



AN HONORABLE BUDGET FOR INDIAN COUNTRY

Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request

Executive Summary

Annual funding decisions by Congress are an expression of our nation's policy priorities. Numerous treaties and laws have created a fundamental contract between tribal nations and the United States: tribes ceded millions of acres of land that made the United States what it is today, and in return tribes have the right of continued self-government, and to exist as distinct peoples on their own lands. Part of this trust responsibility includes basic governmental services in Indian Country, funding for which is appropriated in the discretionary portion of the federal budget. As governments, tribes must deliver a wide range of critical services, such as education, workforce development, and first-responder and public safety services to their citizens. The federal budget for tribal governmental services reflects the extent to which the United States honors its promises to Indian people.

A fundamental goal for Indian Country governmental services should be parity with similarly situated governments or services. Although tribes have made some progress in addressing egregiously inadequate public services that many Americans routinely take for granted, they are still experiencing what the US Commission on Civil Rights called "a quiet crisis" of federal funding and unmet needs. Most recently, shrinking resources due to sequestration and the Budget Control Act have adversely affected tribes' ability to meet the needs of their communities. An honorable budget for Indian Country will empower tribes so they can provide their people with good health care, quality education, decent and adequate housing, and a level of public safety that any American citizen has the right to demand. Although Indian Country continues to face immense economic challenges, upholding Indian trust and treaty obligations also holds the promise of tremendous economic success.

Congress and the Administration have expressed strong support for Indian self-determination and honoring the trust responsibility. Indeed many tribes have made tremendous gains in the social and economic well-being of their communities when Congress has respected the responsibility of tribes as governments and invested in self-determination. Tribes across the United States are making economic contributions to their regions, drawing on a mix of intergovernmental transfers, fees, enterprises, sales, and leases that make up their governmental revenue. Honorable fulfillment of the trust and treaty promises to tribes affects not only required public services to tribal citizens, but also to the surrounding regional economies. Given the low historical bases of funding for tribal governments, opportunities for economic improvement and government success are plentiful. However, the trend in funding for Indian Affairs in the Department of the Interior does not reflect Indian self-determination as a priority in the federal budget.

The foregoing FY 2015 tribal budget program requests have been compiled in collaboration with tribal leaders, Native organizations, and tribal budget consultation bodies. Tribes respectfully request that these recommendations be included in the appropriations process.

Support for Tribal Governments (More Information on Page 24)

Ensuring tribes have the tools for effective governance is critical to fulfilling the promise of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. To build a more prosperous American future, the following policy changes are essential.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOI	Interior, Environment	Tribal Priority Allocations	Increase funding.
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Contract Support Costs	Provide full funding and resolve BIA claims.
DHHS	Interior, Environment	IHS Contract Support Costs	Provide full funding and resolve IHS claims.
DOI	Interior, Environment	Fixed Costs and Tribal Pay Costs	Provide full funding.

(See page 14 for a listing of agency abbreviations.)

Public Safety & Justice (More Information on Page 27)

The public safety problems that continue to plague tribal communities are the result of decades of gross underfunding for tribal criminal justice systems; a uniquely complex jurisdictional scheme; and the historic, abject failure by the federal government to fulfill its public safety obligations on American Indian and Alaska Native lands. Residents and visitors on tribal lands deserve the safety and security that is taken for granted outside of Indian Country. Congress has taken historic steps in recent years with the passage of the Tribal Law and Order Act in 2010 and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA 2013), both of which begin to address some of the structural barriers to public safety in tribal communities. For the promise of these laws to be fully realized, however, they must be fully implemented, which requires sufficient resources for tribal justice systems and ongoing coordination and consultation between various federal agencies and tribal governments.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOI, DOJ, HHS	Interior, Environment; Commerce, Justice, Science; and Labor, HHS	Tribal Law & Order Act	Provide full funding.
DOI	Interior, Environment	Base funding for tribal courts and the Indian Tribal Justice Act	\$50,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Law Enforcement	\$378,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Safe Indian Communities	Increase to allow four more tribes.
DOJ	Commerce, Justice, Science	Tribal Grants	Utilize DOJ appropriations as base funding with tribes setting own priorities.
DOJ	Commerce, Justice, Science	Tribal Set-Aside from Office of Justice Programs	Create a seven percent tribal set-aside for all discretionary Office of Justice Programs (OJP) programs.

