National Institute of General Medical Sciences

Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH) (S06)

PAR-23-166

Pre-Application Webinar

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NIGMS NARCH Team

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Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH) Program

- Support federally recognized Tribes and organizations to build their capacity for doing health-related research.
- NARCH program began in 2001 in collaboration with the Indian Health Service and moved to NIGMS, NIH in FY2017.
- NARCH is supported by 20 participating NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices that can provide support for grant applications in their mission areas.

Application Due Dates

FY	Due Date	Review	Council	Earliest Start Date
2026	July 08, 2026	November 2026	January 2027	April 2027

Letter of Intent should be sent to the NARCH Program: nigms_narch_program@mail.nih.gov

- Descriptive title of proposed activity
- Name(s), address(es), and telephone number(s) of the PD(s)/PI(s)
- Names of other key personnel
- Participating organizations(s)
- Number and title of this funding opportunity

Organizational Eligibility - Tribal Entities

- **The applicant organization <u>must</u> meet one of the following criteria:**
  - A federally (or other) recognized **Tribe.**
  - A **Tribal college or university, a Tribal health program, or a Tribal organization or government.**
  - A consortium of two or more **Tribal entities is allowed as long as all meet eligibility requirement.**

PD/PI Eligibility (Applies to All PD/PIs if MPI)

- PD/PI must have a **primary appointment** with the applicant organization.
- PDs/PIs with **special employment arrangements**, such as interorganizational personnel agreements among federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Tribes, are allowable.
- **Multiple PI** applications are allowed – all **MPIs** must be from eligible Tribal entities.
  - Non-contact PD/PI must also have a primary appointment at an eligible Tribal entity.
  - Partners who are not PIs are allowed: can be S06 awardees, other Tribal entities, or non-Tribal entities.

Budget and Application Types

- Maximum budget $1.3 million/yr Direct Costs for up to 5 years.
- At least 60% or more of the budget must remain with the Tribal entity, the applicant organization.
- For applications that include partner organizations that are not Tribal entities, the direct costs of subcontracts to these organizations, combined, must be 40% or less of the application's overall direct cost budget.
- New and resubmission applications are allowed.
  - If an S06 application is unsuccessful the 1st time, resubmission is allowed.

Number of Applications

- **Up to two applications** for the same due date, provided there is **no** overlap.*
- If a Tribal entity has **one active NARCH S06 award**, they can submit one more application, provided there is **no** overlap.*
- **If a** Tribal entity has **two active NARCH S06 awards**, they **cannot** receive a new NARCH award. If they submit applications in anticipation of expiration of one or both of its current NARCH S06 awards, a new award can only be made **after** a current **NARCH S06 award** has ended.*
- Active awards include those in No Cost Extension.

* Discuss with the NIGMS Scientific/Research Contact listed in Section VII. Agency Contacts.

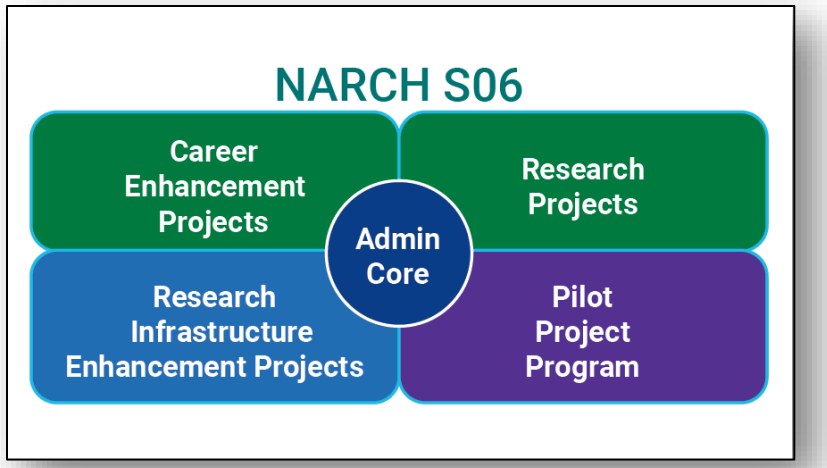
NARCH: Program Description

An Application <u>must</u> include:

