

DOT

FTA

U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration

Application

Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN)	OK-2023-005
Award with Amendment Number	OK-2023-005-01
Temporary Application Number	6713-2022-1
Award Name	Kaw Nation's Tribal Transit Sec 5311c ARP FY21 TTP Discretionary Operating
Application Status	Final Concurrence / Reservation
Budget Revisions	0

Period of Performance Start Date	5/4/2023			
Original Period of Performance End Date	7/1/2026			
Current Period of Performance End Date	6/30/2027	Revision #: 0	Approved?: No	

Part 1: Recipient Information

Name: KAW NATION

Recipient ID	Recipient OST Type	Recipient Alias	UEI	DUNS
6713	Indian Tribe	KAW NATION	EXZ8JXKFKVA8	195348602

Location Type	Address	City	State	Zip
Physical Address	698 GRANDVIEW DR	KAW CITY	OK	74641
Mailing Address	PO BOX 50	KAW CITY	OK	74641

Union Information

There are no union contacts for this application

Part 2: Application Information

Title: Kaw Nation's Tribal Transit Sec 5311c ARP FY21 TTP Discretionary Operating

Award with Amendment Number	Application Status	Award Type	Application Cost Center	Date Created	Last Updated Date	From TEAM?
OK-2023-005-01	Final Concurrence / Reservation	Grant	Region 6	6/16/2026	6/16/2026	No

Application Executive Summary

\$0 amendment to add approved IDC rate dated 5/26/2026, attached. Kaw Nation will apply up to \$90,293 for salaries not more than 35.54% to award 1/1/26-12/31/26

Kaw Nation is in process of starting transit service. Requesting to extend the period of performance date to 6/30/2027.

Kaw Nation is applying for FY2021 Sec 5311 Discretionary funds (D2022-RPTC-013) in the amount of \$ 416,604 for operating. This is an FFY 2021 Section 5311c ARP funding application representing 100% federal share of the total eligible amount. This application utilizes ARP funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. The application scope of work includes operating assistance.

The Kaw Nation, a federally recognized tribe located in northern Oklahoma, proposes to implement transit service within its service area to meet employment, health care, education, and livability needs. The Kaw Nation service area is rural with known transportation deficiencies. The Kaw Nation intends to create a fully staffed transit department and to operate and maintain a transit fleet that serves its tribal members and the rural communities within the KNSA. Fixed-routes and on-demand services will be provided for the Kaw Nation population centers: Braman, Kaw City, Newkirk, and Ponca City. The transit system will meet the transit needs of the rural area and improve the quality of life of tribal members and the local communities. This application utilizes ARP funding to help respond and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. 100% Federal Share. No STIP required.

The Recipient agrees that if received Federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or through a pass-through entity through the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, a different Federal Agency, or insurance proceeds for any portion of a project activity approved for FTA funding under this Grant Agreement, it will provide written notification to FTA, and reimburse FTA for any Federal share that duplicates funding provided by FEMA, another Federal agency, or an insurance company.

Frequency of Milestone Progress Reports (MPR)

Annual

Frequency of Federal Financial Reports (FFR)

Annual

Does this application include funds for research and/or development activities?

This award does not include research and development activities.

Pre-Award Authority

This award is using Pre-Award Authority.

Does this application include suballocation funds?

Recipient organization is directly allocated these funds and is eligible to apply for and receive these funds directly.

Will this Grant be using Lapsing Funds?

No, this Grant does not use Lapsing Funds.

Will indirect costs be applied to this application?

This award is applying an approved Indirect cost rate(s).

Indirect Rate Details: IDC rate letter 5/26/2026 attached. Kaw Nation will apply up to 35.54% to award 1/1/26-12/31/26

Requires E.O. 12372 Review

No, this application does not require E.O. 12372 Review.

Delinquent Federal Debt

No, my organization does not have delinquent federal debt.

Award Description

Purpose

The Kaw Nation currently has no transit system. Limited transit is available for the multi-county area of northern Oklahoma and from Ponca City, but a gap exists for the Kaw Nation tribal members who live within the rural communities. A transit system would enable the Kaw Nation to meet transportation needs for access to jobs or health care, special needs of elders or individuals with disabilities, behavioral health care needs of youth, income-based community needs, and other mobility needs.

The proposed project is a capital investment to establish a transit system within the Kaw Nation service area. This transit system requires the creation of a fully staffed transit department, including offices and supplies, a schedule coordinator and vehicle operators, training, and vehicle operations and maintenance.

