

Be a Tribal Engagement Fellow with the Office of Evaluation Sciences

OES makes government better by helping agencies build and use evidence to learn what works.

[The Office of Evaluation Sciences](#) (OES) is an interdisciplinary team that works across the federal government to help agencies answer top priority questions. We design and conduct evaluations of existing programs and evidence-based program changes. We use rigorous evaluation methods and administrative data to build and use evidence and learn what works. To date, we have completed over [100 evaluations](#) with over 20 federal agency collaborators. [Our portfolio](#) has spanned priority areas such as improving public health outcomes, increasing educational opportunity, promoting equity and economic recovery, and increasing access to benefits.

OES is hiring a Tribal Engagement Fellow to begin a part-time position in Spring 2024. The fellowship will be remote with location-based flexibility within the United States. Ideally the fellow will serve for a period of 6 months at 50% time, though this is negotiable.

Position details

OES is seeking candidates who have significant expertise conducting and / or facilitating research with Native Nations, citizens of Native Nations, and Tribal governments to join OES as a Tribal Engagement Fellow in the spring of 2024. Specifically, we are seeking an individual who has expertise in facilitating engagement and research with citizens of Native nations, is well versed in the principles of indigenous data sovereignty, and who would be willing and able to advise OES team members on respectful, appropriate engagement and ethical research practice with Native nations.

The fellow's primary focus would be to assist with OES' ongoing research on understanding Native nations' experiences accessing and implementing federal programs funded by the American Rescue Plan ([ARP](#)). This stream of research will focus on a set of federal programs that included dedicated funding allocations for Tribal governments from the ARP. Examples of such programs might include the State Small Business Credit Initiative ([SSBCI](#)), overseen by the U.S. Department of Treasury; the Child Care Development Fund ([CCDF](#)) or Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program ([LIHEAP](#)), overseen by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF); and the Indigenous Communities Program ([Indigenous Communities](#)), overseen by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

At OES, fellows typically lead and support OES evaluations and are academics or practitioners serving as project leads or technical advisors. Fellows join OES on-loan from academic, nonprofit, or government offices on either a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis. The Tribal Engagement Fellow will be brought on via [an Intergovernmental Personnel Act agreement](#) or Memorandum of Understanding for a

federal detail. Fellows have come to OES from a variety of universities (e.g., Harvard University, Reed College, and University of Washington), non-profits (e.g., ideas42 and MDRC), and Federal departments (there is additional flexibility for Federal employees applying for a rotational detail). [See team bios here.](#)

Applicant profile

OES team members must possess a unique set of technical and professional skills. Applicants for this position should have the following qualifications:

Required qualifications include:

- Significant expertise conducting and / or facilitating participatory research with Native nations, citizens of Native nations, and Tribal governments.
- Deep knowledge and understanding of the principles of indigenous data sovereignty, and expertise in the local contexts of Tribal governments.
- Willingness and ability to advise other OES team members on respectful, appropriate engagement and ethical research practice with Native nations.

Desirable qualifications include one or more of the following:

- Experience in qualitative research design and methods.
- Knowledge of relevant ARP-funded programs and Tribal governments' participation in these programs.
- Strong and concise writing skills under tight deadlines.
- Excellent project management and organizational skills.
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills.
- Flexibility, self-motivation, and the ability to manage multiple tasks efficiently in a team.
- Ability to effectively explain technical concepts to non-technical audiences, orally and in writing.

During this six-month term starting in Spring 2024, the fellow will be expected to:

- Support OES to deliver work and deliverables on projects under the '*Understanding Native nations' experiences accessing and implementing ARP funded programs*' research stream.
- Advise OES team members on respectful, appropriate engagement and ethical research practice with Native nations.
- Contribute to understanding bottlenecks and challenges (e.g., in accessing and implementing federal funding) for Tribal governments.
- Assist in study design(s) to evaluate research questions of interest.
- Support delivery of rigorous descriptive work with actionable findings for agency partners in collaboration with full-time OES team members.
- Distill findings into project reports and policy memos for academic, agency, and public audiences.

Application details

Applicants may apply online [through this form](#). The deadline to submit is **midnight (ET) on January 31, 2024**. Finalists will be invited to an interview process that will include two rounds of video interviews with members of our team, taking place in January and February, 2024. We expect to communicate final decisions by early March, 2024. If you have any questions, please reach out to Shibeal O' Flaherty at shibeal.oflaherty@gsa.gov.