(Table continued on next page.)

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOJ	Commerce, Justice, Science	Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Tribal Law Enforcement	\$52,000,000
DOJ	Commerce, Justice, Science	Tribal Youth Program under the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants program	\$25,000,000
DOJ	Commerce, Justice, Science	Research, Evaluation, Technical Assistance, and Training, Part D of JJDP	Increase funding and establish a tribal set-aside.
DOJ-FBI	Commerce, Justice, Science	Indian Country Assistant United States Attorney positions	Continue funding.
DOJ	Commerce, Justice, Science	Tribal programs under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), including the grants to Indian Tribal Governments Program	Provide full authorized amount.
DOJ	Commerce, Justice, Science	Indian Country Sexual Assault Clearinghouse	\$500,000
DOJ	Commerce, Justice, Science	Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance Training and Technical Assistance Grant Program	\$3,000,000

Homeland Security & Emergency Management (More Information on Page 35)

Tribal governments have broad emergency and first-responder responsibilities, extensive border security responsibilities, and law enforcement jurisdiction to deal with illegal immigration, terrorism, and smuggling. Many tribes have critical national infrastructure on their lands, including oil pipelines, nuclear facilities, missile sites, and dams. Tribal governments are the only major governmental presence in many rural and isolated locations, serving as the first, and oftentimes only, law enforcement authority and emergency responders for Native and non-Native communities alike. As an integral component of this country's homeland security and emergency management framework, tribes perform these functions with little or no funding despite the fact that funding may be available for these purposes. Tribal homeland security and emergency management operations funding is an essential component of the federal government's trust responsibility.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DHS	Homeland Security	Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program	\$20,000,000
DHS	Homeland Security	Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, Tribal IDs	\$10,000,000
DHS-FEMA	Homeland Security	Creation of National Tribal Advisory Council	\$500,000
DHS-FEMA	Homeland Security	Emergency Management Institute Tribal Course Delivery	\$1,000,000

Education (More Information on Page 38)

Ensuring equal educational opportunities is not simply a matter of fairness, but even more importantly in today's tough economic climate, it is an essential strategy for creating jobs and securing the nation's future prosperity. Tribes need an educated citizenry to lead tribal governments, boost available human capital and thereby attract new businesses, reduce unemployment, stimulate reservation economies through direct spending, and launch tribal entrepreneurial ventures. Education also drives personal advancement and wellness, which in turn improves social welfare and empowers communities—elements that are essential to maintaining tribes' cultural vitality and to protecting and advancing tribal sovereignty. Under sequestration, critical education programs have been reduced curtailing their efficiency and effectiveness. The across-the-board reductions disproportionately affect Native youth and leave America's most vulnerable populations and students behind, representing a blatant abandonment of the federal trust responsibility for educating Native students. To address this urgent situation and give tribal nations the vital foundation for economic success, the federal government must live up to its trust responsibility by providing adequate support for Native education. The requests below detail the minimum funding needed to sustain a system that is currently struggling and underfunded.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title I, Part A (Local Education Agency Grants)	\$25,000,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	State-Tribal Education Partnership (STEP) Program	\$5,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title VIII funding, NCLB (Impact Aid Funding)	\$2,000,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title VII funding, NCLB (culturally-based education)	\$198,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Alaska Native Education Equity Assistance Program, Title VII, Part C	\$35,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Native Hawaiian Education Program, Title VII, Part B	\$35,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title III-A grants under the Higher Education Act for Tribal Colleges and Universities (Discretionary)	\$30,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title III-A grants under the Higher Education Act for Tribal Colleges and Universities (Mandatory)	\$30,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Strengthening Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions program	\$15,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Tribal Colleges and Universities: Adult/Basic Education	\$8,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Tribally Controlled Post-Secondary Career and Technical Institutions	\$8,200,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Native American-Serving, non-Tribal Institutions (Higher Education Act, Title III-F)	\$10,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Tribal Education Departments (Dept. of Ed)	\$5,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Tribal Education Departments (DOI)	\$5,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Construction/Repair of Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Schools	\$263,400,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Johnson O'Malley	\$ 42,000,000

