



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 42730 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2730

May 8, 2025

Dear Tribal Leader:

SUBJECT: Application for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Services and Mental Health Block Grants FFY 2026-2027.

In accordance with (A) section 724(a)(4)(B)(ii)(II) of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S. Code § 1667c), (B) chapter 43.376 RCW regarding collaboration with Tribes, and (C) the Health Care Authority Tribal Consultation and Communication Policy, the Health Care Authority (HCA) hereby seeks your advice on the following matter.

Purpose

The Agency intends to submit a Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services and Mental Health Block Grant (SUPTRS and MHBG) application to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for the federal fiscal year 2026-2027. The application is due September 1, 2025. The amount of combined SUPTRS and MHBG funds provided to Tribes is approximately \$3 million per state fiscal year, out of approximately \$65 million per state fiscal year in total SUPTRS and MHBG funds. We invite you to join us in reviewing the priorities from our prior application and to provide input on any gaps in service you identify. As we build the priorities for the new application, we will take those recommendations into consideration and present the new priorities for the FFY 2026-27 application at the Roundtables and Consultation for further review and collaboration.

The Agency has reserved the following dates and times for Tribal Listening Session, Tribal Roundtables and Tribal Consultation:

Listening Session

Date: May 28, 2025

Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87560399788>

Roundtable 1

Date: July 1, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84034817882>

Roundtable 2

Date: July 16, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82359082096>

Consultation

Date: August 12, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83428809428>

Anticipated Impact on Indians/Indian Health Programs/Urban Indian Organizations

The Agency anticipates that this block grant renewal application will have positive impacts that are specific to American Indian/Alaska Native Medicaid applicants or enrollees, Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Organizations, given that funding resources directly distributed to Tribal governments to serve their communities will be maintained throughout the upcoming application. The Agency would appreciate any input or concerns that Tribal representatives wish to share, including whether these amendments will have a disproportionate impact on American Indian/Alaska Native Medicaid applicants or enrollees, Indian Health programs, or Urban Indian Health Organizations.

Copy Available for Review

A copy of the FFY24-25 Block Grant Renewal Application and Priorities will be made available for review and input prior to the initial roundtable, and a final draft of the FFY26-27 Block Grant Priorities will be sent out prior to the Tribal Consultation. To see the current Block Grant Application and Priorities, please visit [Consultations and meetings | Washington State Health Care Authority](#). We invite your participation and look forward to continuing to our Government to Government collaboration on this important work.

Comments and Questions

To return any comments, please contact Janet Cornell, Federal Block Grant Administrator, at janet.cornell@hca.wa.gov, by August 15, 2025.

Please contact Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator by email at aren.sparck@hca.wa.gov if you have tribal affairs-related questions.

Please forward this information to any interested party.

Sincerely,



Teesha Kirschbaum
Division Director
Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

Tribal Leader

May 8, 2025

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cc: Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator, EXO, HCA
 Leah Coberly, Deputy Director of Operations, DBHR, HCA
 Lucilla Mendoza, Tribal Behavioral Health Administrator, EXO, HCA
 Kimberly Wright, Behavioral Health Operations and Planning Supervisor, DBHR, HCA
 Janet Cornell, Federal Block Grant Administrator, DBHR, HCA