**Washington State Department of Health (DOH)**

**Request for Applications (RFA)**

**Application Title**: Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Tribal Capacity grant

**Total Amount of Funding:** $1.4 million

**Estimated Funding Range per Award:** Base award of $45,454 per Tribe; non-competitive funding

**Eligibility:** Federally Recognized Tribes with impacts to rights and interests in their Tribal lands that are within Washington State boundaries (RCW [70A.65.305](https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=70A.65.305)).

**Expected Period of Performance:** Date of Execution – June 30, 2027

**Timeline:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Application release date  | October 3, 2025 |
| Information Sessions | October 14, 2025November 5, 2025 |
| Application due date  | June 30, 2026 |
| Funding period end date  | June 30, 2027 |

This grant application will be open from October 3, 2025, to June 30, 2026. After June 30, 2026, Tribes receiving the base award may receive additional funding from any remaining funds.

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the Washington State Department of Health (DOH).

**Background and Purpose**

The Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act was passed in 2021 to reduce environmental and health disparities, equitably distribute environmental benefits, and improve the health of all people in Washington state. The DOH is one of seven named state agencies, along with Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture, Department of Transportation, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Ecology, and Puget Sound Partnership, committed to reducing environmental health disparities across Washington State through the implementation of HEAL. The HEAL Act also required that DOH:

* Convene and staff an Environmental Justice Council (EJC), which provides a forum for disproportionately impacted communities to inform the state’s environmental justice efforts.
* Further develop the Environmental Health Disparities (EHD) map by engaging with communities and Tribes and track changes in health disparities over time.

The Legislature required the state Department of Health to set this grant program based on the EJC funding recommendations and budget priorities for 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. Funding for this grant program is provided by these CCA dollars. Information about the CCA is available at [www.climate.wa.gov](https://www.climate.wa.gov).

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act Tribal Capacity Grant is a non-competitive grant program to provide funds to eligible Tribes to engage with DOH and other state agencies on HEAL implementation. All Federally Recognized Indian Tribes with HEAL Act impacts to rights and interests in their Tribal Lands ([RCW 70A.02.010](https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=70A.02.010)) will be eligible for this non-competitive funding opportunity.

DOH held listening sessions, two roundtable discussions, and consultation in October 2023 regarding the development of this grant program. At consultation and the comment period following consultation, we heard a preference to prioritize funding to federally recognized Tribes’ rights and interests in their Tribal lands that are within Washington state boundaries.

In August 2025, DOH held two listening sessions regarding the funding for the 2025 – 2027 biennium. Based on the input at these sessions, DOH will manage this grant program for the 2025 – 2027 biennium based on the agreements reached at the 2023 consultation and grant funds for direct even distribution to Tribes.

**Eligible Project Activities**

Grant funds may be used to build tribal capacity to engage in HEAL Act activities. Funds may support activities that include, but are not limited to building capacity to provide guidance and input to:

* agencies on implementation of the HEAL Act (including environmental justice assessments, budgeting and funding, community, and Tribal engagement),
* the Environmental Justice Council on implementation of the HEAL Act, and
* the Department of Health on updates to the environmental health disparities map.

Examples of How Project Funding May be Used

| **Example Activity** | **Example Deliverables** |
| --- | --- |
| Hire staff or contractors to lead environmental justice activities and guide engagement with state agencies and the EJ council | Record of hiring and onboarding staff  |
| Increase community/organization knowledge and understanding of the HEAL Act  | Number of community meetings, outreach activities, events attended Meeting agendas or high-level summaryCreating opportunities for collaboration amongst organizations |
| Increase community knowledge about a particular environmental justice issue/injustice, efforts to address the issue, and opportunities to get involved | Number of community meetings, outreach activities, events hosted/attended; time and resources to create materials; and number of participantsDocumentation of an educational video or other mediaMeeting agendas or high-level summary |
| Background research on environmental justice issues, HEAL Act, state agencies, etc. | Number of hours spent doing research |
| Attend Environmental Justice Council meetings or agency briefings related to specific topic areas | Documentation of meetings, such as meeting summary, shared or co-created with state agency program manager. |
| Conduct an assessment related to specific environmental health and justice topic areas | Documentation of assessment process, experience, impact, key findings, and/or areas of improvement Collection of qualitative data such as stories about how environmental injustices have impacted Tribes and communities, with associated protocols to ensure safety and data sovereignty including transparency to participants on how data will be used. |
| Participate in providing feedback, or researching topics associated with the Environmental Health Disparities Map development. This may include reviewing map updates, gathering input, and/or providing feedback on communications and map development process. | List of new or updated health indicators you contributed to Documentation of hours spent in and preparing for meetings, such as meeting name and dates. Hosting or partnering on community engagement to inform the EHD Map development or associated communications. |

**Example Project Activities from 2023 – 2025 Biennium**

In addition to the examples provided above, funding may also be used to continue projects started last biennium.

* Develop and market a youth HEAL gathering to increase knowledge and understanding of the HEAL Act and environmental justice
* Host a First Food Summit with state agencies and the Environmental Justice Council to discuss the implementation of the HEAL Act, impact of climate change and access to first foods
* Develop/conduct environmental health assessments or community health assessments
* Engage with tribal community such as hosting events on related topics including tribal food sovereignty
* Fund staff positions to engage with state agencies on topics related to the HEAL Act, tribal consultations. Ex. Hire an environmental policy analyst to engage with state agencies about the HEAL Act and make environmental policy recommendations
* Develop a plan for providing guidance on updating the Environmental Health Disparities Map

**Eligibility and Qualifications**

This is a non-competitive grant program open to all Federally Recognized Tribes with impacts to rights and interests in the Tribal lands that are within Washington State boundaries (RCW [70A.65.305](https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=70A.65.305)).