- Overall
- Administrative Core

Applications <u>must</u> also include <u>one or more components</u>:

- Research Projects (up to 3)
- Pilot Project Program(1)
- Career Enhancement Projects (up to 2)
- Research Infrastructure Enhancement Projects (up to 2)



<u>Include:</u>

- **Data Management Sharing Plan:** if research is proposed (RPs or PPP)
- **Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information**: if proposed in the RPs
- **Vertebrate Animals Information:** if proposed in the RPs
- **Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources:** if the proposed RPs will use
- **Select Agent Research:** if the proposed RPs will use
- **Resource Sharing Plan:** if the proposed components will develop any resources

Overall: Data Management Sharing Plan

- **The DMS Plan (1-2 pages)** must be included in the Overall component in the "Other Plans" attachment if Research Projects or a Pilot Project Program are proposed in the NARCH application.
- **One DMS Plan** per application. The plan covers the scientific data expected to be generated from **all** components. Use language like, "the data we expect to generate from the proposed research projects are in the following categories" and then describe the plans to share the data. **Do not** organize the DMS Plan by Research Project number or RP Leader name.
- NIH Scientific Data Sharing webpage has descriptions of the elements to be included and a template.
- Good to describe foreseeable limitations on data sharing, for example, for projects involving AI/AN participant data and/or engagement with AI/AN tribes, including any necessary Tribal approvals, Tribal sovereignty and privacy considerations, or Tribal community review. See supplemental Notice regarding the DMS Plan for AI/AN populations, NOT-OD-22-214.

Advice to Applicants

- **Read the entire Notice of Funding Opportunity carefully.**
- **Complete all the required registrations** for the submitting organization.
- **Pay attention to Section V - review criteria (Section V) –** reviewers' critique templates contain these criteria/questions.
- **DO NOT duplicate letters of support.** Avoid including letters of support that do not add substance – it can limit the pool of reviewers and usually annoys reviewers.
- **Optional: Use the PHS Assignment form** to indicate expertise needed, but **DO NOT** suggest reviewer names. You may provide names of those who **SHOULD NOT** review your application.
- **Who to contact and when:**
  - Before submission and after the Summary Statement is released: Program Officer (PO).
  - After Submission and before the Review Meeting: Scientific Review Officer (SRO).

Review Process: Step 1 – Administrative Review

- **All applications go through Administrative Review by NIGMS and CSR.**
- **All applications deemed non-compliant/non-responsive/ineligible are withdrawn. To avoid this:**
  - Read and follow the **NOFO (PAR-23-166) instructions.**
  - Make sure all PIs are eligible.
  - Make sure the submitting organization(s) are eligible.
  - Apply a few days prior to the deadline, check your application, and make corrections if needed.

Review Process: Step 2 – Scientific Review

- Applications are reviewed by the NIH Center for Scientific Review
- Reviewer Orientation Meetings: Same material is given to all reviewers, includes guidance about reviewing Tribal research.
- Reviewer Assignments: At least two reviewers are assigned to each component of the application.
- Process:
  - Assigned reviewers present comments on each component, then the panel discusses it.
  - All panel members vote individually on every component of the application and provide individual impact scores.
  - Each component gets overall impact score.

Interpreting the Overall Impact Score

Overall Impact:

The likelihood for a project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on research field(s) involved.

Overall Impact	High	Medium	Low
Score	1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8 9

Evaluating Overall Impact: Consider the 5 criteria: significance, investigator, innovation, approach, environment (weighted based on reviewer's judgment) and other score influences (e.g., human subjects)

Planning activities are most likely to lead to the submission of a successful S06.
High Impact

5 is a good medium-impact application, and the entire scale (1-9) should always be considered.

Planning activities may lead to the submission of a successful S06, but minor weaknesses decrease the impact.
Medium Impact

Planning activities may lead to the submission of a successful S06, but major weaknesses decrease the impact.
Low Impact

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/guidelines_general/scoring_guidance_research.pdf

Thank you!

Questions? Please reach out
NIGMS_NARCH_Program@mail.nih.gov