

§ 170.162

through 170.176 are provided for information only. The Program assists tribal governments and other IRR Program participants in extending their technical capabilities by providing them greater access to transportation technology, training, and research opportunities.

§ 170.162 How is the Indian LTAP funded?

FHWA uses Highway Trust Funds to fund the Indian LTAP. BIA may use IRR Program management and oversight funds for Indian LTAP centers. These funds may be used to operate Indian LTAP centers and to develop training materials and products for these centers. The Indian LTAP centers should apply for supplemental funding from other sources to accommodate their needs.

§ 170.163 How are Indian LTAP recipients selected?

(a) FHWA announces Indian LTAP grant, cooperative agreement, and contracting opportunities in the FEDERAL REGISTER. The announcements state that tribal governments, a consortium of tribal governments, State transportation departments, or universities are eligible for these awards; indicate the funds available; and provide eligibility criteria.

(b) FHWA sends the information in paragraph (a) of this section to BIA for distribution to tribal governments and consortia. BIA must provide written notice to tribal governments and consortia.

(c) A selection committee of Federal and tribal representatives (see § 170.164) reviews the proposals of eligible applicants and recommends award recipients. FHWA selects and notifies award recipients consistent with applicable law.

§ 170.164 How are tribal representatives nominated and chosen for the selection committee?

In its written notice to tribal governments announcing opportunities under the Indian LTAP, FHWA requests nominations within each Indian LTAP's service area for representatives to serve on the selection committee. Forty-five days after receiving the re-

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quest for nominations, FHWA will notify tribal governments of the nominees for the service area. Each tribe then has 30 days to notify FHWA of its selection from the nominees.

§ 170.165 May a tribe enter into a contract or agreement for Indian LTAP funds?

Yes. If selected for an award as an Indian LTAP Center, a tribe will enter into a cooperative agreement with the FHWA and be subject to the guidelines of the agreement.

§ 170.166 What services do Indian LTAP centers provide?

(a) Indian LTAP centers provide transportation technology transfer services, including education, training, technical assistance and related support services to tribal governments and IRR Program participants. Indian LTAPs will:

(1) Develop and expand tribal expertise in road and transportation areas;

(2) Improve IRR Program performance;

(3) Enhance tribal transportation planning, project selection, transit and freight programs;

(4) Develop transportation training and technical resource materials and present workshops;

(5) Improve tribal tourism and recreational travel programs;

(6) Help tribes deal more effectively with transportation-related problems by developing and sharing tribal transportation technology and traffic safety systems and information with other transportation agencies;

(7) Operate Indian technical centers in cooperation with State transportation departments and universities;

(8) Provide technical assistance on transportation technology and enhance new technology implementation in cooperation with the private sector;

(9) Develop educational programs to encourage and motivate interest in transportation careers among Native American students; and

(10) Act as information clearinghouses for tribal governments and Indian-owned businesses on transportation-related topics.