(Table continued on next page.)

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOI	Interior, Environment	Student Transportation	\$73,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Tribal Grant Support Costs (Administrative Cost Grants)	\$73,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Facilities Operations (BIE)	\$109,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Facilities Maintenance (BIE)	\$76,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Indian School Equalization Formula	\$431,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Juvenile Detention Education	\$620,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Tribal Colleges and Universities' Institutional Operations, Titles I, II, and III of the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act	\$88,200,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Forward Fund Five Tribal Colleges and Universities	\$22,700,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Institute of American Indian Arts and Center for Lifelong Education & Museum (AIANNH Culture and Art Development Act)	\$9,370,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Haskell Indian Nations University & Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (Snyder Act)	\$22,900,000
USDA	Agriculture	1994 Institutions Extension Program (NIFA)	\$ 6,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	1994 Institutions Research Program	\$3,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	1994 Institutions Educational Equity Grants	\$6,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	Native American Endowment Account (Corpus Payment)	\$136,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	Tribal Colleges and Universities Essential Community Facilities Program	\$10,000,000
HUD	Transportation, Housing and Urban Development	HUD-University Partnership Program for Tribal Colleges and Universities	\$5,500,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Indian Head Start	Provide full funding.
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Language Preservation Program	\$10,000,000
NSF	Commerce, Justice, and Science	Education and Human Resources Funding for Tribal Colleges and Universities	\$13,300,000

Health Care (More Information on Page 51)

The survival and prosperity of tribal communities depends on the safety, health, and wellness of our citizens. The Indian Health Service (IHS) has been and continues to be a critical institution in securing the health and wellness of tribal communities. Funding for the IHS is crucial for providing necessary health care for tribal citizens and depends solely on the federal budget. Additionally, the budget for the IHS determines the extent to which the United States honors its federal trust responsibility to American Indians and Alaska Native peoples. The FY 2015 budget for the IHS should support tribal self-determination and uphold the federal government's partnership with tribes to improve Native health and work to reduce health disparities for Native people.

In order to build on the foundation of this partnership, NCAI calls for a long-term plan that brings American Indian and Alaska Native health care into line with the rest of the American population. Developing and implementing a plan to achieve parity is critical to the future of Indian health and to the fulfillment of the United States' trust responsibility to tribal nations. The requests listed below focus on specific increases to the IHS that reflect both the priorities of tribal leaders from the 12 IHS Areas and the Agency-wide goals expressed by IHS Acting Director, Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, to: "build and sustain healthy communities; provide accessible, quality health care; and foster collaboration and innovation across the Indian health system." In addition, recommendations related to supporting Native youth diabetes prevention and strengthening the Native Hawaiian Health Care System program are included.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DHHS	Interior, Environment	Indian Health Service funding increase over the FY 2014 budget request to maintain current services.	Increase by \$342,434,000.
DHHS	Interior, Environment	Indian Health Service funding increase over the FY 2014 budget request level for program services.	Increase by \$440,338,000.
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	SAMHSA Behavioral Health Program	\$15,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	SAMHSA Behavioral Health Tribal Prevention Grant program	\$50,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	On the T.R.A.I.L. to Diabetes Prevention program	\$1,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	HRSA Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems Program	\$14,400,000

Child Welfare [\(More Information on Page 58\)](#)

