



# NIHSDA UPDATE

DECEMBER 2021

## INFORMATION AND UPDATES

- HHS has issued a new HSPPS outlining the masking and COVID-19 vaccination requirements. [The Interim Final Rule with Comment Period](#) is posted in the Federal Register with a link to submit formal comments. You can read a summary of the requirements [here](#).
- As you prepare for [monitoring](#) in the coming year, OHS understands the difficulties regarding enrollment and urges programs to focus on having systems in place and to keep good documentation about issues with enrollment (i.e. staffing, COVID, etc.)
- If your program has experienced staff shortages or other events that effect your expenditures, please discuss your budgets and any unused funds with your program and grant specialists to request a budget modification or extension.
- Providing virtual/remote services due to COVID/staffing/weather is allowed as a **temporary** option.
- Programs will not be penalized for not meeting the minimum days of service and will not be required to make up those days. Make sure you fully document the reasons for missed days.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Don't forget to check out the [Region XI AIAN 21-22 TTA Event Registration Booklet](#) for upcoming trainings.

## REMINDERS

- NIHSDA Reusable Masks for adults and children are [now available for order](#). Final orders are due by January 14!

## ADVOCACY

- NIHSDA President, Lee Turney, participated in a roundtable discussion with HHS Secretary Becerra on Dec 8th during which he outlined NIHSDA's thoughts about Build Back Better and made recommendations regarding ensuring equity for Tribes through direct Federal to Tribal set-asides and Tribal consultations, as well as the immediate and

STANDING STRONG AND PRESERVING THE IDENTITY OF AIAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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