



Analysis of the FY 2020 President’s Budget  
March 12, 2019

President’s FY 2020 Budget Released

On March 11, 2019, the President released his fiscal year (FY) 2020 budget request to Congress. This broadcast will outline the major proposals included, list the impacts to tribal programs funded in the federal budget, and comment on the outlook for passage of the proposals.

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OVERALL CONTEXT

The President’s budget proposes reducing FY 2020 non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding by \$54 billion (9 percent) below the FY 2019 level, and by \$69 billion (11 percent) after adjusting for inflation. The proposed amount follows the cap set by the Budget Control Act (BCA) of 2011 and which was lowered through sequestration. The proposed decreases to NDD accounts would undermine the ability of the federal government to meet its treaty and trust obligations, *with the proposed budget cutting Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education (BIA/BIE) by about 10.5 percent compared to the 2019 continuing resolution level.* Other agencies would see cuts including 12 percent for the Department of Health and Human Services, 18 percent for Housing and Urban Development, and 31 percent for the Environmental Protection Agency. See below for details of proposed funding for tribal programs by department.

- Health Care: The budget proposes cuts in the growth of Medicaid totaling \$1.5 trillion over a decade and cuts of \$818 billion to Medicare. Most of these changes are unlikely to pass. The main source of Medicaid savings would be the replacement of the federal contribution to state Medicaid programs with block grants, which would lead to \$1.4 trillion in savings compared to current Medicaid projections.

- Nutrition: The proposals for the Agriculture Department focused on cuts to mandatory funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that would total about \$220 billion over 10 fiscal years. For FY 2020, the proposed budget would reduce SNAP by \$17.4 billion.
- Taxes: The budget plan assumes an extension of the 2017 individual tax rate cuts (PL 115-97) beyond their scheduled expiration, in 2026.

### Competing Budget Plans

House Budget Chairman John Yarmuth will be writing a FY 2020 budget resolution, which will set discretionary spending limits higher than the current caps. Without a spending caps deal, the House is likely to pass a deeming resolution, which is used when the House and Senate have not agreed on a budget resolution. Under this deemed budget resolution, the House could begin writing appropriations bills.

In the Senate, Budget Chairman Enzi is expected to write a budget resolution abiding by the statutory caps used in the President’s budget. For the Senate to consider spending bills on the floor, the body would have to set enforceable spending limits in a deeming resolution. House Majority Leader Hoyer, (D-MD), has raised the possibility of the two chambers agreeing to spending limits to allow the appropriations process to move forward. Whether Senate Republicans break from the President’s proposal will determine the outcome of such a spending limit agreement. The President’s budget is just the beginning of the appropriations process. Congress has the final say. **NCAI encourages tribal leaders and advocates to submit testimony to the respective appropriations committee in the House (testimony instructions [here](#) for Interior and [here](#) for other subcommittees) and the Senate (when the instructions become available).**

## BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

The FY 2020 budget proposes to establish the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) as an independent bureau with a separate budget structure. Funding requested for Indian Education and Education Construction programs is described separately in the BIE section. Because the BIE is separated in budget presentation, this analysis combines the total for each bureau to track the total proposed change for both bureaus ([2020 Bureau Highlights](#), BH-5).

### Total Current Budget Authority

In millions of dollars	2018 Actual	2019 CR	2020 Request	Change	% Change
BIA	3,084	3,116	1,853	-1,263	
BIE	0	0	936	936	
<b>BIA + BIE</b>	<b>3084</b>	<b>3116</b>	<b>2789</b>	<b>-327</b>	<b>-10.5%</b>
<b>DOI</b>	<b>15,231</b>	<b>14,634</b>	<b>12,599</b>	<b>-2,035</b>	<b>-13.9%</b>