Tribes have an important relationship with their children and families: they are experts in the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native children, best suited to effectively serve those needs, and most able to improve child welfare outcomes for these children. Many states find tribes to be an essential part of the child welfare system because of the help and relief they offer through the provision of culturally competent services and needed out-of-home placements for tribal children. Self-determination is essential to good outcomes for Native children in both state and tribal child welfare systems. Successful tribal child welfare requires a budget that avoids unnecessary restraint to tribal decision making. Funding must provide flexible opportunities that allow tribes to design their child welfare services to meet the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native children and families.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Social Services	\$40,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Child Welfare Assistance	\$80,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Child Welfare Act On or Near Reservation Program	\$16,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Self-Governance and Consolidated Tribal Government Program (CTPG)	\$16,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Off-Reservation Indian Child Welfare Act Program	\$5,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	\$35,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention	\$60,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Child Welfare Services, Title IV-B, Subpart 1 (tribal allocation)	\$280,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Promoting Safe and Stable Families, Title IV-B, Subpart 2 (discretionary component)	\$75,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	SAMHSA Programs of Regional and National Significance	\$9,000,000, with \$3,000,000 reserved for Circles of Care.
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	SAMHSA Garrett Lee Smith Grants, State/ Tribal Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Grant Program	\$40,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	SAMHSA Garrett Lee Smith Grants, Campus Suicide Prevention Program	\$9,134,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	SAMHSA American Indian and Alaska Native Suicide Prevention	\$2,940,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Children's Mental Health Services Program	\$117,000,000

Disabilities [\(More Information on Page 70\)](#)

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 30 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native adults have a disability—the highest rate of any other population in the nation. Of those American Indian and Alaska Native adults with a disability, 51 percent reported having fair or poor health. Despite this need, however, tribes have had limited access to funding for vocational rehabilitation and job training compared to states. An increase in the Vocational Rehabilitation Services Projects to \$67 million would begin to put tribal governments on par with their state government peers and better equip tribes to provide support to their citizens with a disability.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Vocational Rehabilitation Services Projects for American Indians with Disabilities	\$67,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Vocational Rehabilitation Services Projects for American Indians with Disabilities (line item for outreach to tribal recipients)	\$5,000,000

Elders [\(More Information on Page 70\)](#)

In tribal communities, elders are considered the “wisdom-keepers” and are held in the highest regard. However, it is these same elders in Indian Country that comprise the most economically disadvantaged elderly minority in the nation. Funds for grants to tribes have a history of being both well-managed but woefully inadequate to meet existing needs.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Older Americans Act (Title VI-Parts A and B)	\$30,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Older Americans Act (Title VI-Part C), Native American Caregiver Support Program	\$8,300,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Older Americans Act (Title VII-Part B), tribal set-aside	\$2,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Older Americans Act Title IV (national minority aging organizations to build the capacity of community-based organizations)	\$3,000,000

Economic & Workforce Development [\(More Information on Page 73\)](#)

The federal government owes a solemn trust responsibility to support the prosperity and economic security in Indian Country and to provide the necessary resources to tribes that allow them to better protect and enhance their tribal lands and their seventh generation workforce. To empower tribes in their efforts to achieve greater control over their own affairs and shape their own futures, the federal government should ensure tribal nations have more flexibility to carry out federal programs and remove the barriers and red tape that undermine tribal self-determination and discourage private investment in Indian Country.

