

# What is research?

Research is more than scientists in lab coats running tests. It also includes the following:

- Surveys and questionnaires
- Interviews and focus groups
- Analyses of existing data or biological specimens
- Epidemiological studies
- Evaluations of social or educational programs
- Cognitive and perceptual experiments
- Medical chart review studies

# Chapter 77: Research Codes

On July 14, 2015, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Council passed Resolution No. SWO-15-080 approving the Chapter 77—Research Codes.

- Mandated that the Tribe operate a Tribal Research Office. It also established the Local Research Review Board, giving them the authority to approve, monitor, report and archive all research projects conducted on the Lake Traverse Reservation.
- Protects the interests of the Oyate by mandating that all data collected from research remains the property of the Tribe and all subsequent publications must be approved by the LRRB. It also provides penalties to researchers who do not abide by the code.

 [Siyo@swo-nsn.gov](mailto:Siyo@swo-nsn.gov)

# Mission

The current mission of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Research Office is to enhance the tribal research infrastructure by continuing to build the research review capacity, education through community engagement, and exercising tribal sovereignty through research data management. The main objective of the Tribal Research Office is to improve the overall status of all Tribal members through relevant, tailored, and culturally sensitive research as outlined in the SWO Code Chapter 77 – “SWO Research Code.”


## Website:

**The Research Office’s website is located at [www.swo-nsn.gov](http://www.swo-nsn.gov). Follow access path:**

- 1) *Hover* over the ‘Departments’ tab
- 2) ‘Department of Education’ link
- 3) ‘Research Office’ webpage

**The website contains the following :**

- History and authority of the Research Office
- List of the current research projects
- Link to the Research Codes
- Profiles of the Local Research Review Board
- Other helpful information

 **(605) 698-8411 Direct Line**



# Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate

# Research Office

Located in the Tribal Administration Building, Ska (White) Quadrant, in the Education Suite



<http://www.swo-nsn.gov>



**PO Box 509, Agency Village, S.D.  
57262**

Issue date: August 11, 2023

## Research Office Goals

- To ensure that all researchers and research projects on the Lake Traverse Reservation comply with Chapter 77: Research Code.
- To safeguard the rights and welfare of the members of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation when human subject research is undertaken within the reservation.
- To store, protect and archive all data, and to make it accessible for future researchers, grant-writers and other interested parties with permission.

## Research Specialist

The Research Specialist (RS) is the LRRB coordinator and is a voting member of the LRRB. The RS shall organize and coordinate all meetings and reviews. The RS shall also do a pre-review of applications and protocols and publications for completeness, including ensuring that all required application materials are present prior to presenting them to the board.

Respect for Persons

Beneficence

Justice

*These Dakota values guide our progress:*

Woabdeza  
(Observation)

Wowicake  
(Truth)

Woohoda  
(Respect)

Wowounâsida  
(Compassion)

Woksape  
(Wisdom)

## Local Research Review Board (LRRB)

The Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Local Research Review Board is comprised of a maximum of eight members with varying backgrounds. Each member is recruited to serve on the LRRB because of their expertise in a given area. The LRRB 's purpose is to review, approve and monitor all research projects carried out on the Lake Traverse Reservation. The LRRB meets once a month.

The LRRB will assure that research and publication activities meet the following criteria:

- (a) Are consistent with the goals, resource development, and objectives of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate.
- (b) Do not endanger the well-being of individuals, communities, properties or resources of the Lake Traverse Reservation.
- (c) Require informed consent of all affected individuals or their legal representatives.
- (d) Are culturally relevant to the extent possible and are appropriate clinically, technically, epidemiologically and statistically.
- (e) Present only reasonable risks in relation to anticipated benefits.

## Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH)



Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate was awarded a CRCAIH grant to assist in establishing the Research Office, and the SWO is one of five tribes in the Great Plains Region establishing their tribal research process. CRCAIH provides capacity building assistance with data management, research methodology, research regulation, ethics and community involvement. This project is supported by the National Institute on Minority Health & Health Disparities under Award Number U54MD008164.

## Data Management

Data management is a key component of fully realizing the potential of the data generated by research. At this time, current projects submit their data to the Tribal Research office in accordance with Chapter 77. This protects the privacy and interests of the Oyate. The Research Office is in the process of developing a Data Management Plan, consisting of policies and processes which will outline how data may be requested and utilized.