### Proposed Eliminations

- **Indian Guaranteed Loan Program:** No funds are requested for new loan guarantees under the program, -\$8.4 million from the FY19 CR
- **Housing Improvement Program,** -\$9.7 million from the FY19 CR
- **Small and Needy Tribes,** -\$4.5 million from the FY19 CR
- **Tribal Climate Resilience,** -\$9.9 million from the FY19 CR

### Proposed Cuts Compared to FY19 CR Amounts

- **Agriculture Program,** -\$4.75 million

- **Endangered Species**, -\$1.7 million
- **Invasive Species**, -\$1.3 million
- **Environmental Quality Projects**, -\$5.6 million
- **Alaska Native Programs**, -\$770,000
- **Litigation Support/Attorney Fees**, -\$1.5 million
- **Minerals and Mining Projects**, -\$1 million
- **Public Safety and Justice**, -\$24.9 million
- **Replacement Detention Facility Construction**, -\$18 million
- **Employee Housing**, -\$1.4 million
- **Facilities Improvement and Repair**, -\$5.3 million
- **Irrigation Project Construction**, -\$11.6 million
- **Safety of Dams Projects**, -\$16.7 million

#### Proposed Increases

- The budget includes \$1.3 million in New Tribes funding to continue Federal support for six Virginia Tribes federally recognized by an act of Congress in January 2018, including the Chickahominy, the Eastern Chickahominy, the Upper Mattaponi, the Rappahannock, the Monacan, and the Nansemond. The request provides each Tribe funding to carry out the day-to-day responsibilities of establishing and operating a Tribal government.
- The 2020 budget includes \$2.5 million to address the opioid crisis.

For more information, visit [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/2020\\_highlights\\_book.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/2020_highlights_book.pdf)

## BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

As mentioned above, the FY 2020 budget proposed to establish the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) as an independent bureau with a separate budget structure. The budget request includes program eliminations and increases as listed below.

#### Proposed Eliminations

- **Scholarships and Adult Education**, -\$34.9 million from the FY19 CR
- **Special Higher Education Scholarships**, -\$2.9 million from the FY19 CR
- **Science Post Graduate Scholarships**, -\$2.4 million from the FY19 CR

#### Proposed Increases

- The budget includes an increase of \$7.1 million, for a total of \$42.6 million for education management and information technology to optimize learning opportunities for students of all ages. Funding includes \$32.3 million for Education Program Management.

Under Education Construction, the FY2020 budget request would zero out Replacement School Construction, Replacement Facility Construction, and reduce Facilities Improvement and Repair and Employee Housing Repair, as reflected in the table below.

Education Construction	2018 Actual	2019 CR	2020 Request	Change
Replacement School Construction	\$105,504	\$105,504	--	-\$105,504
Replacement Facility Construction	\$23,935	\$23,935	--	-\$23,935
Replacement/New Employee Housing	--	--	\$1,000	+\$1,000

Employee Housing Repair	\$13,574	\$13,574	\$5,062	-\$8,512
Facilities Improvement and Repair	\$95,232	\$95,323	\$62,796	-\$32,436
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$238,245</b>	<b>\$238,245</b>	<b>\$68,858</b>	<b>-\$169,387</b>

For more information, visit [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/2020\\_highlights\\_book.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/2020_highlights_book.pdf)

## INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

The Indian Health Service budget (IHS) request for FY 2020 is \$5.9 billion, which is \$392 million or 7 percent above FY 2019.

