



NOV 15 2021

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to update you on the Indian Health Service (IHS) Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) for fiscal years 2021 and 2022.

SDPI Funding Recap for FY 2021

On December 27, 2020, Congress authorized funding for the SDPI for fiscal year (FY) 2021 as part of a 3-year authorization ending on September 30, 2023, with funding of \$150 million per fiscal year. Despite the challenges of multiple, partial-year authorizations at the beginning of FY 2021, I am happy to report that all SDPI grantees received their full annual funding amounts for FY 2021, including offsets.

In addition to the annual grant amounts awarded for FY 2021, SDPI grantees were offered the opportunity to request one-time supplemental funding to augment their program's diabetes treatment and prevention efforts. The Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee unanimously recommended that the Agency utilize \$30 million of unobligated funding from previous years to offer current SDPI grantees this unique opportunity. The SDPI grantees who did not receive an offset for FY 2021 were encouraged to submit a request for supplemental funding up to 25 percent of their annual grant amounts (maximum of \$250,000) by August 13, 2021.

Changes for FY 2022

Beginning in FY 2022, a mandatory sequester reduces the SDPI funding level from \$150 million to \$147 million each year. This reflects a required 2 percent reduction, which will continue through FY 2023 under current law.

As you may recall, the current SDPI grant cycle was due to end on December 31, 2021. A new grant cycle was to start on January 1, 2022, and the application process was supposed to be a competing continuation (only current SDPI grantees could apply, and they would compete to achieve a fundable score). However, while developing the notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) announcement for the new grant cycle, the IHS learned of requirements that necessitated time and in-depth consideration before a public announcement could be made. Rather than delay the SDPI grant application process, the IHS determined that FY 2022 would constitute a 1-year extension of the current grant cycle, extending it to a seventh year. Doing so will allow more time to work on the NOFO and decrease some of the administrative burden for SDPI grantees.

Program grantees were provided with technical assistance for their FY 2022 SDPI grant applications to ensure all requirements were met and applications were submitted by October 1, 2021. Guidance was made available on the SDPI Web site at <https://www.ihs.gov/sdpi/sdpi-community-directed/>. In addition, the IHS Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention hosted a 2022 Application Kickoff webinar on August 31, 2021, and held weekly Question and Answer webinars in September to assist SDPI grantees with the application process.

If you have any questions about the SDPI, please contact Ms. Carmen Hardin, Acting Director, Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention, IHS, by telephone at (844) 447-3387. For questions about SDPI grant issues, please contact Mr. Paul Gettys, Acting Director, Division of Grants Management, IHS, by telephone at (301) 443-5204.

Thank you for your support of the SDPI and your partnership with the IHS in the important work of diabetes treatment and prevention in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

Sincerely,

/Elizabeth A. Fowler/
Acting Director