



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS:

Project management for

Section 106, Site Consultations, and/or NAGPRA

for the

**Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
White Cloud, Kansas**

Purpose

The IowA Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska (“the Tribe”, “ITKN”) is seeking a consultant or consultants to support the successful implementation of Section 106, Site Consultations, and/or NAGPRA duties in support of the IowA Tribe’s Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO).

Background

The IowA Tribe is working with a committee of tribal citizens to assess and develop plans to support the successful achievement and continuation of duties performed by THPO staff. The Committee has identified a need for additional capacity for the THPO to complete all tasks and duties related to:

1. Section 106
2. Site Consultations
3. NAGPRA

Section 106

Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs) administer cultural programs and protect cultural resources. Section 106 requires Federal agencies to consult with THPOs and take into account the effects of their undertakings on cultural resources and historic properties to which a Tribe or THPOs attach religious or cultural significance. It also requires Federal agencies to provide a reasonable opportunity for THPOs to comment on their undertakings.

Site Consultations

The IowA Tribe’s THPO participates in and provides guidance on issues and projects related to culturally significant programs, sites, and landscapes within and beyond the reservation boundaries of the IowA Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska. This includes direct engagement with federal, state, county, and NGO partners, as well as relevant IowA Tribe entities and citizens.

NAGPRA

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) governs the return of Native American remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony to lineal descendants, culturally-affiliated Indian Tribes.

Through the provisions of NAGPRA, the federal government acts to treat the remains of Native ancestors and their belongings with dignity, and to return them to their communities with respect for their customs, religion, and traditions.

Scope of Services

ITKN recognized that Section 106, Site Consultations, and NAGPRA reviews are three separate and distinct initiatives that require different skills and experiences. As such we are asking consultants to only submit their qualifications for the services that they are able to provide. ITKN may select multiple consultants, and we do not require a single consultant to work in service to all three programs.

Interested applicants will provide support to the following roles and responsibilities of the Iowa Tribe's THPO/NAGPRA office, as deemed supportive to the THPO:

Section 106

Consultation:

Support THPO by being a secondary contact on Section 106 issues, consulting with federal agencies and other parties to identify and evaluate historic properties.

Assisting Federal Agencies:

Support THPO in their efforts to help federal agencies understand their Section 106 responsibilities and navigate the consultation process.

Reviewing Undertakings:

Support THPO in the review of federal undertakings to determine if they may affect historic properties on tribal lands.

Monitoring Agreements:

Support THPO to help ensure that the terms of MOAs or agreements are properly carried out.

Providing Guidance:

Support THPO to provide guidance to federal agencies, applicants, and the public on Section 106 regulations and processes.

Protecting Tribal Interests:

Support THPO to ensure that projects avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties of significance to their tribe.

Other duties within Section 106 as needed

External Site Consultation

Protecting and Enhancing Cultural Resources:

Support THPO in advocating for the Iowa tribe and its citizens interests in protecting and advancing the well being of historic properties and contemporary cultural resources and landscapes.

Partner Agency Engagement

Support THPO in participating in meetings and site consultations with state, federal, and county agencies and NGO partners that relate to site planning and stewardship of culturally significant landscapes.

Land Stewardship Support

Participate in land co-stewardship arrangements and projects with state, federal, and county agencies and NGO partners that further the cultural and ecological

health of landscapes with cultural significance to the Iowa Tribe and its citizens.

Sites include but are not limited to:

- *Effigy Mounds National Monument*
- *Good Earth State Park*
- *Two Horse Farm*
- *Coldwater Springs*
- *Mississippi National River and Recreation Area*

NAGPRA

Communications

- *Support NAGPRA communications and inquiries about Native American remains and objects falling under NAGPRA regulations.*
- *Comprehensively review all NAGPRA communications and inquiries and respond as appropriate, in the deadlines provided this may include researching their relationships to tribal communities, and facilitating their repatriation.*

Representation and Negotiation

Represent Iowa Tribe as a lead NAGPRA representative at regular meetings with tribal government officials and representatives to coordinate NAGPRA compliance, address tribal concerns,

Negotiation

Support negotiation of culturally sensitive resolutions to NAGPRA concerns

Administration

Support administrative aspects of NAGPRA Program including informing the repatriation implementation plan and informing the program budget.

Partner Engagement

Coordinate with relevant organizations that hold culturally affiliated remains and NAGPRA-related objects.

Documentation

Maintain proper documentation of correspondence, consultations, loans, transfers, federal and state notices, inventories, summaries, and determinations regarding cultural affiliation, repatriation, or disposition.

Qualifications

As this is a contracted role, this position will be expected to be/have:

- Experience and familiarity with the initiative(s) for which they are submitting their qualifications
- Familiarity with and connection to loway culture and people is expected as this role will be advocating for the rights of all loway peoples and lands
- A minimum of 5 years experience working with Tribes, Tribal serving organizations, and Tribal communities is required
- Highly self motivated with an independent work style
- Strong written communication skills
- Strong verbal communication skills

- Local and regional travel will be required, and a willingness to travel is expected

Submission Instructions

Provide a cover letter indicating the proposer's interest and summary of qualifications.

Include the following information in the cover letter:

- Consultant name(s),
- Name and contact for the individual authorized to represent the submitter for any correspondence and/or negotiations
- Hourly compensation rate expected
- Resumes (maximum two pages each) for the consultant and, if applicable, the key member(s) of your team
- Details of the education, training, and experience relevant to the initiative

The cover letter, resume(s), and any additional information shall be submitted to Jolene Walters jwalters@iowas.org and Keyanna Dawson kdawson@greysnow.com by or before May 16, 2025.

Review Process and Timeline

The ITKN reserves the right to accept or reject any or all responses to this RFP and to enter into discussions and/or negotiations with one or more qualified proposing firms, if such action is in the best interest of the Tribe. The ITKN has the right, in its sole discretion, to select the qualifying proposal or proposals that the Tribe determines best meets its needs.

Additional Resources

Continuing education and training opportunities may be provided to consultants.