

Federal Funding Navigator (Tribal Resilience & Sustainability)

Location Options include: Fully-Remote, Anchorage Only, or Hybrid

Position Type: Full-time, hourly, no benefits

Salary Range: \$78,000-\$91,000 or \$43.00 - \$50.55/hour

Background: Tribes own and/or influence the management of nearly 140 million acres in the United States. Many also have cultural ties to their ancestral homelands that may be hundreds of miles away from their current homelands. Tribes' connections to the stewardship of these regions dates to time immemorial and their cultures are inextricably linked to the fish, wildlife, and plants that they live in relationship with on these landscapes. As rapid and accelerating climate change continues to threaten both the natural and built environments that Tribes depend upon there has been a push to get more funding resources to Tribes.

Despite these advancements, many of the 574 federally recognized Tribes, especially within Alaska, face challenges in accessing these new funding opportunities due to limited capacity, technical and logistical barriers, and societal isolation.

To address this gap, we have developed this Federal Funding Navigator position. The position will directly connect with regional partnerships to enhance grant seeking and writing capabilities, foster vital connections, and ensure robust, two-way communication between Tribes and funding agencies.

This position will be situated at DeerStone Consulting, a consulting firm located in Anchorage that collaborates with Tribes to develop projects in rural Alaska, often spearheading tribally led initiatives. Supervision for this role will be shared between a DeerStone Consulting supervisor and a [Northern Latitudes Partnerships](#) Coordinator, ensuring comprehensive guidance and support. This position will focus on working within the Western Alaska region (covering the general geography of coastal Alaska from Kotzebue to Kodiak), and Navigator priorities will be directed by the Western Alaska Partnership Steering Committee and Partnership staff. This individual will be part of a cohort of Federal Funding Navigators working with similar regional partnerships across the state. The Navigators will work closely together on shared responsibilities and regional overlap.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Identify and Access Funding Opportunities:** Actively seek out federal, state, and private funding opportunities relevant to the stewardship and climate adaptation needs of Tribes. Understand and navigate the complexities of these funding sources to maximize opportunities for Tribes.
- **Grant Writing and Submission Assistance:** Directly assist Tribes in the development, writing, and submission of grant applications. This includes crafting compelling narratives, preparing budgets, and ensuring all submission requirements are met.

Provide end-to-end support to simplify the grant application process for Tribes, enhancing their chances of securing funding.

- **Tribal Capacity Building:** Enhance the grant seeking and writing capabilities of Tribes by providing training, resources, and support. Ensure Tribes are well-equipped to pursue and manage funding opportunities.
- **Program Development:** Strategize and plan for the expansion of program initiatives, focusing on securing funding to support the creation of additional positions (i.e. grant writers). Develop and enhance capacity within Tribes by identifying and leveraging new funding opportunities that align with the long-term goals of Tribal stewardship and adaptation.
- **Mentorship and Career Development:** Provide guidance and mentorship to early career professionals involved in Tribal projects. Foster skills development and professional growth to support programmatic efforts and enhance overall capacity in managing adaptation and stewardship initiatives.
- **Network Engagement:** Serve as a vital link between Tribes, Indigenous Organizations, government agencies, NGOs, and academic institutions by engaging within the network of the Western Alaska Partnership and other regional partners. Regularly engage with the Steering Committee and staff of the Western Alaska Partnership to maintain work plan objectives and priorities..
- **Communication:** Ensure ongoing and robust communication between supervising entities and individuals. Remain in close communication with the cohort of other Federal Funding Navigators, additional staff within the Northern Latitudes Partnerships, partners of the Western Alaska Partnership, and other key stakeholders. Advocate for the needs and priorities of Tribes in all discussions and negotiations.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Keep abreast of changes and developments in federal funding initiatives. Regularly report on progress, challenges, and successes to both tribal leadership and Western Alaska Partnership members.

Content areas that may be covered include:

- Climate Adaptation Initiatives
- Stewardship of Natural Resources
- Cultural Heritage Preservation
- Infrastructure Development
- Environmental Education and Training
- Community Engagement and Collaboration
- Private and Public Funding Navigation

Talents, Knowledge and Skills:

- **Education and Experience:** Experience in professional writing, grant writing, project management, or in a similar role is highly preferred.

- **Understanding of Tribal Communities:** Deep knowledge of and respect for the cultures, traditions, and governance of Alaska Native Tribes. Familiarity with the challenges faced by these communities, particularly in the context of climate adaptation and stewardship.
- **Communication Skills:** Exceptional written and verbal communication skills. Ability to navigate complex discussions and advocate effectively for Tribal and program needs.
- **Networking:** Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to build and maintain professional relationships. Experience working within collaborative networks or partnerships is a plus.
- **Adaptability:** Ability to work in a dynamic environment and adapt strategies to meet evolving needs and opportunities.

Preferred Background:

- **Tribal member or resident of a community within the Western Alaska region**
(Includes: Northwest Arctic, Bering Straits, Yukon-Kuskokwim, Bristol Bay, Kodiak)

To Apply:

Please email the following application packet to Tashina Duttle:
tashina@deerstoneconsulting.com

- **Brief letter of interest.** Please consider answering the following:
 - Describe your interest in climate issues and your knowledge of its application in your community.
 - Is there a specific community or region within Western Alaska you have a personal interest in or connection to?
 - How will this position aid in accomplishing your personal and career goals?
- **Resume**
- **2-3 professional references** including name, title, phone number and email