Activities to be performed:

Upon receipt of the funds, the Kaw Nation intends to proceed with the office set-up, purchase of vehicles, and the hiring and training of a transit coordinator and drivers. The coordinator would collaborate with the Administration, Council, and Transportation Department to advertise the transit service, to track ridership, and ensure training and safety. The coordinator will oversee the drivers of the transit vehicles, dispatch calls, and coordinate with Drivers. The transit service will provide greater access to healthcare, employment opportunities, education centers, and other recreation and cultural facilities.

Project Start

Advertise Positions

Hire Project Coordinator

Set-up Transit Offices

Purchase Vehicles

Drivers Start

Advertise Transit Services

Train Personnel

Begin Transit Service

Expected outcomes:

The goals of the proposed transit system are to help elders and tribal citizens have better access to transportation for medical appointments, groceries, prescriptions, and other necessary appointments and to assist tribal members and tribal employees with better transportation to and from work and make childcare easier. The proposed Kaw Nation transit system has the potential to improve the quality of life and raise the economic stability of the service area. The transit system would allow for more residents to access employment opportunities within the county, to assist families with childcare and educational

opportunities, and to provide for the welfare of the elderly.

The Kaw Nation transit system will make the rural area more livable for families and elders. The Kaw Nation views the transit program as a modern way to fulfill its cultural responsibilities. The Kaw Nation is committed to caring for its elders and guiding its youth by giving them healthy, stable childhoods that transform them into healthy, contributing adults.

Intended beneficiaries:

Rural Kay County Community, Kaw Tribal Citizens, Youth and Elders, Commuters, Tribal Employees

Subrecipient Activities:

None

Application Point of Contact Information

First Name	Last Name	Title	E-mail Address	Phone
Luciana	Nears	Transportation Program Specialist.	luciana.nears@dot.gov	(817) 978-0569
Bernadette	Hicks	Director of Grants	bhicks@kawnation.com	(580) 269-2552

Application Budget Control Totals

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 - Tribal Transit Competitive (ARPA)	5311-10B	20509	\$416,604
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$0
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$416,604

Application Budget

Project Number	Budget Item	FTA Amount	Non-FTA Amount	Total Eligible Amount	Quantity
OK-2023-005-01-01	600-00 (600-A1) OTHER PROGRAM COSTS	\$416,604.00	\$0.00	\$416,604.00	0
OK-2023-005-01-01	30.09.08 EMER RELIEF - OPERATING ASSIST -	\$416,604.00	\$0.00	\$416,604.00	0

100% Fed Share

Discretionary Allocations

Discretionary ID	Project Title	Amount Applied	Award with Amendment Number
D2022-RPTC-013	KAW NATION TRANSIT SYSTEM START-UP [Cap \$368,359; op \$416,604]	\$0	OK-2023-005-01

Part 3: Project Information

Project Title: Kaw Nation Transit System Start-Up

Project Number	Temporary Project Number	Date Created	Start Date	End Date
OK-2023-005-01-01	6713-2022-1-P1	6/16/2026	2/1/2023	2/1/2026

Project Description

The Kaw Nation (KN) is a federally recognized, self-governing tribe headquartered in Kaw City, Oklahoma. The People of the Southwind, known as the Kaw Nation, was formally established under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of 1936. The constitution of the Kaw Nation was ratified on April 20, 2011 and amended April 29, 2016. The Tribal Council is the sovereign legislative body of the Kaw Nation. Council members are elected and fill the officer positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and four Council Members. The current Chair is Lynn Williams. The General Council consists of all citizens of the Kaw Nation, 18 years or older who are deemed mentally competent. A quorum of the General Council is comprised of 25 citizens and is required to meet quarterly.

Tribal administration buildings and services, as well as the Title VI building, the Kaw Nation Museum, Social Services Building, the Environmental Department, and the Education and Learning Center, are centralized in Kaw City. Another tribal headquarters is found in the town of Newkirk, about 12 miles northwest of Kaw City. Here, the Kaw Nation administers the Kanza Health Clinic, the Wellness Center, the Childcare Center, the Multi-Purpose Tribal Youth Building and Gym, and the White Plume Housing Addition.

The Kaw Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area (OTSA) and the Kaw-Ponce joint-use OTSA extend over most of Kay County in northern Oklahoma and delineates the Kaw Nation service area (KNSA). Tribal members live throughout the Service Area, and the transit system intends to serve the rural communities of Braman, Newkirk, Kaw City, and Ponca City. Ponca City is the largest municipality in the county.