Economic & Workforce Development (continued)

Problems such as chronically high unemployment; underdeveloped business and entrepreneurial opportunities; minimal access to capital; poor physical infrastructure, such as roads and bridges or water supplies; lack of education and training for a local workforce; and limited access to broadband all contribute to the poor economic conditions that have plagued tribal nations for decades. Honoring the trust responsibility and addressing these key needs will unleash the economic power of Indian Country. The results will be beneficial for not only our tribal nations, but the United States as well. Together, tribal nations and the federal government must work to fulfill the promises of the past to secure prosperity for future generations. These FY 2015 budget requests identify items that are essential to advancing economic security for tribal nations.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
Commerce	Commerce, Justice, Science	Minority Business Development Agency	\$35,000,000
Commerce	Commerce, Justice, Science	Office of Native American Affairs	\$1,250,000
SBA	Financial Services	Office of Native American Affairs	\$1,250,000
DOD	Defense	American Indian Procurement Technical Assistance Program	\$3,600,000
DOD	Defense	Indian Incentive Payment Program	\$15,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development Indian Loan Guarantee Program	\$15,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development	\$25,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Community and Economic Development Program	\$1,400,000
Treasury	Financial Services	Community Development Financial Institutions Fund	\$15,000,000
DOL	Labor-HHS-Education	YouthBuild Program	Restore funding to \$102,500,000, with 10 percent set-aside for rural and tribal programs.
DOL	Labor-HHS-Education	Employment and Training Administration, Indian and Native American Program (INAP)	\$60,500,000
DOL	Labor-HHS-Education	Native American Employment and Training Council	\$125,000 from non-INAP resources.

Telecommunications [\(More Information on Page 82\)](#)

As the United States continues to deploy and adopt 21st century technologies, any federal programs and policies designed to encourage and implement new technologies in Indian Country must contemplate the unique circumstances that exist on tribal lands. Furthermore, without adequate resources and funding these efforts will not foster tribal self-determination and capacity building. Funding for federal commitments to consult with tribal nations and access to public media systems continue to be essential to bridging the digital divide.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
FCC	Financial Services	Office of Native Affairs and Policy	Provide fixed annual budget of \$500,000.
CPB	Labor-HHS-Education	American Indian and Alaska Native Radio Station grants	\$5,000,000
CPB	Labor-HHS-Education	Native Public Media and Koahnic Broadcast Corporation	\$1,000,000

Agriculture & Rural Development [\(More Information on Page 84\)](#)

Agriculture is a major economic, employment, and nutrition sector in Indian Country. In 2007, there were at least 61,472 American Indian-operated farms and ranches on more than 58 million acres of land with total sales of \$3.26 billion, including \$1.46 billion of crops and \$1.71 billion of livestock and poultry. As a result of the huge agricultural footprint across Indian Country and the fact that more than 35 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples live in rural communities, tribal governments and farmers look to active partnerships throughout the US Department of Agriculture to sustain and advance common interests across the broad array of services that this federal agency provides to tribal governments.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
USDA	Agriculture	Office of Tribal Relations	\$1,500,000
USDA	Agriculture	Rural Development	\$2,500,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	Rural Utilities Service	\$9,000,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	Rural Housing and Community Facilities Programs	\$28,000,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Environmental Quality Incentives Program	\$1,400,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	NRCS, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	\$85,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	NRCS, Conservation Stewardship Program	\$973,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	Federally Recognized Tribal Extension Program	\$5,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations	\$102,700,000
USDA	Agriculture	Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, traditional foods market development	\$5,000,000

Environmental Protection [\(More Information on Page 90\)](#)

Tribal peoples maintain spiritual, cultural, practical, and interdependent relationships with their homelands and natural resources. Consequently, tribal peoples face direct and often disproportionate impacts of environmental degradation, including climate change. Federal funding to support environmental protection for reservations was not forthcoming until more than 20 years after the passage of the Clean Water and Clean Air Act. Tribes are still trying to catch up, and a significant gap remains. The federal government must ensure tribes have fair and equal opportunities to realize, preserve, and enhance the environmental quality of Indian Country for present and future generations and to sustain tribal cultures. In the recommendations below, NCAI requests that EPA tribal programs at least receive amounts to achieve parity with states through sustainable targeted base funding.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
EPA	Interior, Environment	Indian Environmental General Assistance Program	\$75,000,000
EPA	Interior, Environment	Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	Provide 4.5 percent tribal set-aside.
EPA	Interior, Environment	Clean Water Act State Revolving Fund, tribal set-aside	Provide \$46,500,000 tribal set-aside and lift the funding cap on tribal set-aside for wastewater facilities.
EPA	Interior, Environment	Tribal Water Pollution Control, Clean Water Act Section 106	Increase the tribal allocation to 20 percent.
EPA	Interior, Environment	Nonpoint Source Pollutant Control, Clean Water Act Section 319	Eliminate cap on tribal funding and provide \$27,100,000.
EPA	Interior, Environment	Exchange Network	Provide 10 percent set-aside for tribes.
EPA	Interior, Environment	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, tribal allocation	\$3,000,000