(Dollars in millions)	2018	2019	2020	2020 +/- 2019
<b>Services</b>				
<b>Clinical Services</b>	<b>3,606</b>	<b>3,616</b>	<b>3,997</b>	<b>+381</b>
Hospitals and Health Clinics (non-add)	2,055	2,055	2,363	+308
Accreditation Emergencies (non-add)	58	58	68	+14
Purchased/Referred Care (non-add)	963	964	968	+4
<b>Preventive Health</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>-53</b>
Public Health Nursing (non-add)	78	87	92	+5
Health Education (non-add)	19	20	--	-20
Community Health Representatives (non-add)	62	63	24	-39
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>-8</b>
Tribal Management Grant Program (non-add)	2	2	--	-2
Direct Operations (non-add)	72	72	74	+2
<b>Contract Support Costs</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>+167</b>
<b>Subtotal, Services and Contract Support Costs</b>	<b>4,469</b>	<b>4,768</b>	<b>5,141</b>	<b>+373</b>
<b>Facilities</b>				
Health Care Facilities Construction	243	243	166	-78
Sanitation Facilities Construction	192	192	193	+1
Facilities and Environmental	241	242	251	+9
Maintenance and Improvement	168	168	169	+1
Medical Equipment	24	24	24	--
<b>Subtotal, Facilities</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>-66</b>
<b>Diabetes Grants</b>				
<b>Discretionary Budget Authority</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Total, Discretionary Budget Authority</b>	<b>5,582</b>	<b>5,553</b>	<b>5,945</b>	<b>+392</b>
<b>Funds From Other Sources</b>				
Health Insurance Collections	1,194	1,194	1,194	--
Rental of Staff Quarters	9	9	9	--
Diabetes Grants	150	150	150	--
<b>Subtotal, Other Sources</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Total, Program Level</b>	<b>6,935</b>	<b>6,905</b>	<b>7,297</b>	<b>+392</b>

### Behavioral Health and the Opioid Epidemic

To combat behavioral health disparities in Indian Country, the FY 2020 Budget requests a total of \$356 million for Mental Health, Alcohol and Substance Abuse programs, which is an increase of \$27 million above the FY 2019 Continuing Resolution.

The Budget provides \$25 million for establishing the Eliminating Hepatitis C and HIV/AIDS in Indian Country initiative. The new Initiative will also aim to diagnose all individuals with HIV as early as possible after infection, treat the infection rapidly and effectively to achieve sustained viral suppression, protect individuals at risk of HIV using proven prevention approaches, and respond rapidly to growing HIV clusters to prevent new HIV infections.

### **Special Diabetes Program for Indians**

The Budget requests \$150 million for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

For more information visit <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2020-budget-in-brief.pdf>

## **OTHER HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCIES**

### **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

The FY 2020 President's Budget provides a program level of **\$5.53 billion for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**, which is slightly lower than the \$5.59 billion allocated in FY 2019. The Budget focuses on improving the Federal response to substance abuse, including the opioid crisis, and on helping health systems serve those with serious mental illness more effectively.

The Budget includes \$244 million for substance abuse prevention efforts, which is the same as FY 2019.

### **Administration for Children and Families (ACF)**

ACF's Administration for Native Americans promotes economic independence by providing competitive grant funding for community-based projects, and training and technical assistance to Federally recognized Tribes, American Indian and Alaska Native organizations, Native Hawaiian organizations, and Native populations throughout the Pacific Basin. The FY 2020 Budget includes \$52 million to support these activities, \$6 million less than FY 2019.

ACF provides formula grants to help state and tribal public welfare agencies expand services, such as by supporting at-risk families and, when appropriate, allowing children to remain with their families or return to them in a timely manner. Funds also support safety and consistent placement for children in foster care and permanency for children in adoptive families. Competitive funding is provided to remove barriers to adoption, especially for the adoption of children with special needs. The Budget provides \$326 million for these activities, levels consistent with FY 2019.

The Child Support Program is a joint Federal, state, tribal, and local partnership that operates under title IV-D of the Social Security Act with the vision that children can count on their parents for the financial, medical, and emotional support they need to be healthy and successful even when they live in different households. The program functions in 54 States and territories, and 62 tribes. The Federal child support program seeks to ensure financial and emotional support for children from both parents by locating non-custodial parents, establishing paternity, and establishing and enforcing child support orders. The

Budget requests \$4.4 billion in budget authority in FY 2020 for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs.

### Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

The Budget proposes \$15.1 billion for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families State and Territory Family Assistance Grants, which reflects a \$1.4 billion decrease from FY 2019 levels.