The Kaw Nation has a mission to provide for the social, physical, and economic health of its tribal members. Kay County has a poverty rate and unemployment rate that exceeds that of the State of Oklahoma. The county population is 44,402, and over half of the residents live in Ponca City. Poverty rates are high in Ponca City, Braman, and Newkirk. In Braman and Kaw City, over a quarter of the residents are 65 or older.

The Kaw Nation currently has no transit system. Limited transit is available for the multi-county area of northern Oklahoma and from Ponca City, but a gap exists for the Kaw Nation tribal members who live within the rural communities. A transit system would enable the Kaw Nation to meet transportation needs for access to jobs or health care, special needs of elders or individuals with disabilities, behavioral health care needs of youth, income-based community needs, and other mobility needs.

Project Benefits

The goals of the proposed transit system are to help elders and tribal citizens have better access to transportation for medical appointments, groceries, prescriptions, and other necessary appointments and to assist tribal members and tribal employees with better transportation to and from work and make childcare easier. The proposed Kaw Nation transit system has the potential to improve the quality of life and raise the economic stability of the service area. The transit system would allow for more residents to access employment opportunities within the county, to assist families with childcare and educational opportunities, and to provide for the welfare of the elderly.

Understanding that the transit system must serve a rural area and small towns, the routes have been selected to provide access to the major tribal employers: the Southwind Casinos in Newkirk and Braman. Routes to, from, and within Ponca City are not only to provide access to jobs but to also ease childcare needs for tribal members. In addition to addressing socioeconomic needs, a transit system will assist the Kaw Nation in its commitment to preserve its culture and heritage by caring for elders and educating tribal youth.

On-demand services are expected to be used by elders for medical appointments. Set routes will allow regular access to the Elder Centers and Title VI resources. The transit service will encourage inter-generational interactions and the Kaw Nation will be able to share with the wider, rural community. Tribal youth will have greater access to the educational and recreational centers found in Kaw City, Newkirk, and Ponca City.

The transit service will be available 5 days a week, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, and the Kaw Nation will begin by providing both on-demand and set routes services. The Program Coordinator will work with the Administration, Council, Elder Program, and Transportation Department to promote and advertise transit services. Starting small, the Kaw Nation will be able to maximize efficiency by adapting its transit offerings based on response and ridership. Administration has already stated that the transit services would try to cater to shift changes at the casinos.

The Kaw Nation transit system will make the rural area more livable for families and elders. The Kaw Nation views the transit program as a modern way to fulfill its cultural responsibilities. The Kaw Nation is committed to caring for its elders and guiding its youth by giving them healthy, stable childhoods that transform them into healthy, contributing adults.

Additional Information

None provided.

Location Description

A fully developed transit plan was produced in 2009 that identified the need for transit services. The plan detailed the steps and costs to implement a public transit program within the KNSA. Over the last year, the KN has evaluated its transit needs and its role to provide transit services for tribal members and the rural communities. In 2017, the Grants and Contracts Department sent out a tribal-wide survey to assess needs and wants of tribal members. Transportation for elders, health care, and education opportunities were listed. The Kaw Nation's Long-Range Transportation Plan 2020 identified better transit services as a need for tribal members.

Per request of the Chairman of the Kaw Nation, a Tribal Transit program was initiated. An itemized budget was prepared to launch the KN tribal transit department over the next three years. This grant application seeks the funding to make this program a reality. The KN invested time and effort to outline what would be required to start a transit program. This program description details the steps and itemizes the costs to implement and sustain a transit department. The KN has also prepared a 3-year budget to support the program. Routes have been delineated and the KN can start the transit service within a matter of months. The transit program can begin running routes as soon as vehicles are purchased and drivers trained.

While an existing transit program serves a wider area that includes Kay County, the transit available for the Kaw Nation tribal communities are limited. Based on the results of recent surveys and an examination of the demographics, transit services are needed and would be used by tribal members and residents of the rural communities. Within the Kaw Nation OTSA, the labor force participation rate was 54.8%, considerably lower than the state and national levels. The unemployment rate was 5.5%, higher than the

state and national levels.

Administrative offices, food services, and the cultural center are located in Kaw City. The Kanza Health Clinic, Wellness Center, Housing Authority, and Southwind Casino are found in Newkirk. Braman is home to the Southwind Casino and Kanza Travel Plaza, both places of employment for tribal members. Frequent travel occurs between these population centers and to Ponca City, the largest population center. Trips include travel for work at Kaw Nation enterprises, childcare for tribal members and employees, and to tribal services offices. The proposed transit program will meet the transit need for its service area.

