

# GSA Fleet Purchasing and Leasing Eligibility For Tribes and Tribal Organizations Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and Information

### **GSA Sources of Supply**

1. What are the statutory authorities that may allow Tribal entities to access GSA Sources of Supply?

GSA is aware of three statutory authorities under which tribal entities may be eligible to access GSA Sources of Supply:

- A. The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA)
- B. The Tribally Controlled Schools Act (TCSA)
- C. The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA). ISDEAA and TCSA may be used for both vehicle purchasing and leasing programs. NAHASDA may only be used for vehicle purchasing.

### **GSA Vehicle Purchasing**

- 2. What Authority provides Tribal entities eligibility to purchase from GSA? Tribal access to purchase from GSA sources of supply is not limited to vehicles. The authorities listed above contain provisions that deem tribal organizations executive agencies for purposes of 40 U.S.C. § 501 when carrying out contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements. Section 501 governs the procurement and supply of personal property and nonpersonal services, including, but not limited to, the purchase of vehicles.
- 3. Does GSA maintain a list of Tribal entities eligible to purchase vehicles from GSA? The GSA Office of Government-wide Policy (OGP) eligibility data file is posted on the <u>Eligibility Determinations Website</u>. The OGP list is only relevant for GSA Fleet Purchasing and for Short-Term Rental (STR) Equipment. Eligibility determinations for GSA Fleet leasing are handled separately by GSA Fleet.
- 4. What is the next step in purchasing vehicles from GSA Fleet after being determined to be eligible by OGP?
  - Tribal entities must request assistance through the GSA Fleet Vehicle Buying Division at <a href="mailto:vehicle.buying@gsa.gov">vehicle.buying@gsa.gov</a>. GSA Fleet Vehicle Buying will verify whether or not eligibility has been previously established.
- 5. Where should Tribal entities verify GSA purchasing eligibility?

Tribal requests for an eligibility determination for purchasing authority should be sent to the GSA OGP at <a href="mailto:gsa.gov">gsa.gov</a>.

### 6. What are the next steps in purchasing vehicles from GSA?

GSA Vehicle Buying will refer the Tribal entity to the Federal agency that issued the contract, compact, grant, or cooperative agreement to obtain an Activity Address Code (AAC) for the Tribal entity. Once the AAC is obtained, the Tribal entity will need to provide it to GSA Vehicle Buying at <a href="mailto:vehicle.buying@gsa.gov">vehicle.buying@gsa.gov</a>. GSA Vehicle Buying will verify the AAC is valid, assist the tribe with setting up an AutoChoice account, and provide training on the purchasing process.

7. Are Tribal entities eligible to use Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs)?

Consistent with applicable purchasing authorities, Tribal entities eligible to access GSA Schedules are authorized to use BPAs established as a result of the EVSE solicitation. If entities can access the Multiple Award Schedules (MAS) program, they can access the EVSE BPAs.

### **GSA Vehicle Leasing**

- 8. What Authority provides eligibility to lease vehicles from GSA?

  40 U.S.C. § § 601 611 governs the GSA Fleet Leasing program, unlike other GSA purchasing programs that operate under 40 U.S.C. § § 501 502. The authority to lease vehicles from GSA Fleet Management is distinct from purchasing. As mentioned in questions number 3, the Eligibility Determinations Website is only relevant for GSA Fleet Purchasing and Short-Term Rental (STR) Equipment, not for GSA Fleet Leasing.
- 9. What specific requirements are necessary to determine legal sufficiency for Tribal entities to lease vehicles from GSA?

GSA must work with the Tribal entity to (1) verify that the tribe was issued a contract, compact, grant, or agreement under appropriate statutory authority and (2) verify that the period of performance for that underlying agreement is still active.

- 10. Who determines eligibility to lease GSA Fleet vehicles?
  - GSA Fleet, in coordination with GSA's Office of the General Counsel (OGC), makes eligibility determinations to lease vehicles from GSA.
- 11. Does the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) authorize Tribal entities to lease vehicles from GSA? No, NAHASDA does not provide authority for leasing vehicles from GSA; it may be used to purchase vehicles and/or EVSE.
- 12. What is the first step needed to facilitate approval for Tribal entities to lease vehicles from GSA Fleet?

The first step is for the Tribal entity to contact and work with the GSA Fleet Management Center (FMC) Fleet Service Representative (FSR) to submit the appropriate authorizing documentation.

#### 13. What authorizing documentation is required to lease vehicles from GSA Fleet?

Authorizing documentation required to verify legal sufficiency to lease vehicles from GSA includes:

- A. A signed contract, compact, grant, or agreement (including contract number, if applicable) issued under ISDEAA or TCSA; and
- B. A current funding agreement with an active period of performance.

# 14. Is anything else required to lease vehicles from GSA, in addition to the authorizing documentation?

Yes, a Billing Office Account Code (BOAC) is required.

### 15. How does a Tribal entity obtain a Billing Office Account Code (BOAC)?

Once a Tribal entity has been determined to be eligible to lease GSA vehicles, the GSA Fleet Service Representative (FSR) will complete a BOAC request form to obtain a BOAC for the Tribal entity.

## 16. What authorizes a Tribal entity to lease vehicles as a contractor completing work for Federal agencies?

The Contracting Officer of an awarded contract must authorize contractor use in accordance with <u>Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 51.2</u> which outlines Contractor Use of Interagency Fleet Management System (IFMS) Vehicles. For more information or questions, email <u>contractoruserequests@gsa.gov</u>.

# 17. Can Tribes Receiving Grants for Zero -Emission Vehicles or Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Use GSA Sources of Supply

As a general matter, absent specific authority, federal grantees are not eligible to access GSA Sources of Supply. GSA is aware of three statutory authorities under which tribal entities may be eligible to access GSA Sources of Supply:

- A. The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA),
- B. The Tribally Controlled Schools Act (TCSA), and
- C. The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

If grants are issued under or in connection with one of the aforementioned authorities, tribal entities receiving such funds may be deemed eligible to access GSA sources of supply to purchase and/or lease zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) or associated electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE).

Note that NAHASDA does not authorize access to the vehicle leasing programs. Purchasing EVSE under NAHASDA would be permissible.

### **Electric Vehicle & GSA Fleet Resources**

- Visit <u>GSA's one-stop-shop</u> to assist in fleet electrification
- Learn about zero-emission (or alternative fuel) vehicles
- Find resources to help you electrify
- Buy or install charging infrastructure
- To lean more about GSA Fleet offerings, please visit www.gsa.gov/GSAFleet

#### **Tribal Resources**

- GSA.gov Native American Tribes page
- GSA.gov Tribes and Tribal Organizations Guide to Using GSA Solutions.pdf
- GSA.gov Eligibility Determinations page
- GSA Order 4800.21 Eligibility to Use GSA Sources of Supply and Services
- Annual Federal Register Notice Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs
- BIA.Gov U.S. DOI Tribal Leaders Directory
- BIA.Gov U.S. DOI Regional Offices
- BIA.Gov Public Law 93-638 ISDEAA
- IHS.Gov U.S. Dept of HHS Regional Offices