

National Science Foundation New Requirements for Tribal Consultation and Approval

“Proposals that may impact the resources or interests of a federally recognized American Indian or Alaska Native Tribal Nation **will not be awarded by NSF** without prior written approval from the official designed by the relevant Tribal Nation.”

Proposers seeking NSF funding for such proposals **must:**

- a) Seek guidance from the potentially impacted Tribal Nation regarding which activity requires review and prior approval from an authorized designee of the Tribal Nation; and
- b) Based on the guidance received, submit a written request to the relevant Tribal Nation for approval to carry out the proposed activity that requires Tribal Nation review and approval.

<https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-2-proposal-preparation#ch2B1>

NSF EXAMPLES OF TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT

- Research or projects that involve Tribal Nation members and would involve the Tribal Nation in any way. Includes referencing a Tribal Nation in materials, public forums, or publications.
- Carrying out studies or research on Tribal Nation reservations, territories, and other locations where Tribal Nations have legally protected rights to resources or to engage in activities.
- Using Tribal Nation controlled information or data in research.

NOTE: All Tribal Nations will have an independent mechanism to review and approve research. RII NPTAO will provide technical assistance to faculty and staff to assist with determining these requirements.

TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES IN ADVANCE OF NSF REQUIREMENT

- April 8, 2024: Letter explaining new NSF requirements sent to Arizona Tribal Leaders. Follow up by April 22, 2024.
- Tribal acknowledgement template created for principal investigators to submit at time of proposal. See draft template →
- April 9, 2024: Information session with Associate Deans for Research.
- Web-based training materials for faculty and graduate students under development.
- Additional information provided to RII Office of Contracting and Sponsored Projects, and the Human Subjects Protection Program.
- Deadline for University of Arizona implementation: May 20, 2024.

8 April 2024

To: Tribal Leader or designated representative (placeholder for specific Tribal leader or designated representative)

Address:

Email:

RE: National Science Foundation enhanced requirement for Tribal Nation approval for NSF Research Proposals

Dear (designated Tribal representative):

Pursuant to federal and University of Arizona requirements for Tribal consultation and approval of the above-referenced project, official Tribal review and approval is sought to conduct the proposed NSF-sponsored research activities. The following project information is provided for your consideration:

Title of Project:

Project Summary or Scope of Work:

Description of impact to Tribal resources or interests :

Pursuant to NSF guidelines, the University of Arizona requires written confirmation that review and approval for the above-described NSF is not required; or review and approval for the above-described NSF project is required, and the (Tribal Nation) confirms approval of this project and will provide signed documentation to the University of Arizona indicating such approval. The National Science Foundation will not make an award decision until written approval has been provided.

Thank you for your consideration of this request for documented approval. Please contact me with any questions or additional information you require.

Sincerely,
(project principal investigator)

The University of Arizona
(project principal investigator) contact information (telephone number and email address)

cc: SVP for Native American Advancement and Tribal Engagement Levi Esquerra
RII VP for Research Operations, Dr. Sangita Pawar Judge
RII Director for the Native Peoples Technical Assistance Office, Claudia E Nelson

Pursuant to the request for Tribal approval for the above-described project, I affirm

_____ Review and approval by (the Tribal Nation) is not required; or

_____ Review and approval is required and the (Tribal Nation) confirms approval of this project by signing below.

A copy of this signed document will be provided to the Principal Investigator in this project, as follows (provide PI address or email address)

(Designated Tribal official signature)

Title
Date: _____

LEAD UNITS WITH CURRENT NSF/TRIBAL PROJECTS

Principal Investigator	Lead Unit Name
Cody, Melanie	Disability Psychoeduc Studies (3)
Green, Linda B	School of Anthropology
DeLima Silva, Wilson	Linguistics
Mills, Barbara	School of Anthropology
Chief, Karletta	Environmental Science-Res (2)
Carroll, Stephanie	Udall Center
Hennig, Amee	James Wyant College of Optical Sci
Henderson, Robert	Linguistics (2)
Ogden, Kimberly	Chemical/Enviro Engr
Zedeno, Maria	BARA
Jolie, Edward	School of Anthropology
Kessler, Nicholas	Tree Ring Laboratory
Falk, Donald	Chemical/Enviro Engr
Thomer, Andrea	School of Information
Von Hippel, Frank	Community, Environment& Policy
Wetherell, Meaghan	School of Information
Daniel, Kathryne	Steward Observatory
Potter, Kelly	Electrical and Computer Engr
Lonoe, Francois	BARA

LEAD UNITS WITH PROPOSED NSF/TRIBAL PROJECTS

Principal Investigator	Lead Unit Name
Hennig, Amee	James Wyant College of Optical Sci
Lanoe, Francois	BARA (2)
Welker, Martin	Arizona State Museum
Green, Linda B	School of Anthropology
Carroll, Stephanie	Udall Center
Gootee, Brian	Arizona Geological Survey
Straight, Ryan M	College of Applied Sci & Tech
Fountain, Amy	College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Cohen, Andrew	Geosciences
Kessler, Nicholas	Tree Ring Laboratory
Ogden, Kimberly	Chemical and Environmental Engr.