OREGON HOUSING and COMMUNITY SERVICES

Rulemaking Engagement Record

Tribal Housing Grant Fund

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Table of Contents

Rules Notices 3
Tribal Housing Grant Fund 3
Engagement Summaries 3
  Tribal Housing Work Group 3
  Rules Public Hearings 4
Rules Engagement Materials and Meeting Transcript 4
  Shared PDFs or other supporting documents 4
All Other Public Comments 4

Rules Notices

Tribal Housing Grant Fund

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Permanent Rule Order

Rules public notice link: https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/get-involved/Pages/administrative-rules.aspx (see Rule filings)

Engagement Summaries

Tribal Housing Work Group

On June 3, 2026, OHCS sent consultation requests (known as "Dear Tribal Leader Letters") to Tribal chairpersons for each of the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon. This correspondence invited Tribal participation in the administrative rulemaking process for the Tribal Housing Grant Fund (THGF), specifically gauging interest in participating in a Rules Advisory Committee (RAC). Because OHCS did not receive any Tribal responses to its consultation requests and this program does not fund non-Tribal projects, the decision was made not to convene a RAC for this rules project.

OHCS did not want to proceed with filing administrative rules for THGF without any Tribal engagement, so staff identified an existing monthly meeting space—the Tribal Housing Work Group—in which to provide an overview of the administrative rules process and the plan to adopt rules for THGF. At the workgroup meeting on Aug. 20, 2026, Tribal participants expressed a desire to see the draft rules prior to the public comment period and continue the conversation about OHCS' rules process and Tribal engagement. The draft rules were sent to the workgroup on Sept. 24, 2026, to provide an opportunity for review and feedback prior to discussion with the workgroup at their next meeting.

On Oct. 15, 2026, OHCS staff again met with the workgroup to provide an update on the development of THGF administrative rules. OHCS presented its proposed draft rules for OAR Chapter 813, Division 290:

- Purpose and Objectives: Outlining the purpose and objectives of the THGF to support the housing needs of the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of

Oregon, to include affordable rental housing and homeownership projects in addition to homelessness response and prevention investments.
- Manual: Adopting the THGF Program Manual dated July 1, 2025, which was developed in consultation with the Tribes.
- Eligibility: Identifying the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon and their Tribally designated housing entities as eligible to receive funds under the THGF.

The OHCS team then reviewed the updated rulemaking timeline, which covered the Tribal rulemaking review period (Sept. 17-Oct. 16), filing of the notice of proposed rulemaking no later than Oct. 30, the public comment period Nov. 2-30, a public comment hearing on Nov. 18, the Legislative comment period ending Dec. 21, and the anticipated publication and effective date of the rules in early January 2027.

During this meeting, OHCS received only one clarifying question, which allowed the department to affirm again that the proposed draft rules would not be changing the program as currently implemented and that the version of the program manual being adopted in rule is the same version previously developed with the workgroup. Workgroup members were reminded that they had through Oct. 16 to provide additional feedback or comments. No additional feedback or comments were received.

Rules Public Hearings

The public hearing summary will be included after the public hearing is held on Nov. 18.

Rules Engagement Materials and Meeting Transcript

Shared PDFs or other supporting documents

The Tribal Housing Grant Fund Program Guidance, dated July 1, 2025, can be found on OHCS' website. This is the manual proposed to be adopted in OAR 813-290-0010.

All Other Public Comments

None at this time