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The President has requested for the Department of Education in FY 2020 \$64.0 billion in discretionary funding—a decrease of \$7 billion or 9.98% from FY 2019.

The President has requested several eliminations of federal programs for FY 2020. Included in the elimination is the Alaska Native Education program. The Budget Request states that the program lacks strong evidence of meeting its objectives, such as improving student achievement. The other elimination is the Native Hawaiian Education program. The justification provided states that this program duplicates other federal elementary and secondary programs.

### Indian Education Programs

As the below table shows, the Department of Education has requested decreased funding for almost all Indian education programs, the elimination of two programs, and reflects the non-renewal of five programs pertaining to higher education.

Department Education (Dollars in millions)	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020 Requested	2020 +/- 2019
Impact Aid	\$1318.5	\$1349.5	\$1349.5	--
Indian Student Education Total (ESEA VI)	\$180.2	\$180.2	\$176.2	-\$4.0
<i>Grants to Local Education Agencies (Part A-1)</i>	\$105.3	\$105.3	\$105.3	--
<i>Special Programs for Indian Children (Part A-2)</i>	\$67.9	\$67.9	\$63.9	-\$4.0
<i>National Activities (Part A-3)</i>	\$6.8	\$6.8	\$6.8	--
Native Hawaiian Student Education	\$36.3	\$36.3	--	-\$36.3
Alaska Native Education Equity Assistance Program	\$35.4	\$35.4	--	-\$35.4
Strengthening AN/NH-Serving Inst (mandatory)	\$14.0	\$14.0	--	-\$14.0
Strengthening AN/NH-Serving Inst (discretionary)	\$15.7	\$15.9	--	-\$15.9
Strengthening TCUs (mandatory)	\$28.0	\$28.0	--	-\$28.0
Strengthening TCUs (discretionary)	\$31.5	\$31.8	\$27.5	-\$4.2
Tribally Controlled Posts and Technical Institutions	\$9.4	\$9.5	\$8.2	-\$1.2
Strengthening NA-Serving Non-tribal Inst (Mand.)	\$4.6	\$4.6	--	-\$4.6
Strengthening NA-Serving Nontribal Inst (Disc.)	\$3.8	\$3.8	--	-\$3.8
Voc Rehab State Grants (Indian Set-Aside)	\$40.1	\$43.0	\$44.1	+\$1.1

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The President's budget request for tribal programs at DOJ would increase funding overall. The increase would come as a result of a proposed 7% set-aside for tribal governments from across Office of Justice Programs discretionary programs. Specifically, the proposed budget includes:

- a 5% set-aside from the Crime Victims Fund administered by the Office for Victims of Crime, which would amount to \$115 million. This compares to \$166 million appropriated for FY 2019;
- a 7% set-aside for "tribal assistance" through the Office of Justice Programs, which amounts to \$127.064 million, an increase over the funding level for FY 2019 of \$37.5 million;

Several additional programs are funded at the same level as FY 2019 including:

- \$4 million for implementation of special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction through the Office on Violence Against Women;
- \$1 million for research on violence against Native women; and
- \$500,000 for a national clearinghouse on sexual assault in Indian Country.

Tribal funding at the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office, which is aimed at improving tribal law enforcement, including hiring, equipment, training, anti-methamphetamine activities, and anti-opioid activities, would be funded at \$8 million—a decrease compared to the FY 2019 level of \$27 million. The flexible "tribal assistance" funding could also be used for these purposes. Funding for the Tribal Youth Program at the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is zeroed out in favor of the across-the-board 7% tribal set-aside mentioned above. The Tribal Youth Program was funded at \$5 million last year.

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Indian and Native American Programs: The FY 2020 Budget eliminates the Indian and Native American program. According to the [DOL budget documents](#), the "program is unproven, having never been rigorously evaluated." The President's budget establishes a 1.5 percent Native Adult set-aside within the WIOA Adult funding stream. The set-aside will integrate the provision of employment and training activities for Indians, Native Hawaiians and Native Alaskans into the core WIOA system.

