



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Office of Native Affairs and Policy

**From:** Native <Native@fcc.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023 2:15 PM

**Subject:** Reminder: Tribal input Requested -- 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Report and Annual 988 Fee Questionnaire

Greetings from the Federal Communications Commission's Office of Native Affairs and Policy.

**Renewed Request for Tribes to File Information on Collection and Distribution of 988 Fees**

Even though the July 17<sup>th</sup> deadline has passed, the FCC would like to include Tribal information in our annual report to the U.S. Congress. Please submit a completed FCC questionnaire regarding the collection and distribution of permitted 988 fees and charges as soon as possible. Even if you are not collecting or distributing 988 fees, this is also data that is important for the FCC to collect and we would appreciate your feedback.

How to submit your completed questionnaire:

You can download the fillable questionnaire at <https://www.fcc.gov/988-fee-reports-and-reporting>, and submit the completed questionnaire to [988feereport@fcc.gov](mailto:988feereport@fcc.gov). In some states, information required to complete the questionnaire may be obtained from your state or jurisdiction's agency tasked with overseeing mental health administration.

**Background**

In its April 12<sup>th</sup> Public Notice, available at <https://www.fcc.gov/document/wcb-announces-988-fee-accountability-report-information-collection>, the Commission explains that it is seeking information on a jurisdiction's authority to collect 988 fees or charges, the amount of revenue collected from the 988 fee or charge, and how the revenue collected from the 988 fee or charge was used, covering the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

A few months ago we invited you to attend an FCC Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) 30-minute webinar on April 27, 2023, that provided an overview of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and information about an opportunity to submit 988 fees data. The webinar covered background on the 988 Lifeline and 988 fees, results from the FCC's first annual 988 fees report, and instructions about how to assist the FCC by submitting a 988 fees questionnaire. The webinar recording can be accessed by this link: <https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2023/04/fcc-tribal-webinar-988-fee-accountability-report>

In 2020, Congress enacted the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act (Suicide Hotline Act) designating 988 as the universal telephone number within the United States for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system. The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline provides "24/7," free, and confidential support to individuals in suicidal crisis or

emotional distress, and consists of a network of approximately 200 local crisis centers with trained counselors.

The Suicide Hotline Act also provided that States, political subdivisions, Indian Tribes, or villages or regional corporations established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, may impose and collect a fee for 988-related services, including (1) efficient and effective routing of calls made to 988 to an appropriate crisis center; and (2) personnel and acute mental health, crisis outreach, and stabilization services to respond to 988 calls. The FCC is required to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the collection and distribution of these permitted 988 fees and charges.

**Please send the completed questionnaire to us as soon as you can to ensure that Tribal information is included.**

Any questions about the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, 988 fees, the questionnaire, or the webinar can be emailed to [native@fcc.gov](mailto:native@fcc.gov) or directed to Jaime McCoy and Merry Wulff at [988feereport@fcc.gov](mailto:988feereport@fcc.gov).