

April 2022 Federal Register Update

APII tracked the following Federal Register notices affecting Indian Country for the month of April 2022. This list includes notices published between March 28, 2022 and April 22, 2022.

1. [Applications for New Awards; Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Program, Part A.](#)

- Published on March 29, 2022
- The Department of Education is issuing a notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year 2022 for the Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions to expand their capacity to serve Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students.
- Deadline to submit applications is May 31, 2022.
- Addresses for obtaining and submitting an application are available at www.federalregister.gov/d/2021-27979.
- For further information contact Robyn Wood, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 2B203, Washington, DC 20202-4260. Telephone: (202) 453-7744. Email: Robyn.Wood@ed.gov.

2. [Notice of Intent To Establish a Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee: Structure and Request for Nominations.](#)

- Published on March 31, 2022
- This notice seeks nominations for HUD's Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (TIAC). It provides details on who is eligible to serve on TIAC and how Tribal governments can nominate persons to serve on TIAC on their behalf. Additionally, this notice announces the structure of the TIAC, informed by Tribal feedback.
- Nominations for potential representatives of the TIAC are due on or before: May 31, 2022.
- Interested persons may submit nominations electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov.
- For further information contact Heidi J. Frechette, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 4108, Washington, DC 20410-0500, telephone (202) 401-7914.

3. [Rate Adjustments for Indian Irrigation Projects.](#)

- Published on April 1, 2022
- The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) owns or has an interest in irrigation projects located on or associated with various Indian reservations throughout the United States. The BIA is required to establish irrigation assessment rates to recover the costs to administer, operate, maintain, and rehabilitate these projects. Therefore

the BIA is seeking comments on proposed rate adjustments. The full table of rates is available in the notice link.

- You may send comments via email to comments@bia.gov on or before May 31, 2022. Please reference “Rate Adjustments for Indian Irrigation Projects” in the subject line. Or you may submit comments to the Chief, Division of Water and Power, Office of Trust Services, 13922 Denver West Parkway, Suite 300, Lakewood, Colorado 80401.
- For further information contact David Fisher, Chief, Division of Water & Power, Office of Trust Services, (406) 657-5985.

4. **[Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee Notice of Public Meetings.](#)**

- Published on April 4, 2022.
- The National Park Service is hereby giving notice that the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee (Committee) will hold two virtual meetings. The Committee will meet via teleconference on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, and Monday, May 9, 2022. Both meetings will be held from 2:00 p.m. until approximately 6:00 p.m. (Eastern) and are open to the public.
- Meeting info and links are available at <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1335/events.htm>.
- For further information contact Melanie O'Brien, Designated Federal Officer, National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Program (2253), National Park Service, telephone (202) 354-2201, or email nagpra_info@nps.gov.

5. **[Establishing Emergency Connectivity Fund To Close the Homework Gap.](#)**

- Published on April 4, 2022
- As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Congress appropriated \$7.171 billion to the ECF and directed the Commission to promulgate rules providing for the distribution of funding to eligible schools and libraries for the purchase of eligible equipment and/or advanced telecommunications and information services for use by students, school staff, and library patrons at locations that include locations other than a school or library.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) announces that a third application filing window for the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) Program will open on Thursday, April 28, 2022, and close on Friday, May 13, 2022. The Bureau anticipates that a minimum of \$1 billion will be available for commitment and disbursement for this third window.
- For further information contact Molly O'Connor, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-7400 or by email at Molly.OConor@fcc.gov.

6. **[GAO Tribal Advisory Council](#)**

- Published on April 7, 2022.

- This notice announces the U.S. Government Accountability Office's (GAO) intention to form its first standing Tribal Advisory Council (TAC) expected to be composed of a diverse group of Tribal leaders (elected or appointed by their Tribes); an elected or appointed leader of a state-recognized Tribe and/or Native Hawaiian organization; and advisors who are experts on Tribal and Indigenous issues. The TAC will advise GAO on vital and emerging issues affecting Tribes and Indigenous peoples for the purpose of informing GAO's strategic goals and priorities with respect to the agency's work evaluating federal programs serving Tribes and related topics.
- Submit nomination materials to TAC@gao.gov by May 20, 2022.
- For further information contact Paige Gilbreath at (214) 777-5724 or email gilbreathp@gao.gov.