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The President's Budget for FY 2020 includes \$51.7 billion for discretionary spending, a 7.4% increase from 2019 enacted levels, for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). It focuses heavily on border security including the pursuit, detainment, and prosecution of undocumented migrants.

The Budget includes \$5 billion for the construction of a border wall. The Budget also includes \$506 million to hire 921 new agents and officers at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) as well as 1,000 new law enforcement officers, 128 immigration court prosecuting attorneys, and 538 support staff at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). In addition to personnel increases, the White House has requested \$367 million for CBP aircraft, vessels, surveillance technology and equipment, which is a 64 percent increase over the FY 2019 request of \$223 million. The President has

requested \$2.7 billion for 54,000 beds to detain undocumented migrants. Additionally, the Budget calls for the establishment of a Border Security and Immigration Enforcement fund to provide resources for over 31,000 new staff to address immigration issues and expand detention capacity.

The Budget also promises a significant investment to the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) to support affected communities that are still recovering from 2017 and 2018 disasters, and calls for \$430 million for an all-hazard competitive grant program.

The Budget includes \$1 billion for DHS cybersecurity efforts to increase the number of DHS led networks from 473 to 684 and provide additional tools and services to states and local governments.

Finally, it includes \$7.8 billion to support the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in deploying new technologies at high-risk airports across the US.

## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

The President’s total FY 2020 request for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is about \$150 billion—approximately \$6 billion more than the FY 2019 level—with \$127.5 billion for mandatory programs that provide services required by law and \$22.4 billion for discretionary programs, which includes the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Rural Development, Forest Service, and other services.<sup>i</sup>

### Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)

As the table below shows, the Department of Agriculture has requested level and decreased funding for all TCU programs operated through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture:

<b>Department of Agriculture</b> (Dollars in millions)	<b>FY 2018</b> <b>Actual</b>	<b>FY 2019</b> <b>Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2020</b> <b>Request</b>
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program (FRTEP)	3	3	3
Native American Endowment Account	5	5	5
1994 Institutions Extension Program	7	7	4

### Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)

As the table below shows, USDA has requested level funding for almost all TCU programs operated through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture:

<b>National Institute of Food and Agriculture</b> (Dollars in millions)	<b>FY 2018</b> <b>Actual</b>	<b>FY 2019</b> <b>Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2020</b> <b>Request</b>
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program (FRTEP)	3	3	3
Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants Program	3	3	3
Native American Endowment Fund Interest	5	5	5
1994 Institutions Extension Program	7	7	4
Native American Endowment Fund	12	12	12

Funding levels for Extension Services at 1994 Institutions was decreased by \$3 million. The Budget Request also proposes to combine the education grants for Alaska Native-Serving institutions, Native Hawaiian-Serving institutions, and Insular Areas institutions into one program.

## **Agriculture**

<b>Department of Agriculture</b> (Dollars in millions)	<b>FY 2018</b> <b>Actual</b>	<b>FY 2019</b> <b>Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2020</b> <b>Request</b>
Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement	5	5	2
Rural Utilities Service (Discretionary Programs)	9.4	12.3	7.9
Rural Housing Community Facilities Programs (Loans and Grants)	2,992	2,992	3,060
Water and Waste Disposal Program (Grants)	1,048	1,048	473
Fractionated Land Loans	10	11	0
Indian Land Acquisition Loan Program	20	20	20

### **Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement**

According to the budget request, the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement was established in FY 2018 to improve access to USDA programs. Through this office, USDA consolidated the overlapping outreach activities previously conducted by the Office of Tribal Relations and a number of other offices serving certain interest groups.

### **Rural Utilities Service (RUS)**

In many areas of rural America, families, and communities lack access to the modern utility infrastructure, such as reliable electric power, high-speed broadband, and clean drinking water. RUS focuses on a number of efforts, including expansion of broadband access and seeking commercial investment, to modernize utility infrastructure projects through increased public-private partnership activities. For FY 2020, USDA proposes a decrease of approximately \$4.5 million for RUS.

