



**OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY**  
**Policy Statement**  
**Part I – Administrative Services**



*Subject*

**State/Tribal Government-to-Government Relations**

*Section – Policy Number:*

**A: General Administration – 2.0**

*Supersedes:*

**N/A**

*Effective Date:*

**12/22/2008**

*Date of Last Review:*

**06/29/2024**

**Related Standards and References:**

- [ORS 182.162 -168](#) (Relationship of State Agencies with Indian Tribes)
- [Executive Order 96-30](#) (State/Tribal Government-To-Government Relations)
- Performance-based Standards (PbS), *Juvenile Correction and Detention Facilities*; Programming; PEP24
- [OYA policy](#): II-E-1.3 Tribal Notification (Facility)  
III-B-1.0 Tribal Notification (Community)


**Related Procedures:**

- None

**Policy Owner:**

Deputy Director

**Approved:**

  
 Bobby S. Mink, Interim Director

**I. PURPOSE:**

This policy formalizes the government-to-government relationship that exists between the nine federally recognized Oregon tribes and the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA).

**II. POLICY DEFINITIONS:**

**Federally recognized tribes:** Native American tribes have a special nation-to-nation relationship because of treaties or agreements between the two nations. The federal government has certain obligations to these tribes and tribal members. The federally recognized tribes of Oregon are: Burns Paiute Tribe; Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians; Coquille Indian Tribe; Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde; Klamath Tribes, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians; Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation; Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

**III. POLICY:**

OYA is committed to positive working relationships with the following federally recognized Oregon tribes:

- Burns Paiute Tribe

- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians
- Coquille Indian Tribe
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde
- Klamath Tribes
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

This policy establishes a process for OYA to maintain a productive relationship with the Oregon tribes to better serve youth in its custody. OYA's intent is to create partnerships with Oregon tribes to facilitate strong inter-government relationships. This includes OYA's desire to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with each tribe and to maintain a Native American Advisory Committee. In addition, OYA will collaborate with tribes for youth services which may include transition, aftercare, and culturally relevant interventions.

#### **IV. GENERAL STANDARDS:**

- A. OYA will maintain and facilitate a Native American Advisory Committee as the main way of communicating with the Oregon tribes. The committee will help improve services to American Indian/Alaska Native youth in OYA custody by reviewing and advising the agency on its policies and programs, helping to recruit American Indian/Alaska Native staff and service providers, and identifying areas important to the tribes.
- B. OYA will include a tribal representative on the OYA Statewide Advisory Committee to represent the Native American Advisory Committee and tribal interests to other OYA stakeholders and partners.
- C. The Oregon tribes are a valued core member of OYA's multidisciplinary team process.
- D. OYA will maintain the position of Tribal Liaison/Native American Programs Coordinator to act as the agency's liaison with Oregon tribes. The Tribal Liaison/Native American Programs Coordinator will:
  - 1. Advise the agency on all activities to comply with ORS 182.162-166.
  - 2. Prepare an annual report describing OYA's activities in state/tribal government-to-government relations to comply with ORS 182.166 (3).
  - 3. Cultivate productive relationships with each tribe.
  - 4. Coordinate the development and maintenance of MOUs with each tribe.
  - 5. Coordinate with each facility and field office to address issues that involve tribal interests and require tribal participation.

6. Identify agency programs that affect tribes.
7. Assist the OYA Cabinet in developing and implementing agency programs that affect the tribes.
8. Provide training to staff regarding tribal governments, the ongoing relationships between OYA and tribal governments, tribal concerns, and cultural competency. Training will occur during New Employee Orientation/Advanced Academy and related policy implementation.
9. Implement and coordinate culturally relevant ceremonies and activities for tribal youth in OYA facilities.

**V. LOCAL OPERATING PROTOCOL REQUIRED: NO**