# **Evaluation and Reporting Requirements:**

The HEAL Tribal Capacity Grant program staff will periodically solicit feedback from grantees to better understand the stories of participants and make programmatic improvements. This may include information related to activities performed, recommendations of changes to implementation for projects, the impact(s) of the HEAL Tribal Capacity Grant, and location of services provided.

DOH responds to public records requests. Information provided in any grant-related documents may be subject to public disclosure. The information you provide may be used to fulfill our reporting requirements for public-facing dashboards related to the [Climate Commitment Act](https://climate.wa.gov/washington-climate-action-work/climate-commitment-act-polluters-pay-communities-benefit/cca-dashboard-how-climate-commitment-act-funds-are-invested), the [HEAL Act](https://ofm.wa.gov/budget/budget-related-information/environmental-justice-and-heal-act/heal-act-dashboards/heal-act-budgets-and-funding-dashboard), [the Environmental Health Disparities (EHD) Map](https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/wtnibl/WTNIBL/), and in reports our team develops about this grant program.

**Payment**

Payment can be provided through advanced payment or cost reimbursement. Advance payments will be made before actual costs are incurred but as close as administratively feasible to when project costs are incurred, and actual disbursements will be made. There are no match requirements; grant awards will cover 100 percent of eligible costs up to the grant award amount.

**Eligible costs**

Allowable costs include:

* Staffing costs
* Administrative costs, including any costs associated with fund administration, including but not limited to salaries, benefits, goods and services, travel, etc.

Non-allowable costs include:

* Capital projects
* Public works equipment and vehicles
* Funds for research
* Billable clinical care, except as allowed by law
* Reimbursement of pre-award costs, unless DOH provides written approval to the recipient
* Generally, recipients may not use funds to purchase furniture or equipment. Any such proposed spending must be clearly identified in the budget.
* Other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, no funds may be used for:
	+ Publicity or propaganda purposes to prepare, distribute, or use any material designed to support or defeat the enactment of legislation before any legislative body.
	+ The salary or expenses of any grant or contract recipient, or agent acting for such recipient, related to any activity designed to influence the enactment of legislation, appropriations, regulation, administrative action, or Executive order proposed or pending before any legislative body.

**Application Process**

Applications will be accepted starting October 3, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Application materials can be found below. Applicants should download the file, complete all required forms, and return them by email to EJGrants@doh.wa.gov. Applications will be reviewed within 10 days of receiving them.

**Application Support**

Interested Tribes are invited to register for information sessions held in October and November to ask any clarifying questions about the RFA and application process. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. The information session will be recorded and made available on the [Environmental Justice and Climate Change Grants for Tribes website](https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/health-equity/environmental-justice/grants/grants-tribes). Interested Tribes can reach out to the EJ Grants Team (ejgrants@doh.wa.gov) to request a meeting to discuss a project idea and address any questions or concerns directly.

[Register for information session on October 14, 2025 from 3 – 4 pm](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/PX6R__x4T0WnN146bk5O8w)

[Register for information session on November 5, 2025 from 10 – 11 am](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/6vkc-LieTD26dNNRCPuM-g)

**Applicant Information**

1. Name of Tribe:

1. Primary mailing address:

1. Telephone number:

1. Tax Identification Number (TIN):

1. Statewide Vendor Number:

1. Primary Contact Person Name and Title:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

1. Secondary Contact Person Name and Title:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

1. Authorized signer for the contract and Title:

Email address:

1. Payment type:

[ ] Upfront

[ ] Reimbursement (requires monthly or quarterly invoices)

[ ] Other (please describe):

Please send the completed application with any attachments to EJGrants@doh.wa.gov.

**Project Narrative**

**Tribe-specific Contract Number (if applicable):**

**Purpose statement:** To advance health equity and environmental justice by addressing barriers for Tribes to engage with state agencies and the Environmental Justice Council around activities related to [RCW 70A.02.005](https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=70A.02.005), or the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act. The implementation lead will achieve this though providing guidance and input to:

* State agencies on implementation of the HEAL Act,
* The Environmental Justice Council on implementation of the HEAL Act, and
* The Department of Health on updates to the Environmental Health Disparities (EHD) map

**Tribe Name:**

**Project Period:**

**Budget:**

Please describe your proposed approach for your project. Please address the following in your description:

1. Project Description – Describe your project, including goals, and anticipated challenges.
	1. How does the project meet the intent of the HEAL Act and the grant requirements?
	2. What are the steps or tasks needed to complete your project?
	3. How will you show/inform DOH that those steps or tasks have been completed? How will you provide updates as to ongoing and completion progress?
2. Invoicing and Budgeting - If you selected reimbursement of grant funds in your application:
	1. How frequently will you be submitting invoices for payment?
	2. Would you prefer invoicing for completion of tasks or for time/effort spent working on the project?
	3. If you select time/effort, please propose a funding breakdown for the following categories:

| **Budget Category** | **Amount Requested** |
| --- | --- |
| Personnel, salaries, and benefits |  |
| Supplies and Equipment |  |
| Travel |  |
| Subcontracts |  |
| Administrative Costs |  |
| Other Expenses |  |
| Total amount requested |  |

1. If there is additional funding remaining following the application deadline of June 30, 2026, would you be interested in receiving additional grant funds?

[ ] Yes

[ ] No

If yes, please indicate how you intend to spend the additional funding.