

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, D.C.

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USDA ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF \$4 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

WASHINGTON, April 19, 2001 –The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced on April 13, 2001 that \$4 million in grants to benefit federally-recognized Native American tribes is available from USDA Rural Development.

The grants are available under USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities grant program. Priority will be given to eligible tribal colleges to develop essential community facilities in rural communities. Eligible facilities include schools, classrooms, education-related equipment, libraries, cultural museums and dormitories.

Before filing a preapplication for this assistance, USDA urges potential applicants to meet with Rural Development state office representatives to discuss eligibility requirements and processing procedures. The documentation required will vary depending on the project proposed. Applicants will compete for funds during two windows of opportunity, the first ending on May 11, 2001, and the second on August 17, 2001. A Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for this assistance was published April 10, 2001, in the Federal Register.

Further information on the program is available in Nebraska from the USDA Rural Development state office Attn. Business and Community Programs at Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 or phone 402-437-5556. Visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/.

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