

Justification for IMLS CARES Act Grants for Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum and Library Services

3137-XXXX Emergency Clearance Grant Application

IMLS is requesting an emergency clearance for a grant program: IMLS CARES Act Grants for Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum and Library Services.

Justification for the IMLS CARES Act Grants for Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum and Library Services

IMLS recognizes the challenges facing Indian tribes and organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the adaptations and adjustments that will be necessary to rebuild staffing, reopen facilities, and address the needs of communities affected by the impact of a global crisis.

The goal of this grant program is to assist Indian Tribes and organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians in responding to the coronavirus pandemic in ways that meet the immediate and future COVID-19 needs of the Native American and Native Hawaiian communities they serve.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Pub. L. 116-136 [March 27, 2020]) provided funds to the Institute of Museum and Library Services “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus...to expand digital network access, purchase internet accessible devices, and provide technical support services” for the benefit of communities impacted by the health emergency.

The IMLS CARES Act Grants for Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum and Library Services grant program invites project proposals that focus on preserving jobs, training staff, addressing the digital divide, planning for reopening, and providing technical support and capacity building for digital inclusion and engagement. We encourage efforts to develop programs, tools, models, partnerships, and other resources that will address immediate concerns and have the potential to inspire and benefit other tribes and related organizations as they provide museum and library services to their communities.