### **Community Facilities Programs**

Community Facilities loans provide funding for a wide range of essential community facilities to rural communities with populations of 20,000 or less, with priority given to healthcare, public safety, and education facilities. The Budget provides \$2.5 billion in program level funding for Community Facilities direct loans and \$500 million in program level funding for Community Facilities guaranteed loans. The Budget requests \$60 million for Community Facilities grants, which will be targeted towards underserved communities and efforts to address the opioids crisis. Finally, \$10 million is provided for Tribal College grants to improve education and career-building opportunities, specifically for STEM programs, and to expand approaches to address substance misuse disorder for American Indian and Alaska Native communities. For FY 2020, USDA requests a total increase of about \$68 million for the Community Facilities Program.

### **Highly Fractionated Indian Land Loan Program & Indian Land Acquisition Loan Program**

The President requested a loan level of \$20 million for Indian Land Acquisition loans, the same as 2019. However, no funding was requested for the Highly Fractionated Indian Land Loan Program.

### **Water and Waste Disposal Program**

The Water and Waste Disposal Program has provided financing for rural communities to establish, expand or modernize water treatment and waste disposal facilities. These facilities provide safe drinking water and sanitary waste disposal for residential users, and help communities thrive by attracting new

business. Projects are designed to improve the energy efficiency of the water and waste facilities and to improve water conservation efforts. USDA decreased funding for Water and Waste Disposal Program grants from \$1,048,000,000 in FY 2019 to \$473,000,000 in FY 2020.

### **Economic Development**

While all USDA funding is crucial for economic development in Indian Country, we have highlighted a few programs that enable tribal nations to build resources that improve the ability of businesses and communities to succeed and to create jobs.

<b>Department of Agriculture</b> (Dollars in millions)	<b>FY 2018</b> <b>Actual</b>	<b>FY 2019</b> <b>Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2020</b> <b>Requested</b>
Rural Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program	37	37	21
Rural Business Development Grants (RBDG)	34	34	0
Telecommunications Programs - Treasury Loans	345	180	176
Telecommunications Programs - FFB Loans	345	510	514
Distance Learning and Telemedicine – Grants	32	32	44
Broadband Programs			
<i>Direct Loans</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Grants</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>30</i>

### **Rural Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program**

The Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program provides protection against loan losses so that lenders are willing to extend credit to establish, expand, or modernize rural businesses. The B&I program promotes the creation of rural businesses to secure start-up capital, finance business expansion, and create jobs, which helps to diversify the rural economy and support such sectors as local and regional food and the bioenergy/bio-economy. The USDA requests a program level of \$1 billion in B&I loan guarantees – an increase of \$80 million. The total level of B&I funding is expected to assist 433 businesses and create or save about 11,000 jobs.

*USDA proposes to eliminate all other discretionary Rural Business-Cooperative Science programs, including the Rural Business Development Grant Program.*

### **Telecommunications**

USDA requests \$690 million in telecommunications loans, of which \$176 million is for direct Treasury Rate loans and \$514 million is for guaranteed loans through the Federal Financing Bank (FFB). The Budget requests this split because FFB loans can be used to refinance private sector debt as well as finance new indebtedness. Both types of telecommunication loans are used for the improvement and construction of telecommunication facilities that expand broadband and e-connectivity to the communities with populations of up to 5,000.

### **Broadband, Distance Learning and Telemedicine**

USDA includes \$200 million in budget authority to continue the Broadband Pilot Program that provides loans, grants and a loan/grant combination. In addition, USDA includes \$30 million for broadband grants to support new or improved broadband access across rural America in the communities with populations of up to 20,000. These programs provide capital access for strengthening e-Connectivity that broadens economic opportunities and job creation in rural America. Improved connectivity means

rural communities can offer robust business services, expand access to modern healthcare, and improve education.

