April 28, 2017

In 2002, Arizona voters passed Proposition 202 that allowed for the continuation of limited Indian gaming on tribal lands in Arizona. Passage of this ballot measure was of tremendous importance as it ensures that Arizona tribes can continue to address the desperate needs that exist on tribal lands. On the Tohono O’odham Nation, gaming revenues are being used to improve the health and well-being of tribal members, strengthen public safety, open up educational opportunities, and address a multitude of other needs.

Under Proposition 202, Arizona tribes also agreed to share a portion of their revenues with the State of Arizona. Of the revenues shared, 12 percent is made available to cities, towns, or counties for a purpose benefiting the general public through either direct distribution to the local governments or in the form of a deposit to the State of Arizona’s Commerce and Economic Development Commission’s Local Community Fund.

For its 2017 revenue sharing, the Tohono O’odham Nation has chosen to contribute directly to local governments. In addition, non-profit organizations may work with local governments to qualify for the funding available from the Nation. Therefore, the Tohono O’odham Nation is seeking Requests for Funding Proposals from Arizona cities, towns, counties, and non-profit organizations.

Attached are the specific criteria and timelines the Tohono O’odham Nation has set forth for identifying funding recipients. Proposals will be evaluated and awarded under the priorities established by the Tohono O’odham Nation.

Sincerely,

Edward D. Manuel
Chairman, Tohono O’odham Nation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
for the
Arizona Revised Statute 5-601-02
12% Gaming Distribution
Tohono O'odham Nation

Background

In 2002, Arizona eligible voters approved Proposition 202, which implemented a new requirement that Tribal/State Gaming Compacts must include a provision that the compacting tribe would contribute a portion of its annual net gaming revenues (the “Annual Contribution”) for the benefit of the general public. Pursuant to Proposition 202, each tribe may determine the recipients of 12 percent of its total Annual Contribution (the “12% Payments”). For fiscal year 2017, the Tohono O'odham Nation has chosen to distribute 12% payments directly to local governments and non-profit organizations.

Distribution Priority Areas for Fiscal Year 2017

Proposals must address one or more of the following priority areas:
  a) Education
  b) Health Care
  c) Public Safety
  d) Child Advocacy
  e) Economic Development
  f) Cultural & Environmental Development and Protection

Proposal

Proposals shall be limited to 4 pages in length, typewritten in 12 point font. If the proposal is more than 4 pages, only the first 4 pages will be considered. Budgets are required and therefore will be counted as part of the 4 pages. Attachments, such as photos, are not considered as one of the 4 pages. All proposals must be sent via certified mail and must be postmarked no later than June 3, 2017. Only one copy per proposal is needed. It is recommended that a copy of the proposal also be sent via e-mail to mats@simginc.com and to contracts@tonation-nsn.gov. However, providing a copy of the proposal via e-mail alone will not be deemed to have applied properly and only proposals received via certified mail will be considered. Proposals must:
  a) Explain the perceived need and explain how the proposal will address that need.
  b) Describe the population who will benefit from the proposal if approved.
  c) Include a budget of the requested funds, with the total amount requested clearly notated.
d) List any other funding requests that have been made for this or substantially related proposals and provide the status of those requests.

e) Indicate whether the entity has already received a 12% distribution from the Tohono O’odham Nation or other Arizona tribes, along with the amount and date awarded.

f) Identify a designated contact person and alternate contact person for follow-up, including e-mail address, phone number, mailing address, and fax number for these persons.

g) Indicate which priority area (from the above list) the proposal falls under.

h) If the proposal is from a non-profit organization, include the name of the city, town, or county an agreement will be made with if funds are granted. A letter from the governmental entity acknowledging its agreement to work with the non-profit is not necessary for the initial proposal. However, it is necessary for those non-profits selected to receive grant funding.

Requirements

If you, the applicant, are a city, town or county located within the State of Arizona:

1) You will need to provide proof or cite some authority that you are authorized to seek and enter into a grant of this nature.

2) If selected, you will need to ensure that the government you represent is willing to negotiate and execute the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Nation no later than September 30, 2017.

If you, the applicant, are any other non-governmental entity (not-for-profits, fire districts, etc.):

1) You will need to enter into an agreement with a city, town or county located within Arizona whereby that city, town, or county will agree to accept the grant funding from the Nation on your behalf. As a non-governmental entity, you bear the responsibility to find a municipality to flow the funding through and the Nation is not responsible for matching you with a government capable of receiving the funding.

2) The city, town, or county that has agreed to assist you to receive the grant will be required to enter into a Grant-in-Aid, Fiscal Agent agreement with the Nation in which the city, town, or county agrees to accept the funding on your behalf.

Timeline

a) All proposals to be considered must be postmarked no later than June 3, 2017.

b) Notification of decision will be mailed by September 15, 2017.

c) Negotiation of Grant-in-Aid Agreements will commence immediately after notification.

d) Negotiations of the Grant-in-Aid Agreements must be concluded no later than September 30, 2017.

e) Approval of all Grant-in-Aid Agreements by the Nation and distribution of monies will occur on or about November 17, 2017.

Submitting Your Proposal / Contact Information

Address and mail all proposals via certified mail to:

Chairman Edward Manuel  
Tohono O’odham Nation  
P.O. Box 837  
Sells, Arizona 85634  
ATTN: Doreen McPaul  
(520) 383-2028 telephone  
(520) 383-3379 fax

Must be postmarked no later than June 3, 2017  
Proposals not in compliance with the above procedures will not be considered.
Tohono O’odham Nation 12% Gaming Distribution – Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I’m with a Fire District and we already have the authority to enter into intergovernmental agreements with tribal nations. Do we still need to work with a town, city, or county for a Grant-In-Aid Agreement?

A: Yes. Fire Districts must identify a town, city, or county to partner with in the event they are selected to receive grant funding. One of these entities must be identified in the proposal for it to be considered.

Q: If a proposal falls under more than one priority area, will that increase the chances of it being selected to receive funding?

A: No. Proposals only need to be aligned with one of the priority areas. It is not necessary to draw connections to multiple or all priority areas. Proposals should identify a single priority area that it most closely falls under.

Q: The RFP requires me to send a proposal via Certified Mail to a P.O. Box. I thought P.O. Boxes couldn’t receive Certified Mail.

A: The Tohono O’odham Nation only uses P.O. Boxes; there is not a physical address to send your proposal to. They will accept Certified Mail. Any proposals that are not sent via Certified Mail will not be considered.

Q: Can I print the final proposal double-sided to save paper?

A: We prefer all proposals to be printed single-sided only. Because we only request one copy of the proposal, single-sided proposals make it easier to scan for Legislative Council Representatives’ review.

Q: I am an individual and would like to submit a proposal that is not associated with a government or a non-profit. Is that allowed?

A: No. All proposals must come from Arizona towns, cities, or counties, or qualified non-profit organizations.

Q: My proposal last year was not considered due to missing information, but I thought I included everything. What should I do to ensure all components are included?

A: Clearly respond to proposal requirements a-h by organizing it by those categories. In addition, you must respond to all components of each section. For example, item “e” requests proposals to include any previous awards from the Tohono O’odham Nation or other Arizona tribes. You must list all Tohono O’odham Nation awards AND awards from other tribes. If you’ve received funding from the Tohono O’odham Nation but no other tribes, list the Tohono O’odham Nation award and state that no funding has been received from other tribes. If you’ve never received funding from any tribe, you must state this. Do not leave a section out even if you think it does not apply to you.