

Tribal Consultation Policy

Understanding Consultation and Engagement

The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) is required to formally consult with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon (Tribes) in program development and implementation, and policy changes impacting Tribal members.

This guide is intended to serve as a resource for ODHS staff to better understand the difference between formal Tribal consultation and engagement as required by the ODHS/OHA Tribal Consultation and Urban Indian Health Program Confer Policy.

Consultation relies on officials of comparable governmental stature and authority conferring on a government-to-government basis in accordance with the established process as outlined ODHS/OHA Tribal Consultation and Urban Indian Health Program Confer Policy prior to taking actions on issues of mutual importance. It is conducted in an atmosphere of trust built through mutual respect and understanding and in consideration of the sovereignty, history, culture, protocols, and views of the parties involved. Consultation concludes with reporting on outcomes and can include periodic follow-ups about actions taken.

Consultation	Engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal process for engagement • Appropriate participants • Enhanced communication • Effective collaboration • Informed decision-making • Consensus • Better outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangement to participate • Informal and open invitation • Varying levels of participants • Meetings • Conferences • Phone calls/emails