

## 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

Research is one of two categories: Human Subject Research (HSR) or Non-Human Subject Research (NHSR)

## 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.”



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

## Q & A:

**Q.** How do I know if a researcher is in compliance?

**A.** All researchers are required to partner with a tribal entity and hold an active SWO Research Permit to be in compliance with the codes.

**Q.** Does my tribal program need a permit to conduct surveys/collect data?

**A.** Not if the data collection falls within the scope of the programs delegated responsibilities.

**Q.** How do I determine if a project my program wants to conduct is or is not human subject research?

**A.** A flowchart to assist you in making this determination is available on the research office website. Also, an administrative review service is available for all tribal entities.

**Q.** Can an employee of a tribal program conduct a research project with the program as a college course assignment?

**A.** Yes, however the student will need to go through the Local Research Review Board process to obtain a permit.

**Q.** What happens to the data from projects?

**A.** The tribe owns all data findings resulting from projects and stores it in the tribes data repository. The data is useful to the tribe for reasons such as grant writing, reports, policy development, and other nation building efforts.



**SWO  
Research  
Office**

# Oyate Guide

Located in the Tribal Administration Building, Zi (Yellow) Quadrant, in the Education Suite



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



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

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## General Research Ethics

The Common Rule requires Human Subject Research (HSR) to be reviewed by an Institutional Research Board (IRB). The board members are tasked with determining that a project meets the 3 foundations of good research:

**Respect for persons**—All people’s autonomy is to be considered. Consent and assent forms are to offer all necessary project information for making an informed decision, and no undue influence or coercion is to be part of recruitment efforts.

**Beneficence**—The obligation to do good, maximizing benefits, and minimizing possible harms.

**Justice**—Participant selection is fair, and the benefits of research are equal to the burdens.

Though your choice to participate in research is honorable, remember that you have the right to stop participating in a research project at any time.

Respect for Persons

Beneficence

Justice

*These Dakota values guide our progress:*

Woabdeza  
(Observation)

Wowicake  
(Truth)

Woohoda  
(Respect)

Wowaunâsida  
(Compassion)

Woksape  
(Wisdom)



Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate  
Tribal Research Office  
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### RESEARCH PERMIT

**Name:** XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXX, PhD.      **Permit No:** SWO-2021-10xx

**Research Institution:** <XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX>

**Address:** <Enter address, city, state, and zip code>

**Phone Number:** <xxx-xxx-xxxx>

**Email:** <Enter email>

**LRRB#:** <Enter #>

**Research Project:** <Enter title>

**Tribal Entity Partner/s:** <Enter title>

**Permit Expires:** <Enter date>

I do hereby agree to abide by all laws and regulations of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate when conducting research on the Lake Traverse Reservation or with Tribal Individuals subject to the jurisdiction of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation. I accept this permit with the understanding and agreement that it is non-transferable, must be carried while conducting research on the Lake Traverse Reservation and must be displayed initially during research, and also upon demand. I also consent to the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate.

**Signature of Researcher:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Authorizing Agent:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Research Permit's Required

- ⇒ When the tribes IRB, the SWO Local Research Review Board (LRRB) approves a project it will be given an active permit that is to be displayed while conducting any research related activities within the LTR.
- ⇒ The research office website maintains a list of all approved research projects displaying the description, investigator, and most current permit expiration date per project.

## SWO and Non-Human Subject Research (NHSR)

The SWO governs its people, land, water, plants, and animals therefor the Research Office provides oversight of all data gathering within the outer boundaries of the Lake Traverse Reservation (LTR).

Non-Human Subject Research projects are information gathering projects that meet quality improvement, program evaluation, and public health surveillance criteria. Most Tribal Entity Information Gathering Projects (TEIGP) are considered NHSR and are exempted from the LRRB process. If a tribal program is uncertain if their project is HSR, or is required to provide official documentation that it is not, then an Administrative Review service is available.

All non-tribal entity NHSR is reviewed by the LRRB as Pre-publication/presentation approvals, Close-out reports, and Data-return processes are required.

## Website

The Research Office’s website is located at: [www.swo-nsn.gov](http://www.swo-nsn.gov), hover over the ‘Departments’ tab ⇒ ‘Department of Education’ ⇒ ‘Research Office.’ The website contains information about the Research Office, including 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