
Indian Health Service Federal, Tribal and Urban (I/T/U) Guidance to Accessing Medical Supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) through the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)

Tribal Governments seeking assistance should first refer to [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): FEMA Assistance for Tribal Governments](#).

These guidelines are intended for Indian Health Service (IHS), Tribal Health Programs (THP) and Urban Indian Organizations (UIO) (I/T/U). I/T/Us should continue efforts to obtain needed supplies, especially Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), through their established local processes including any existing established relationships with State, City and County Emergency Operation Centers.

- ❖ The Tribal Health Programs can access the SNS in one of two ways once all local efforts have been exhausted.
 1. Follow specific guidance in [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): FEMA Assistance for Tribal Governments](#).

Note: if a Tribe chooses this method IHS Headquarters (HQ) will not have visibility on this request. Please cc or send an email to IHS-SNS-Requests@ihs.gov to ensure that IHS Incident Command Structure (ICS) has the ability to track once it has reached the FEMA WebEOC. Additionally, cc or email fema-nrcc-tribal@fema.dhs.gov to ensure the FEMA National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) Tribal Liaison is informed of the request. IHS can assist Tribes as needed.
 2. Recognizing the Sovereign Status of Tribes and the direct government-to-government relationship with Tribes, THPs may contact their respective IHS Area Emergency Management Point of Contact (EMPOC) (Attachment 1) who can provide technical assistance and will follow the steps below for processing the request.
- ❖ IHS hospitals and clinics, THPs and UIO programs will work with their IHS Area EMPOCs to complete the following steps.
 1. I/T/Us will ensure that all local resources have been exhausted. IHS hospitals and clinics should follow any additional Area guidance required.
 - a. Complete the Resource Request Form (O.M.B. No. 1660-0002) (Attachment 2) specifically identifying healthcare and PPE needs.
 - b. Submit the form to their IHS Area EMPOC.
 2. The IHS Area EMPOC will then be responsible for the following:
 - a. Review request for accuracy and need.
 - b. Enter the request into the IHS HQ ICS COVID-19 tracking system located in the EMPOC SNS Workgroup, Logistics Section with all pertinent documents;
 - c. Ensure that I/T/U reaches out to the regional service supply centers and National Supply Service Center to verify if the need can be fulfilled internally; and
 - d. If the request cannot be filled internally, submit the request form to the respective FEMA Regional Tribal Liaison who will review and coordinate with the FEMA Regional Logistics Chief (Attachment 3) to upload the completed request into the WebEOC.
 3. IHS ICS will work with the IHS Liaison Officers assigned to FEMA HQs and the FEMA NRCC SNS Logistics group to provide updates via the ICS Tracking System for IHS Area EMPOCs to relay to program requestors. Once the SNS supplies have been received and verified by the requesting program facility, the request will be closed.
- ❖ Questions can be sent to IHS-SNS-Requests@ihs.gov.

Attachments (3)

Attachment 1: IHS Area EMPOC list

Attachment 2: Resource Request Form O.M.B. No. 1660-0002

Attachment 3: FEMA Regional Logistics Chiefs

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