



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF ARIZONA

2026 HAURY PROGRAM INDIGENOUS ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE  
GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

**RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT WITH NATIVE NATIONS**

NATIVE PEOPLES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE



# Today's Objectives



Introduction to the  
Native Peoples Technical  
Assistance Office



Background and Fundamental Concepts



What is required by the  
University of Arizona and the  
Arizona Board of Regents when  
conducting research or  
engagement with Native  
Nations



Native Peoples Technical  
Assistance Office Web  
Resources

# Native Peoples Technical Assistance Office (NPTAO)

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NPTAO assists the UA community with adhering to the principles established in the 2016 ABOR 1-118 Tribal Consultation Policy and the 2023 UA Tribal Consultation Policy

NPTAO provides guidance and training on best practices for respectful research/engagement and consultation with Native Nations

NPTAO provides oversight and acknowledgement of all sponsored projects and IRB submissions that include Native Nations

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# BACKGROUND AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

## Land Acknowledgement

“We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O’odham and the Yaqui. The University strives to build sustainable relationships with **sovereign** Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.”



**NATIVE PEOPLES OF ARIZONA**  
COMPREHENSIVE MAP OF ARIZONA INDIAN RESERVATIONS

SOURCES:  
American Indian Tribes and Communities in Arizona.  
[http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/maps/images/AIR1100040\\_2g.gif](http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/maps/images/AIR1100040_2g.gif)  
Arizona Tribal Lands and Reservations  
[http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/maps/images/AIR1100040\\_2g.gif](http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/maps/images/AIR1100040_2g.gif)



# SOVEREIGNTY

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- Sovereignty is the authority to self govern.
  - Federally recognized Native Nations are sovereign nations and have inherent rights and a political relationship with the United States government.
  - This sovereign status is a defining feature of Native Nations, and it differentiates them from other communities with whom the University of Arizona may engage.
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# IMPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH

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- Any research or institutional engagement conducted on sovereign Native land is governed under the authority of that individual nation.
  - Each Native nation is the exclusive owner of all property on its lands and fully controls the disposition, development and use of its physical and intellectual property.
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# WHAT IS REQUIRED BY THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS AND UA?

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## ABOR 1-118

“all human and non-human research projects, including both unfunded and funded sponsored projects, UA Foundation initiatives, contracts, intra-university agreements, and other instruments related to tribal engagement must be supported by *documented evidence of consultation and approval*”

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## TRIBAL CONSULTATION IS REQUIRED WHEN:

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- Research involves members of a sovereign tribe, and/or may result in conclusions specific to a tribe
  - Any activity, including research, occurring on sovereign Native land.
  - Any research or activity involving human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony
  - Any research conducted in Indian Health Service facilities
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## **As a representative of the university, you are expected to:**

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- Communicate early, regularly, and in good faith with individual tribal governments on any proposed research**
  - Collaborate with tribal partners on the design of your research project, including data ownership and dissemination of results**
  - Keep records of consultation and tribal approval**
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## DO YOUR RESEARCH

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- Some tribes have their own research codes, policies and applications for research published on their websites
  - Some tribes have their own IRB review and approval process that must be followed
  - If your project involves human subjects, some tribes may not issue approval until the UA IRB issues approval
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# Procedure - What does the University of Arizona Require for Human Research:



Determine whether the project is human research requiring IRB approval. Complete the “Determination of Human Research” form on the HSPP website.



If your project falls under human research, the HSPP requires documentation of approval and additional information. Complete the “Appendix for Native American and Indigenous Populations.”



HSPP submissions are routed to the Native Peoples Technical Assistance Office for review and acknowledgement.



Resources on the  
Native American  
Advancement,  
Initiatives &  
Research Web  
Portal  
<https://naair.arizona.edu>



Office of Native American  
Advancement and Tribal  
Engagement – Executive  
Office of the President



Native American Initiatives –  
Office of the Provost



Native Peoples Technical  
Assistance Office – Office of  
Research and Partnerships

<https://naair.arizona.edu>

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NAAIR Web Portal – your resource to everything on campus related to Native Nations and Tribal Communities!

- Institutes, Centers, and Museums
- Academic and Educational Programs
  - Resources for Native Students
- Searchable database of Native Faculty

# Resources

<https://naair.arizona.edu/research-engagement>

## Procedures – Working with Native Nations

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- Do your activities require you to adhere to protocols? We provide a checklist.
- Steps for Sponsored Projects Submissions
- Steps for Human Subjects Protection Program Submissions

## Required Consultation Policies

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- ABOR 1-118
- UA Tribal Consultation Policy, Adopted in 2023
- National Science Foundation Consultation Policy, Adopted in 2024

## Research Training and Resources

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- Upcoming Trainings
- Links to Resources on Campus
- Training Videos

# Resources

<https://naair.arizona.edu/research-engagement>

## Arizona Tribal Profiles, Data, and Research Policies

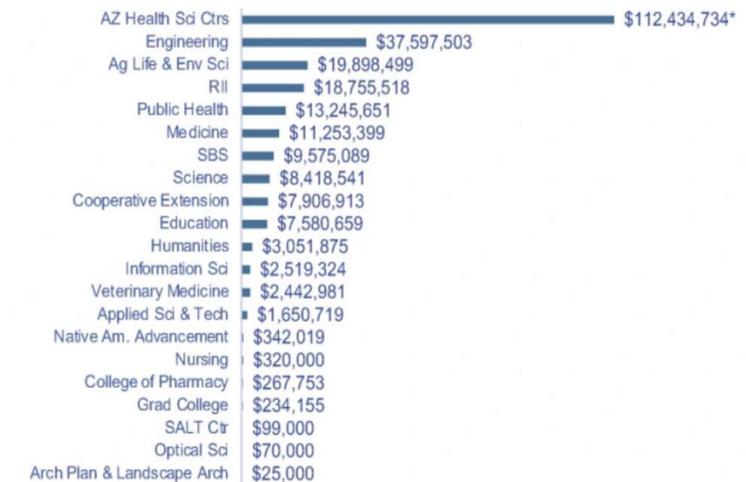
- 22 federally recognized tribes in Arizona
- If they have research protocols, we post them. For example, see Navajo Nation and Tohono O’odham.
- Latest Census data

## Research Database

- In FY 2025, researchers at UA were actively engaged in more than 200 projects with Native Nations.
- See our searchable database

## Research and Engagement with Native Nations FY25 Total Obligated Funding: \$257,689,332\*

In FY25, UA researchers actively engaged in more than 200 sponsored projects in Arizona and around the country that involved tribal communities. These projects ranged from the preservation of archeological discoveries at the Arizona State Museum to numerous Cooperative Extension projects.



\*Includes All of Us research project \$78,867,050

In-person training April 22, 1:00 - 3:00

COMING SOON!

A new online training on tribal consultation in EDGE  
Learning

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Visit <https://naair.arizona.edu>

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