

How do I submit an application for TAP ?

Federally recognized tribes interested in participating in TAP must submit an [application to TAP.App@usdoj.gov](mailto:TAP.App@usdoj.gov) no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, August 31, 2021. Tribes that are selected for participation will be notified in September and deployment preparation will begin shortly thereafter. The application must have Tribal government approval and not be submitted just on behalf of one single Tribal agency.

What must Tribes agree to use TAP for?

Tribes must agree to use TAP for one of the following reasons:

- A Tribal sex offender registry authorized by the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act;
- A Tribal law enforcement agency that has arrest powers;
- A Tribal court that issues orders of protection; or
- A Tribal government agency that screens individuals for foster care placement or that investigates allegations of child abuse/neglect.

What other purposes besides supporting criminal justice purposes are considered?

In addition to the above, we are also looking at:

- Demonstrated willingness to use TAP for multiple purposes
- Whether the Tribe meets IT criteria by having high speed internet access available
- Diversity of Tribes in terms of size and geographic location
- Demonstrated need for access
- Prior application for TAP that was unable to be funded previously

How many Tribes do you plan to provide access to in 2021?

Our goal with current funding levels is to select as many TAP-LIGHT and TAP-FULL Tribes as possible from those that submit applications.

- TAP-LIGHT: DOJ provides software that provides full access (both query and entry capabilities) to national crime information databases such as National Criminal Information Center (NCIC), the Interstate Identification Index (III) and the International Justice and Public Safety Network (Nlets) for criminal justice and non-criminal justice purposes. TAP-LIGHT does not have fingerprint submission capability.
- TAP-FULL: DOJ provides the same basic capabilities as TAP-LIGHT listed above, and also provides additional hardware/software solution in the form of a kiosk workstation that provides the ability to submit and query fingerprint-based transactions via FBI's Next Generation Identification (NGI) for both criminal justice and non-criminal justice purposes.

Should Tribes who applied for TAP previously but were not selected, apply again?

- Yes. Every Tribe that that wants to be considered must submit an application to be considered.

Can Tribes who are currently participating in TAP-LIGHT apply for TAP-FULL?

- Yes. These Tribes must still meet the basic requirements (listed above) and submit an application to be considered.

Will TAP replace our current live scan system purchased using SMART funds several years ago?

- No. If you are currently using a live scan purchased with SMART funds, you are connected to CJIS using a state CJIS Systems Agency (CSA) and you can continue that process. TAP however, is a self-contained system (software, computer, integrated camera, live scan system, printer, and flatbed scanner) and operates through DOJ as the CSA. TAP is a separate program.

What record check abilities does TAP provide?

TAP LIGHT provides:

- Law Enforcement with the ability to:
 - Conduct name-based criminal history checks through III, containing arrest, disposition, and NCIC warnings
 - Query state level databases such as driver's license, vehicle registration, and state criminal databases through Nlets
 - Conduct name-based queries through III for employment purposes
 - Conduct checks to determine if a person is prohibited from possessing a firearm.
 - Enter and query sex offender through the National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR)
 - Enter and query stolen property, including vehicles, boats, and guns in NCIC
 - Access criminal investigative information through the National Data Exchange (N-DEX)
- Probation and Parole
 - Conduct name-based criminal history checks through III, containing arrest, disposition, and NCIC warnings
 - Enter and query conditions of release into NCIC
 - Access criminal investigative information through the National Data Exchange (N-DEX)
- Tribal Courts (Criminal)
 - Conduct name-based criminal history checks through III, containing arrest, disposition, and NCIC warnings
 - Enter and query protection orders in NCIC
 - Enter and query arrest warrants in NCIC
 - Enter mental health or drug/alcohol prohibitors into the National Instant Criminal Background Checks System (NICS), used by Federal Firearms Licensees to determine if a person is eligible to purchase or possess a firearm
- Tribal Courts (Civil)
 - Conduct name-based criminal history checks through III, containing arrest, disposition, and NCIC warnings, in cases of domestic abuse or stalking
 - Enter and query civil protection orders
 - Enter mental health or drug/alcohol prohibitors into the National Instant Criminal Background Checks System (NICS), used by Federal Firearms Licensees to determine if a person is eligible to purchase or possess a firearm
- Corrections/Detention
 - Conduct name-based criminal history checks through III, containing arrest, disposition, and NCIC warnings

- Child Protective Services (CPS)
 - Conduct name-based criminal history checks through III, containing arrest, disposition, and NCIC warnings, in cases of child abuse, neglect or exploitation
- Child Support Enforcement
 - Conduct drivers' license and vehicle registration checks through Nlets in support of child support enforcement activities

TAP-FULL – All capabilities listed above, plus:

- Law Enforcement
 - Perform fingerprint-based arrest bookings and submit booking information to national systems, so that they are combined into the arrestee's full criminal history
 - Perform fingerprint-based inquiries on unknown or uncooperative detainees to confirm identification and access their criminal history
 - Perform fingerprint-based background checks for law enforcement employment purposes
 - Conduct fingerprint-based sex offender registration submissions
- Probation and Parole
 - Perform fingerprint-based inquiries on probationers and parolees to access criminal history
- Tribal Courts (Criminal)
 - Perform fingerprint-based background checks for Tribal criminal court employment purposes
 - Perform fingerprint-based dispositions
- Corrections/Detention
 - Perform fingerprint-based arrest bookings and submit booking information to national systems, so that they are combined into the arrestee's full criminal history
 - Perform fingerprint-based inquiry to verify detainee identity and access criminal history
- Agencies with tribal government staff who have contactor control over Indian children (including foster parents)
 - Conduct a fingerprint-based record check for Tribal government employees, prospective employees, or volunteers in positions that involve regular contact with, or control over, Indian children to include checks for foster parents, healthcare providers, and school staff under Public Law 101-630
- Tribal Public Housing Agencies
 - Perform fingerprint-based background checks for adult applicants or tenants for the purpose of screening, lease enforcement, or eviction

Can we perform fingerprint-based checks for any purpose we want?

- No. Federal law provides the legal authority for records checks for specific authorized purposes such as the ones listed above. Other checks for things such as gaming, elections, general human resources hiring, etc. are not authorized.

Are Tribes in Public Law 280 states eligible for TAP?

- Yes, Tribes in PL 280 states are eligible to apply for TAP. Since Tribes in PL-280 states do not have Adam Walsh Sex offender Registries, the Tribe must have at least one of the other required criteria in order to be eligible.