs/Tribes	2019-2021	2021-2023	2023-2025	2025-2027
Tribes		\$2,327,500 per year among 29 tribes	\$5,800,000 per year among 29 tribes	\$5,800,000 per year among 29 tribes= \$200,000 per Tribe per year
Tribal Organizations*	\$600,000 per year	\$1,838,750 per year	\$930,000 per year	\$930,000
% of total FPHS budget	4.26%	4.9%	4.15%	4.5%

**The Tribal Organizations included in this allocation are: American Indian Health Commission (AIHC) as the Tribal Coordinating Entity, Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (NWTEC) and Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB), Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI) and Seattle Indian Health Board (SIHB), and the Native Project.*

FPHS Background

The governmental public health system in Washington State is a partnership between the four sectors of the governmental public health system: Sovereign Tribal Nations and Indian health programs, Local Public Health Jurisdictions, the Washington State Board of Health, and WA-DOH. The Executive Committee members of the AIHC serve on the FPHS Steering Committee

Anticipated Impact on TFPHS

WA-DOH recognizes that the allocation of these funds impacts each Tribe, AI/AN people, Indian Health Programs, Urban Indian Health Organizations, and other Tribal partners. WA-DOH recognizes the vital role that Tribes play as Tribal public health authorities, in the governmental public health system and we are committed to collaborating and consulting with Tribes.

For additional information, please contact FPHS Director Jeff Ketchel, at jeff.ketchel@doh.wa.gov, or Candice Wilson, Executive Director, OTPHR, at candice.wilson@doh.wa.gov or 360-819-7626.

Respectfully,



Dennis E. Worsham
Secretary of Health
Washington State Department of Health

cc: Jeff Ketchel, Director FPHS, WA-DOH
Kristin Peterson, Chief, Office of Policy, Planning & Evaluation, WA-DOH
Jessica Todorovich, Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary, WA-DOH
Candice Wilson-Quatz'tenaut (Lummi), Executive Director, OTPHR, WA-DOH