

TRIBAL OUTREACH NOTIFICATION

USDA To Host Webinar to Help Tribal Applicants Access High-Speed Internet Through ReConnect Round 4 Funding

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15, 2022 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Under Secretary Xochitl Torres Small announced today that USDA will host a webinar on Thursday, Aug. 18 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Time to help tribal applicants access high-speed internet through ReConnect Round 4 funding. To register, visit: <u>Webinar Registration - Zoom (zoomgov.com)</u>.

USDA recently announced that it is making additional funding available for high-speed internet in Round 4 of the ReConnect Program. The Department will begin accepting applications on September 6 for up to \$150 million in loans, up to \$300 million in loan/grant combinations, and up to \$700 million in grants – including \$350 million for Alaska Native Corporations, Tribal Governments, Colonias, Persistent Poverty Areas and Socially Vulnerable Communities with no matching funds requirement.

The Department will use funds appropriated under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides a historic \$65 billion investment to expand affordable, high-speed internet to all communities across the U.S. The application deadline is November 2.

The webinar will provide an overview of the ReConnect Program and the Round 4 <u>Funding Opportunity</u> <u>Announcement</u>, highlight resources and key considerations for Tribal applicants, and allow ample time for questions and answers.

Submit ReConnect questions through the Contact Us form at www.usda.gov/reconnect.

The ReConnect Program offers loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations to facilitate high-speed internet in areas of rural America without sufficient access to broadband. To learn more about the ReConnect Program, please visit <u>https://www.usda.gov/reconnect</u>.

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