7. [Self-Regulation of Class II Gaming.](#)

- Published on April 7, 2022.
- The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) proposes to amend its regulations regarding self-regulation of Class II gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. The proposed rule will amend the regulations to address an ambiguity in the petitioning process and clarify and expand the Office of Self-Regulation's (OSR) role once the Commission issues a certificate. The NIGC is seeking comments on the proposed amendments.
- The agency must receive comments on or before June 6, 2022 and may be submitted through the following:
 - Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions for submitting comments.
 - Email: information@nigc.gov.
 - Fax: (202) 632-7066.
 - Mail: National Indian Gaming Commission, 1849 C Street NW, MS 1621, Washington, DC 20240.
 - Hand Delivery: National Indian Gaming Commission, 90 K Street NE, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20002, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
- For further information contact James A. Lewis, National Indian Gaming Commission; Telephone: (202) 632-7003.

8. [Acquisition Regulations: Buy Indian Act; Procedures for Contracting.](#)

- Published on April 8, 2022.
- This final rule revises the Department of the Interior's regulations implementing the Buy Indian Act, which provides the Department of Interior (DOI) with authority to set aside procurement contracts for Indian-owned and controlled businesses. These revisions eliminate barriers to Indian Economic Enterprises from competing on certain construction contracts, expand Indian Economic Enterprises' ability to subcontract construction work consistent with other socio-economic set-aside programs, and give greater preference to Indian

Economic Enterprises when a deviation from the Buy Indian Act is necessary, among other updates.

- This rule is effective May 9, 2022.
- For further information contact Mr. Christopher Bell, Senior Small Business Specialist, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Small Business, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 4214 MIB, Washington, DC 20240; telephone (202) 208-3458 or email christopher_bell@ios.doi.gov.

9. **National Advisory Council on Indian Education (NACIE).**

- Published on April 13, 2022.
- This Notice is for a NACIE open virtual meeting scheduled for April 26, 2022 from 1 - 4:30 p.m. (EDT) and April 27, 2022 from 1 - 4:30 p.m.
- The purpose of this meeting is to convene NACIE to conduct the following business: (1) Participate in a dialogue with Biden-Harris Administration Officials, (2) convene a roundtable with White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Native Americans and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities Education staff, (3) conduct an overview of the development of NACIE's Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report to Congress, and (4) conduct an overview and seek recommendations on the activities of the Office of Indian Education.
- Members of the public may access the NACIE meeting via teleconference and the web. Up to 350 lines will be available on a first come, first serve basis. The dial-in, listen only phone number for the meeting is 1-669-254-5252, Meeting ID: 161 715 5166. The web link to register to access the meeting via Zoom is <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlscOitqzoshKp-LOrXrTwxnv21QhO Omu0>.
- For further information contact Donna Sabis-Burns, Designated Federal Official, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE)/Office of Indian Education (OIE), U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: 202-213-9014, Email: Donna.Sabis-Burns@ed.gov.

10. **June 13, 2022 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee: Notice of Nomination Solicitation.**

- Published on April 13, 2022.
- The National Park Service is soliciting nominations for the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee (Committee). The Secretary of the Interior will appoint members from nominations submitted by Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, or traditional Native American religious leaders and national museum organizations or national scientific organizations.
- Nominations must be received by June 13, 2022. Please address nominations to Melanie O'Brien, Designated Federal Officer, National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee, via email: nagpra_info@nps.gov.

- For further information contact Melanie O'Brien, via telephone at (202) 354-2201.

11. [Access to Federal Employees Health Benefits \(FEHB\) for Employees of Certain Tribally Controlled Schools.](#)

- Published on April 13, 2022.
- This rule finalizes an interim rule which expanded access to enrollment in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program to additional tribal employees. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (FY21 CAA) amended section 409 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and expanded entitlement to Indian tribes or tribal organizations carrying out programs under the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (TCSA) to purchase coverage, rights, and benefits under the FEHB Program for their employees. This final rule adopts the interim final rule with minor clarifications.
- Effective on April 13, 2022.
- For more information contact Julia Elam, Senior Policy Analyst, at julia.elam@opm.gov or (202) 606-2128.

