



Navajo Nation Washington Office

Email: info@nnwo.org

Wááshindoon Weekly | February 4, 2024

Listening Session on Executive Order 14112

WASHINGTON, D.C. – At the Tribal Nations Summit on December 6th, 2023, President Biden signed Executive Order 14112, titled [Reforming Federal Funding and Support for Tribal Nations To Better Embrace Our Trust Responsibilities and Promote the Next Era of Tribal Self-Determination](#).

On Monday, January 22nd, the White House Council on Native American Affairs (“WHCNA”) held a listening session reviewing the Order and its planned implementation, as well as a Q&A session. The PowerPoint from this listening session can be found [here](#).

One of the key goals of this Executive Order is to provide for a central repository of all federal grants connected to Indian Country. This has started already with the publishing of the [Department of the Interior’s Access to Capital Clearinghouse](#). The federal government will continue to add grant programs to this website until all federal agencies are utilizing the clearinghouse. Programs listed include those specifically targeted to tribal governments, as well as programs where tribal governments are one of the eligible applicants (alongside state or local governments). The Clearinghouse will also list programs for which individual Native Americans are eligible (though this does not include programs like Medicaid/Medicare or student loans, for which all Americans can apply).

The implementation of this program will be through a joint Implementation Committee of the White House’s Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) and Domestic Policy Council (“DPC”). OMB will lead the Budget Task Force, while DPC will lead the Federal Funding Reform Task Force. These two groups will work together to deliver the final implementation of Executive Order 14112.

Per the WHCNA, the target date for full-scale implementation is Summer 2025.

- The Budget Task Force and Federal Funding Reform Task Force both will start meeting this month.
- In August 2024, the Budget Task Force will release their guidance to federal agencies on how to meet “unmet needs” of tribes.
- By May 2025, agencies will need to submit their final reports on unmet budget needs to the Budget Task Force.
- The Implementation Committee will then submit a report to the President on agency budget needs, best practices, and other necessary reforms found by the Funding Reform Task Force.

The implementation timeline extends well into 2025. When asked in the meeting about what provisions are being made to ensure the continued implementation of this program should the current administration not win reelection in 2024, the WHCNA staff said that they were hopeful that future staff members would continue the process, but provided no specifics or further details.