

**LAW ENFORCEMENT PROTECTION FUND  
FOR TRIBAL AND PUEBLO POLICE DEPARTMENTS  
PURSUANT TO NMSA 1978, SECTION 29-1-11  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 (JULY 1, 2026- JUNE 30, 2027)**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Law Enforcement Protection Fund (LEPF) is to provide the equitable distribution of funds to Tribal and Pueblo police departments for use in the maintenance and improvement of those departments to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement services. For LEPF purposes, a "Tribal or Pueblo police department" is any law enforcement agency of a Tribe or Pueblo that has entered into an agreement with the New Mexico Department of Public Safety pursuant to Section 29-1-11 NMSA 1978. The law enforcement agencies of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) do not qualify for Law Enforcement Protection Fund monies because they are federal agencies.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

All applications for LEPF distributions are completed through the online application form here: [Tribal Applications](#). The application with the supporting documentation must be submitted to the Local Government Division (LGD) **no later than [March 31, 2026](#)**.

**REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

- 1. The official roster will come from the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Acadis Portal.**
  - a. The roster must list the following information:
    - i. Officer first and last name
    - ii. Officer certification number
    - iii. Organization name
    - iv. Employment Type
    - v. Appointment type
    - vi. Total (training) hours
  - b. **Only full-time officers** are eligible for funding. Only claim the number of full-time officers on the application.
  - c. If you have issues accessing the agency's Acadis Portal, contact Katie Reimann, Acadis Staff Manager at DPS, at [katie.reimann@dps.nm.gov](mailto:katie.reimann@dps.nm.gov).
  - d. LGD will obtain the Acadis roster directly from DPS to confirm the number of eligible officers.
- 2. Tribal Cross Commissioned Officer Roster upload (required)**
  - a. Use the Tribal cross commissioned officer roster form provided by LGD.
  - b. Upload the cross commissioned officer roster in PDF to the online application.
- 3. Academy Roster upload (if applicable)**
  - a. Use provided academy roster form
  - b. Upload academy roster in PDF to the online application
- 4. Certification Form upload (required)**
  - a. Required from all applicants

- b. Use the certification form provided by LGD
- c. Upload signed certification form in PDF to the online application

LGD will notify all applicants in writing of its determination of the amount to be distributed under Section 29-13-4 by [May 1, 2026](#). Any applicant may appeal LGD's determination by filing a notice of appeal with the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by [May 15, 2026](#). The Secretary will review all appeals and make a final determination by [June 30, 2026](#), and LGD shall adjust its determination accordingly. If no appeal is filed, the determination of the LGD will become final and binding.

If the balance of the LEPF is insufficient to permit the total eligible allocations, the LGD will reduce the allocation determined to the maximum amount of money available.

### **USE OF FUNDS**

All monies distributed from the LEPF are required to be expended in accordance with Section 29-13-7 and 29-13-9 NMSA 1978 as well as LEPF Rule 2.110.3 NMAC. Amounts distributed from the LEPF to any police department shall be expended under the direction of the police chief and approved by the governing body.

### **CARRY OVER BALANCES**

LEPF distributions may not be used for accumulation. However, if LGD approval is obtained for good cause, funds may be expended in the fiscal year following distribution. This means that funds must be expended within two fiscal years (distribution fiscal year plus one subsequent fiscal year with LGD approval), otherwise those funds will revert to the State.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENT**

Submit a detailed financial report of the prior year LEPF expenditures and balance (if any) by [June 1, 2026](#), to LGD. If there is a cash balance that will not be expended by [June 30, 2026](#), provide the LGD with an explanation as to why it was not expended and what steps the police department will take to expend, encumber, or revert to the state the unused balance.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions about the process for completing the LEPF application, you may contact Erica Gutierrez at (505) 372-9830 or by email [Erica.gutierrez1@dfa.nm.gov](mailto:Erica.gutierrez1@dfa.nm.gov) or Malia Melhoff at (505) 231-0735 or by email [MaliaM.Melhoff@dfa.nm.gov](mailto:MaliaM.Melhoff@dfa.nm.gov).