Natural Resources [\(More Information on Page 96\)](#)

The vitality and sustainability of natural resources is integral to the health and security of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples, communities, cultures, and economies. It also has demonstrable positive impacts on surrounding communities. The benefits of federal investment in tribal natural resource management reverberate widely and can support tribes in creating jobs; maintaining tribal societal cohesion; forming healthy tribal and non-tribal communities and relations; developing innovative approaches to addressing pervasive unemployment and poor health brought on by environmental factors; and diminishing strain on land management and law enforcement services, among other things. Federal support for tribal natural resource efforts, however, has not matched the tribal efforts, nor captured the value of tribal ecological knowledge and natural resources for tribal peoples and for the nation. The investments by the federal government in tribal natural resource management requested below will foster tribal economic self-sufficiency, cultural revitalization, and collaborative working relationships across jurisdictions – supporting communities and economies throughout the United States.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Rights Protection Implementation	\$49,500,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Cooperative Landscape Conservation Initiative	\$10,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Water Management, Planning, and Pre-Development Program	\$8,298,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Water Rights Negotiation/Litigation Program	\$10,923,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Endangered Species Program	\$3,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Tribal Management and Development Programs	\$20,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Wildlife and Parks Tribal Priority Allocations - Fish Hatchery Operations	\$3,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Wildlife and Parks Tribal Priority Allocations - Fish Hatchery Maintenance	\$7,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Wildlife and Parks Tribal Priority Allocation	\$10,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Natural Resources Tribal Priority Allocations	\$10,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Fish and Wildlife Service's Tribal Wildlife Grants Program	\$8,000,000
Commerce	Commerce, Justice, Science	Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund	\$110,000,000
EPA	Interior, Environment	Geographic/Ecosystem Program in Puget Sound	\$50,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Forestry Tribal Priority Allocations	\$31,200,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Forestry Projects	\$23,300,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Invasive Species Program	\$6,500,000

Energy [\(More Information on Page 105\)](#)

Tribal lands contain abundant and largely underdeveloped conventional and renewable energy resources that hold great promise for the current and future generations of Native peoples. Even with this substantial potential, there are only two commercial-scale renewable energy projects operating in Indian Country. In the conventional energy field, tribes boast nearly a quarter of the nation's on-shore oil and gas reserves and developable resources and one-third of the nation's western low-sulfur coal. Nevertheless, Indian tribes and communities face not only many of the same challenges in developing their energy resources and infrastructure that state and local governments and non-Indian communities face, but also additional challenges—which include special laws, regulations, and policies. Some of the other unique challenges facing Indian Country include inadequate physical infrastructure, limited access to capital, and high workforce training and development needs. This FY 2015 budget request identifies authorized energy programs that have never been funded; but, if adequately funded, it would provide innovative new tools to spur new investment in tribal energy development, capacity building, and resource management needs. Further development of tribal energy would contribute significantly to national energy security, clean energy development to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and tribal economic development and job creation.

