

Newsletter

#1/January 2025



WESTERN TRIBAL TECHNICAL PROGRAM IS HERE FOR TRIBES!!

Dear Tribal Communities,

Welcome to the first edition of the Western Tribal Technical Assistance Newsletter. At the Western Tribal Technical Assistance Program, we are committed to bringing innovative training, technical assistance, and workforce initiatives to tribal transportation agencies across the western region.

We invite you to visit our website, <https://wttap.com/> to get acquainted with our committed staff and dedicated steering committee. We also encourage you to take advantage of our comprehensive resources and services to strengthen your tribal agency's workforce and business operations. If you have training or technical assistance needs, please share it through our assessment process.

It is my honor to support our people through education and transportation initiatives. Myself and my team look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Carrie Brown, MSML
WTTAP Director



Child Passenger Safety: Arizona Tribes Certify New Technicians

Western TTAP in partnership with Salt River Maricopa Indian Community, Indian Health Services and Tohono O'odham Nation delivered its first Child Passenger Safety Technician Training in Scottsdale, Arizona (September 2024). The class resulted in 11 new tribal car seat passenger technicians throughout tribal communities in Arizona. One participant stated he was, "...surprised at how much there is to learn about child car seats-and cars."

Child safety seats are proven to save lives. With proper use, they can reduce the risk of death by 17% for infants and 54% for children ages 1 to 4 years. American Indian and Alaska children face the highest motor vehicle fatality rates in the United States, 2-3 times higher than other races.

The University of Utah is seeking partnership with tribes throughout the west to participate in a data collection initiative. The team has developed a comprehensive, multi-task traffic sensing and analysis system. This system offers a versatile, customizable solution for traffic data collection, analysis, and safety enhancement. This all-in-one system provides advanced functionalities for diverse transportation applications, including vehicle detection, 13-bin vehicle classification, directional volume counting, speed measurement, and roadway condition estimation. It also features a powerful data visualization and analysis tool that supports safety assessments, mobility analysis, and traffic planning through a data-driven platform.

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Artificial Intelligence Impacts with Edge Machinery continued:

Fully developed by the team, the system ensures complete customization to meet specific user requirements. To safeguard data privacy and security, a dedicated local server system has been established for secure storage of all collected data. This integrated traffic data collection and analysis system has already proven effective in supporting data-driven transportation decisions.

For example, the Yakama Nation leveraged the system's capabilities to secure \$1.2 million in USDOT SMART awards and approximately \$750,000 through two SS4A projects over the past two years. These accomplishments demonstrate the system's potential to enhance transportation safety, equity, and infrastructure development through reliable data insights and informed decision-making.

For more information contact Chenxi (Dylan)Liu, Ph.D. at Chenxi.liu@utah.edu. Or 801-585-0476.

Funding Opportunities:

- [Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program](#) - Application Deadline: **April 4th, 2025**
- [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\)](#) - Application Deadline: **April 18th, 2025**
- [American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services](#) - Application Deadline: **March 6th, 2025**
- [Indian Highway Safety Tribal Grants/Lifesavers Conference](#) - Application Deadline: **February 10th, 2025**
- [Commercial Motor Vehicle Operator Safety Training Grants](#) - Application Deadline: **March 27th, 2025**

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SAVE THE DATE



Join us in Las Vegas for WTTAP's 1st National Tribal Grant Writing Workshop. This comprehensive workshop will equip you with the essential skills and knowledge to navigate the world of tribal grants. Featuring specialized tracks on grant searches, eligibility, match requirements, submission portals, and community readiness, the sessions will be led by industry experts and peers sharing their unique experiences in securing grants for Indian Country.

Don't miss this opportunity - registration opens soon!

Help Us Help You: Complete our Biennial Needs Assessment!

We want to hear from you! What are your tribal transportation program needs? [Take a 5-minute survey](#) and help us help you!

Your feedback will impact the development of our training and technical assistance programs for tribal communities across the western region. Please share your thoughts.

- What training topics are most valuable for you?
- What is your preferred method for receiving technical support?
- What type of technical assistance do you seek?
- What time of year is best for you to attend training?

To access the survey and provide impactful insights, scan the QR Code!