USDA also requests \$44 million for Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) grants. This program is designed specifically to assist rural communities that would otherwise be without access to learning and medical services over the Internet. Within the requested amount, \$20 million would focus on assisting in fighting the opioid epidemic in rural America.

### **Nutrition**

The funding for the Food Nutrition and Consumer Services programs includes both WIC and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Both are important programs for the services they provide, the people they feed, and the jobs they bring to our communities.

<b>Department of Agriculture</b> (Dollars in millions)	<b>FY 2018</b> <b>Actual</b>	<b>FY 2019</b> <b>Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2020</b> <b>Request</b>
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	74,013	73,420	69,070
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infant, Children (WIC)	6,175	6,175	5,750
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)	153	153	130

#### **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

USDA proposes to cut the SNAP Program by \$4.35 billion in 2020. SNAP will continue to respond to economic need. In 2020, participation is estimated to fall to an average level of 37.75 million participants per month from 40.8 million in 2019.

#### **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, Children (WIC)**

The Budget includes \$5.75 billion for WIC to serve all eligible participants projected to seek WIC benefits. The WIC program has been experiencing lower-than-expected participation rates, due to continued flat or declining birth rates – particularly among mothers under the age of 30, as well as a projected decline in per-person costs. In 2020, an average of 6.6 million low-income women, infants and children are expected to participate in the program each month.

#### **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)**

FDPIR provides food packages to tribal nations to improve nutrition and provide culturally appropriate sustenance. USDA requests \$130 million in FY 2020 to fund FDPIR food and administrative costs, down from \$153 million in 2019. The decrease in funding is due to reduced inventory purchases. The program is projected to serve 90,000 participants a month in 2020, no change from 2019.

### **Natural Resources and Environment**

The increase and redirection of the budgets for the programs in this area focus on conservation practices as well as a restoration to create habitat and restore environments for wildlife and land management.

<b>Department of Agriculture</b> (Dollars in millions)	<b>FY 2018</b> <b>Actual</b>	<b>FY 2019</b> <b>Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2020</b> <b>Request</b>
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	1,802	1,642	1,689
Regional Conservation Partnership Program	93	281	300
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program	233	422	433
Conservation Stewardship Program	1,345	1,495	1,632

### **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**

EQIP provides assistance to landowners who face serious natural resource challenges (such as soil erosion, air quality, water quality and quantity, and the sustainability of fish and wildlife habitat) that impact soil, water and related natural resources, including grazing lands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. The 2018 Farm Bill reauthorized EQIP and provided enhanced authorities, including new conservation planning activities, increased payments for certain incentive practices, and places a greater emphasis on soil testing and health.

### **Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)**

Producers receive technical and financial assistance through RCPP while the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and its partners help producers install and maintain conservation activities. These projects may focus on water quality and quantity, soil erosion, wildlife habitat, drought mitigation, flood control, and other regional priorities. Partners include producer associations, State or local governments, Indian Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and institutions of higher education. The 2018 Farm Bill reauthorizes funding for RCPP and creates new opportunities for farmers.

### **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)**

ACEP has two components: agricultural land easements, under which NRCS assists eligible entities to protect agricultural land by limiting non-agricultural land uses; and wetland reserve easements, under which NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to landowners to restore, protect and enhance wetlands through the purchase of wetlands reserve easements. NRCS continues to maintain existing easements and contracts formed under the previous programs. The 2018 Farm Bill reauthorizes funding for ACEP and further authorizes new enhancements to streamline the agricultural land easement process, and which will build upon prior years' efforts to help farmers and ranchers keep their land in agriculture.

### **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**

CSP encourages participants to undertake new conservation activities to build upon existing conservation activities. CSP was authorized under the 2014 Farm Bill. However, the 2018 Farm Bill eliminated the former program and created a new CSP that is closely aligned with EQIP, provides enhanced features, and modified the program to be dollar based (and not acre-based) by eliminating the \$18-per-acre payment rate.