Cherokee Strip Transit is an on-demand system that serves Ponca City in addition to other towns throughout northern Oklahoma. Cimarron Transit provides on-demand services for Ponca City and has recently launched an app to request rides. The transit services within Kay County primarily cater to Blackwell and Ponca City. White Eagle Transit is run by the Ponca Tribe to serve its tribal members and the local community. White Eagle Transit is an on-demand service and will travel to Newkirk and Kaw City for a fee.

The KN seeks to provide transit within and between the communities, having set routes in addition to on-demand. Within Ponca City, the Kaw Nation has designed a set-route that stops at Kaw Nation sites and covers the entire town. The proposed transit system would provide reliable, set-routes services, Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, with an option for evening routes based on shift needs in Braman.

The Kaw Nation has a facility and space to accommodate for a tribal transit department. The Kaw Nation Transit Department will be housed in the Kaw Nation Medical Annex office. The facility has the office space to house the Transit Department personnel and to provide protected parking for the vehicles. Since no ground-disturbing activities would be taking place, NEPA is not applicable.

Project Location (Urbanized Areas)

UZA Code	Area Name
400000	Oklahoma

Congressional District Information

District	State
3	Oklahoma

Program Plan Information

STIP/TIP

Date: Not Provided

Description: STIP/TIP not required Tribal Transit.

UPWP

Date: N/A

Description: N/A

Long Range Plan

Date: N/A

Description: N/A

Project Control Totals

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 - Tribal Transit Competitive (ARPA)	5311-10B	20509	\$416,604
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$0
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$416,604

Project Budget

Project Number	Budget Item	FTA Amount	Non-FTA Amount	Total Eligible Amount	Quantity
OK-2023-005-01-01	600-00 (600-A1) OTHER PROGRAM COSTS	\$416,604.00	\$0.00	\$416,604.00	0
OK-2023-005-01-01	30.09.08 EMER RELIEF - OPERATING ASSIST - 100% Fed Share	\$416,604.00	\$0.00	\$416,604.00	0

Project Budget Activity Line Items

Budget Activity Line Item: 30.09.08 - EMER RELIEF - OPERATING ASSIST - 100% Fed Share

Scope Name / Code	Line Item #	Line Item Name	Activity	Quantity
OTHER PROGRAM COSTS (600-00)	30.09.08	EMER RELIEF - OPERATING ASSIST - 100% Fed Share	OPERATING ASSISTANCE	0

Extended Budget Description

Amendment 1 adding IDC rate letter 5/26/2026 attached. Kaw Nation will apply up to 35.54% to award activities. Performance activity date 1/1/26-12/31/26

This line item will fund operating cost to include personnel cost, benefits, travel, training, supplies, advertising, communications, PPE, postage, etc.

Will 3rd Party contractors be used to fulfill this activity line item?

No, 3rd Party Contractors will not be used for this line item.

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 - Tribal Transit Competitive (ARPA)	5311-10B	20509	\$416,604
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$0
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$416,604

Milestone Name	Est. Completion Date	Description
Start Date	2/1/2023	Start to incur expenditures.
End Date	2/1/2026	Project completed.

Project Environmental Findings

Finding: Class II(c) - Categorical Exclusions (C-List)

Class Level Description

Class II(c) consists of projects that do not have a significant environmental impact on the human or natural environment and are therefore categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement. FTA requires a sufficient project description to support a CE determination. The project may require additional documentation to comply with other environmental laws.

Categorical Exclusion Description

Type 04: Planning and administrative activities which do not involve or lead directly to construction, such as: training, technical assistance and research; promulgation of rules, regulations, directives, or program guidance; approval of project concepts; engineering; and operating assistance to transit authorities to continue existing service or increase service to meet routine demand.

Date	Description	Date
	Class IIc CE Approved	

Scope Name / Code	Line Item Number	Line Item Name	Quantity	FTA Amount	Total Eligible Cost
OTHER PROGRAM COSTS (600-00)	30.09.08	EMER RELIEF - OPERATING ASSIST - 100% Fed Share	0	\$416,604.00	\$416,604.00

Part 4: Fleet Details

No fleet data exists for this application.

Part 5: FTA Review Comments

FTA Comments for DOL

Comment By Luciana Nears

Comment Type	DOL Review for Certification
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Date	6/18/2026
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Comment	Tribal recipient 5311 ARP for information ONLY
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