Energy (continued)

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOE	Energy and Water	Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, Tribal Loan Guarantee Program	\$30,000,000
DOE	Energy and Water	Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs	\$2,000,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, energy capacity building through development grants	\$5,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program	\$4,700,000,000

Housing (More Information on Page 108)

Housing is a core necessity for tribal communities. While tribes have made great strides toward improving housing conditions in their communities through the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA), the need for adequate, affordable housing for low income Indian people persists. Native Americans still face some of the worst housing and living conditions in the United States. Nearly 30 percent of homes in Indian Country rely on wood for heating; up to 18 percent are without phone service in some areas; and substandard housing conditions continue to prevail.

The NAHASDA effectively replaced the various Indian housing programs under the 1937 Housing Act and consolidated federal housing funds through direct block grants to the tribes and their TDHEs. The NAHASDA has resulted in tens of thousands of more housing units being constructed, as well as increased tribal capacity to address related infrastructure and economic development challenges. The NAHASDA authorizes several programs and activities that are in need of additional funding, they include: the Indian Housing Block Grant, Indian Community Development Block Grant, Sections 184 and 184A Guarantee Loan Program, Title VI Guarantee Loan Program, and NAHASDA's Training and Technical Assistance Funding.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
HUD	Transportation, HUD	Indian Housing Block Grant	\$675,000,000
HUD	Transportation, HUD	Indian Community Development Block Grant	\$70,000,000
HUD	Transportation, HUD	Title VI Loan Guarantee	\$2,000,000
HUD	Transportation, HUD	Section 184 Loan Guarantee Program	\$7,000,000
HUD	Transportation, HUD	NAHASDA's Training and Technical Assistance	\$4,000,000
HUD	Transportation, HUD	Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant	\$13,000,000
HUD	Transportation, HUD	Section 184A Loan Guarantee	\$1,000,000

Transportation [\(More Information on Page 111\)](#)

Surface transportation in Indian country involves thousands of miles of roads, bridges and highways, and connects and serves both tribal and non-tribal communities. Despite being the principal transportation system for all residents of and visitors to tribal communities, Indian country roads are still the most underdeveloped road network in the nation. Maintenance and enhancement of transportation infrastructure is critical to economic development, job creation, and improving living conditions for individuals and families throughout Indian country. Tribal nations require sustained and adequate federal transportation appropriations to address the large backlog of deferred road and bridge construction and road maintenance needs. Investing in tribal transportation will create jobs and make Native economies stronger.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOT	Transportation, HUD	Tribal Transportation Program	\$450,000,000
DOT	Transportation, HUD	Tribal Technical Assistance Programs	\$1,000,000
DOT	Transportation, HUD	Tribal Transit Program	\$30,000,000
DOT	Transportation, HUD	Tribal High Priority Projects Program	\$30,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIA Roads Maintenance	\$30,000,000

Historic & Cultural Preservation [\(More Information on Page 114\)](#)

After nearly two centuries of failed policies to assimilate Native people, the era of tribal self-determination has advanced efforts in cultural preservation and revitalization. Federal policies enacted over the past 20 to 30 years have increased tribal management of programs and services. However, increased funding is crucial to sustain current efforts to preserve cultural practices and sacred places and to advance tribal self-determination.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2015 Request
DOI	Interior, Environment	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)	\$4,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Investigations into Failure to Comply with NAGPRA	Provide a 10 percent increase for investigations into failure of institutions to comply with NAGPRA, and create a line-item for investigations of complaints made by tribes.
DOI	Interior, Environment	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Program	\$15,000,000

Key to Agency Abbreviations (listed in order of appearance in chart): DOI (Department of the Interior); DHHS (Department of Health and Human Services); DOJ (Department of Justice); DHS (Department of Homeland Security); HHS (Department of Health and Human Services); ED (Department of Education); USDA (Department of Agriculture); HUD (Department of Housing and Urban Development); NSF (National Science Foundation); Commerce (Department of Commerce); SBA (Small Business Administration); DOD (Department of Defense); Treasury (Department of the Treasury); DOL (Department of Labor); FCC (Federal Communications Commission); CPB (Corporation for Public Broadcasting); EPA (Environmental Protection Agency); DOT (Department of Transportation).