

§ 646.305 Can a consortium of Federally-recognized tribes apply for an INA WtW grant on behalf of consortium member tribes approved to operate a TANF or NEW program?

Yes. Consortium member tribes which operate approved TANF or NEW programs are by law eligible to apply for an INA WtW grant. Their consortium may apply for the INA WtW grant on their behalf, under the following circumstances: if an established consortium exists for one purpose, such as operating a JTPA grant, this established consortium may apply for an INA WtW grant on behalf of those member tribes authorized to receive NEW funding.

§ 646.310 Some of our consortium members operate their own TANF/NEW programs, and some do not. Can we still apply for an INA WtW grant as a consortium?

Yes. For those consortium member tribes which DO NOT operate TANF or NEW programs, they must collectively meet the “substantial services” criteria.

§ 646.315 If our consortium members not operating TANF or NEW programs meet the “substantial services” criteria, do we then have to submit two separate INA WtW plans?

Yes. Because of the different funding formulas involved for FY 1998, such a “mixed consortium” (composed of tribes which operate TANF/NEW programs and those which do not) shall submit two plans for providing WtW services across the consortium, one plan for the TANF/NEW tribes and the other for those tribes eligible under the “substantial services” criteria. However, once both plans have been funded, the consortium may administer one program across the consortium.

§ 646.320 If we choose to operate a single INA WtW program for our “mixed consortium” for FY 1998, must we submit a single plan to the Department for FY 1999?

Yes. All FY 1998 INA WtW grantees must submit AFDC/TANF counts to the Department so that a single funding formula may be utilized for FY 1999.

§ 646.325 What unique documentation is required of a tribal consortium?

Consortium tribes must submit a legally-binding consortium agreement signed by all the tribes in the consortium with the grant application.

§ 646.330 If our tribe did not receive an INA WtW grant for FY 1998, can we still receive funding for FY 1999?

Yes, provided the tribe or consortium is eligible under the criteria cited at § 646.200 of this part. Tribes or consortia having to meet the “substantial services” criteria may use verifiable data from any employment program operated by the tribe, as was the case for FY 1998. Refer to section 646.215 for these criteria. Tribes or consortia are encouraged to submit State-negotiated AFDC/TANF counts for their area prior to applying for FY 1999 INA WtW funds.

Subpart D—Participant Eligibility, Limits, and Allowable Activities

§ 646.400 What TANF recipients are eligible for services under INA WtW grants?

Individual TANF clients must meet the conditions outlined at section 403(a)(5)(C), clauses (ii), or (iii), or (iv) of the amended Social Security Act. For INA WtW purposes, an individual determined to have low skills in reading or mathematics must be proficient at the 8.9 grade level or below. An individual determined to have a poor work history must have worked no more than three (3) consecutive months in the past twelve (12) calendar months.

§ 646.405 What activities are allowable under the Welfare-to-Work program?

All allowable activities are described at section 403(a)(5)(C)(i) of the Social Security Act. INA WtW funds shall be used to “move individuals into and keep individuals in lasting unsubsidized employment by means of any of the following:”

(a) The conduct and administration of community service or work experience programs;

(b) Job creation through public or private sector employment wage subsidies;