

Environmental Justice Grants for Tribes

The Department of Health consulted with Tribes to develop two environmental justice grant programs, the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Tribal Capacity grant and the Workplace Safety for Workers Affected by Climate Change grant. These non-competitive grant programs are open for all Federally Recognized Tribes with impacts to rights and interest in their tribal lands within Washington state boundaries ([RCW 70A.02.010](#)). DOH will grant funds for direct even distribution to Tribes. The applications for these programs will open in early October 2025 and remain open until June 30, 2026.

HEAL Tribal Capacity Grant

The HEAL Tribal Capacity grant funds can be used to provide guidance and input to:

- The [Environmental Justice Council](#) about how to implement the HEAL Act.
- DOH regarding updates to the [Environmental Health Disparities Map](#).
- State agencies about how to implement the [HEAL Act](#) (including environmental justice assessments, budgeting and funding, and Tribal engagement).

In the 2023 -2025 biennium, DOH awarded \$10.1 million to 18 Tribes to engage with the HEAL Act. Projects included conducting environmental assessments, engaging with tribal communities on food sovereignty, educating youth on environmental justice topics, and funding staff positions to engage with state agencies.

Updates for the 2025 – 2027 Biennium

In the 2023 – 2025 biennium, there was nearly \$26 million available for community organizations and Tribes. In the 2025 – 2027 biennium, \$1.5 million is reserved for distribution to Tribes. Funding for the 2025 – 2027 biennium can be used to continue previous project activities.

Workplace Safety for Workers Affected by Climate Change

The Workplace Safety for Workers Affected by Climate Change Grant program focuses on the workplace health and safety of workers who are affected by climate impacts, like extreme heat and cold, wildfire smoke, drought, and flooding. Funding from this grant program can be used to purchase and distribute equipment and resources for outdoor workers in fields like fisheries, shellfish, emergency management, and first foods cultivating and harvesting.

In the 2023 – 2025 biennium, DOH awarded nearly \$2 million to 13 Tribes to procure supplies that benefit outdoor workers affected by climate change and provide worker safety training, education, or climate-specific emergency preparedness training.

Updates for the 2025 – 2027 Biennium

In the 2023 – 2025 biennium, there was \$10 million in funding available. For the 2025 – 2027 biennium, \$500,000 is reserved for distribution to Tribes.

The Environmental Justice and Climate Change Grants are supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov.



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