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.


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.