



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



DES Tribal Government Consultation Policy Revision

DES Tribal Government Consultation Policy

- DES is proposing to revise our agency policy regarding Tribal government consultation in general
 - This policy applies to all DES Tribal government consultations, for example:
 - DES Biannual Tribal Consultation
 - Consultations required for federal programs, such as SNAP

Current Tribal Government Consultation Policy

- *Tribal Government Consultation Policy* (DES 1-92-03)
 - Printed copy of currently published policy and procedures is included in the meeting materials for this consultation
 - We will send you an electronic copy after this meeting, along with a copy of these slides
 - Also available publicly on the DES website at <https://des.az.gov/digital-library/tribal-government-consultation-policy>

Current Tribal Government Consultation Policy

- Recognizes unique government-to-government relationship
- Defines “consultation” and provides general characteristics of a Tribal Government Consultation
- Provides minimum annual requirement for Tribal Government Consultations (June and November)
- Discusses how issues requiring consultation may be identified
- Discusses how and when notice of consultation must be provided
- Establishes standard communication channels
- Outlines responsibilities of DES Office of Tribal Relations (OTR)
- Requires OTR to issue an annual report

Policy Opportunities & Questions

- Better description of DES actions requiring Tribal government consultation
 - What is your definition of “Consultation?”
- Establishing an agreed-upon time frame for providing notice prior to a Tribal government consultation
 - How much notice before a DES Tribal Consultation would you like to be provided?
- Determining the standard participants for Tribal government consultation
 - Who should attend DES Tribal Consultations from DES and from your Tribal administrations?

Policy Opportunities & Questions (cont.)

- Recognizing Tribal sovereignty
 - Are you interested in other Tribal Organizations, e.g. Urban Indian Centers, Non-Tribal Government Organizations, and/or Tribal Affiliate Organizations, participating in DES Tribal Consultations?
- Aligning with other government agency best practices
 - Are there other state or federal agencies that follow policy or practice that would be good for DES to mirror?
- Ensuring proper maintenance of records related to a Tribal Government consultation
- Ensuring appropriate training requirements for DES staff

Timeline for Revisions

- The timeline for policy revision is flexible.
- As part of our follow up communication, we will ask you which timeline you prefer (all plans will include a follow-up consultation with Tribes dedicated to the policy revision):
 - Begin policy revision process **now** and aim to publish the policy by **late Fall 2024** (less time for consultation and review, quicker publication)
 - Begin Tribal Government Consultation Policy revision process **now** and aim to publish the policy by the **end of 2024** (slightly more time for consultation and review, slightly slower publication)
 - Begin Tribal Government Consultation Policy revision process in **Fall 2024, after SNAP State Plan revision**, and aim to publish the policy by **Spring 2025** (more time for consultation and review, later publication)

Next Steps

- You will receive an email from DES including a copy of the current policy, a copy of these slides, a request for input, and a request to weigh in on the revision time frame.
- Depending on the time frame consensus, additional next steps and dates for those will be communicated. These may include a follow up consultation specific to the policy revision, soft deadline for providing feedback, and a date for providing Tribal leaders with a proposed draft policy for comment.

Questions or Comments?

For future questions and feedback related to the DES Tribal
Government Consultation Policy:

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