## **DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

The President's FY 2020 Budget Request for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides \$44.1 billion in discretionary funding for housing programs. The President has requested \$600 million for the Native American Housing Block Grants (NAHBG) program for FY 2020, a \$155 million decrease from the enacted appropriations level for FY 2019. The President's request proposes a \$1.56 million increase in funding for the Section 184 Home Loan Guarantee Program. Funding is proposed to be cut to zero in the President's Budget Request for the Indian Community Development Block Grant, Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant, the Housing Improvement Program offered through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the USDA Rural Development 502 Single Family Direct Loan program.

<b>Programs</b>	<b>FY 2018 (\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2019 (\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2020 Budget Request</b>
Native American Housing Block Grants	\$755 (\$100 competitive)	\$755 (\$100 competitive)	\$600
Training & Technical Assistance grants	\$7	\$7	

Indian Community Development Block Grant	\$65	\$65	\$0
Title VI Loan Guarantee	\$2	\$2	
Section 184 Loan Guarantee	\$1	\$1.44	\$3
Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant	\$2	\$2	\$0
Tribal HUD-VASH	\$5	\$4	
Housing Improvement Program	\$9.7	\$9.7	\$0
Rural Development 502 Single Family Direct Loan	\$1.1	\$1	\$0

(blank boxes in the table indicate that the FY 2020 budget details are not released, at this time)

### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The President's FY 2020 Budget requests \$47.4 billion for the Federal-aid highway program to invest in the nation's highway and bridge infrastructure. This request reflects the final year of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and additional funding for a competitive highway bridge program. \$1.15 billion is requested to improve multimodal access to and within Federal and Tribal lands. \$300 million is requested to rehabilitate and replace rural bridges, \$1 billion is requested for competitive BUILD grants, and another \$1 billion is requested for competitive INFRA grants.

Programs (\$ in millions)	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020 Request
Tribal Transportation Program	\$485	\$495	\$505
Tribal Technical Assistance Program	\$5	\$5	\$5
Tribal Transit Program	\$35	\$35	\$35

### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

The Budget requests \$12.7 billion in discretionary resources for the Department of the Treasury's domestic programs, a \$0.2 billion or 1 percent decrease from the 2019 estimate.

Of great concern to Indian Country is the Budget's proposal to eliminate funding for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund's discretionary grant and direct loan programs. **The President's FY 2020 Request would eliminate funding for the Native American CDFI Assistance Program (NACA)** and the three other discretionary CDFI grant programs. Also, the New Market Tax Credit, which is set to expire in December 2019, was not mentioned in the President's Budget Document.

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The EPA faces steep cuts to its budget and staffing in FY 2020 as the Administration calls for a smaller role by the federal government in environmental protections and for states and industry to take the lead. The President's budget proposal would cut the agency's funding by 30 percent to \$6.1 billion in FY 2020 from the \$8.8 billion enacted (PL 116-6) by Congress in February for 2019.

(\$ in thousands)	2018	2019 CR	2020 Budget	Difference	Percent Change
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Information Exchange Outreach, Tribal – Capacity Building	13,979	14,547	13,201	-1,346	9.2%
Infrastructure Assistance: Alaska Native Villages	19,543	20,000	3,000	-17,000	-85%
Tribal General Assistance Program	65,266	65,476	44,233	-21,243	-32.4%
Tribal Air Quality Management	12,767	12,829	8,963	-3,866	-30.1%

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### Historic Preservation Fund: Grants to Tribes

2018	2019 CR	2020 Budget	Difference	Percent Change
11,485.00	11,485.00	5,738.00	-5,747.00	-50%

<sup>i</sup> There is a discrepancy in numbers as the USDA’s Budget Summary requests \$22.4 billion while the President’s Budget Document “requests \$20.8 billion for USDA, a \$3.6 billion or 15 percent decrease from the 2019 estimate (including changes in mandatory programs and receipts.”