12. [Indian Child Welfare Act: Designated Tribal Agents for Service of Notice.](#)

- Published on April 15, 2022.
- The regulations implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act provide that Federally recognized Indian Tribes may designate an agent other than the Tribal Chairman for service of notice of proceedings under the Act. This notice includes the current list of designated Tribal agents for service of notice. The updated list is available in the link above.
- For further information contact Bureau of Indian Affairs, Evangeline M. Campbell, Chief, Division of Human Services, Office of Indian Services, 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 3641-MIB, Washington, DC 20240; Phone: (202) 513-7621; Email: Evangeline.campbell@bia.gov.

13. [Addressing Dementia in Indian Country: Models of Care.](#)

- Published on April 18, 2022.
- The Indian Health Service (IHS) is accepting applications for cooperative agreements for Addressing Dementia in Indian Country. This program is authorized under the Snyder Act, 25 U.S.C. 13; the Transfer Act, 42 U.S.C. 2001(a); and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, 25 U.S.C. 1665a(c)(5)(F) and 1660e. This program is described in the Assistance Listings located at <https://sam.gov/content/home> (formerly known as the CFDA) under 93.933.
- Application Deadline is July 18, 2022.
- Earliest anticipated start date is August 31, 2022.
- The application package and detailed instructions for this announcement are available at <https://www.Grants.gov>.
- For further information contact Paul Gettys, Deputy Director, DGM, by telephone at (301) 443-2114 or (301) 443-5204 or email Paul.Gettys@ihs.gov. Please be sure to contact Mr. Gettys at least 10 days prior to the application deadline.

14. [Ending the HIV/HCV Epidemics in Indian Country: A Program for American Indian/Alaska Native Tribes and Urban Indian Communities.](#)

- Published April 18, 2022.
- The Indian Health Service (IHS) is accepting applications for a cooperative agreement for the Ending the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Epidemics in Indian Country (ETHIC) program. This program is authorized under the Snyder Act, 25 U.S.C. 13; the Transfer Act, 42 U.S.C. 2001(a); and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, 25 U.S.C. 1621q, 1660e. This program is described in the Assistance Listings located at <https://sam.gov/content/home> (formerly known as the CFDA) under 93.933.
- The application package and detailed instructions for this announcement are available at <https://www.Grants.gov>.
- Application deadline date is June 17, 2022.
- Earliest anticipated start date is August 1, 2022.
- For further information contact Paul Gettys, Deputy Director, DGM, by telephone at (301) 443-2114 or (301) 443-5204 or email Paul.Gettys@ihs.gov. Please be sure to contact Mr. Gettys at least 10 days prior to the application deadline.

15. [Request for Nominations to the Board of Trustees](#)

- Published on April 18, 2022.
- The Board directs the Administration of the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development, including soliciting, accepting, and disposing of gifts, bequests, and other properties for the benefit of the Institute. The Institute provides scholarly study of and instruction in Indian art and culture and establishes programs which culminate in the awarding of degrees in the various fields of Indian art and culture. The Board consists of thirteen members appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the consent of the U.S. Senate, who are American Indians or persons knowledgeable in the field of Indian art and culture. This notice requests nominations to fill two expiring terms on the Board of Trustees.
- For further information contact Dr. Robert Martin, President, 505-424-2301.

16. [Notice of Public Meetings of the New Mexico Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.](#)

- Published on April 20, 2022.
- Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the New Mexico Advisory Committee (Committee) will hold a series of meetings via Webex video conference on the following dates and times for the purpose of discussing their project on education disparities for Native American students.
- Meeting dates and links:
 - Wednesday, May 25th: <https://tinyurl.com/yjxs7yew>.

- Wednesday, June 15th, 2022: <https://tinyurl.com/33ejkwyb>.
- Wednesday, July 6th, 2022: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8chrzk>.
- Wednesday, July 27th, 2022: <https://tinyurl.com/4kswmddx>.
- Wednesday, August 17th, 2022: <https://tinyurl.com/3a2vh7hw>.
- For further information contact Brooke Peery, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at bpeery@usccr.gov or (202) 701-1376.