

## *INDIGENOUS RESEARCH METHODOLOGY GRADUATE CERTIFICATE APPLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT*

### **AIHEC NARCH TCU BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESEARCH NETWORK**

The American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) is soliciting applications from faculty and staff of the Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) in behavioral health or related field as part of our effort to develop and support behavioral health research and education programs. There is a very short deadline of September 8, 2017 for submission of applications.

#### *I. PROJECT OVERVIEW*

The TCU Behavioral Health Research project will establish a network of TCUs with behavioral health research and education programs. Its purpose is to develop and support a tribal community-based research programs that will identify, develop, pilot and evaluate intervention strategies and models addressing significant behavioral health issues in the communities served by the TCUs. A one-year graduate certificate has been developed through the AIHEC NARCH Project which will be piloted through Sitting Bull College's Master of Education Program. The intent of this graduate certificate is to provide participants a structure to develop a sound behavioral health research projects. Ultimately, AIHEC seeks to help address funding disparities that contribute to the lack of ownership that AIANs experience with regard to research.

#### *II. Indigenous Research Methodology Graduate Certificate*

The Indigenous Research Methodology Academic Program will consist of a 17 graduate credit body of coursework to be completed in a one-year timeframe, using mixed instructional delivery modalities including on-campus, intensive face-to-face instruction and webinars. This will include weekends and possible holidays to insure the greatest flexibility to meet the needs of faculty. Candidates completing the Indigenous Research Methodology Academic Program are expected to achieve the following:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of knowledge democracy and the importance of multiple knowledge systems.
2. Exemplify an understanding of the concepts and issues associated with tribal communities' sovereign right to articulate research questions, approve, and participate in the research process.
3. Practice respect for the protection of human subjects and tribal communities.
4. Reveal professional competence in research design, data collection, data analysis, and dissemination of results.
5. Demonstrate competence in effective communication, oral and written.
6. Candidates who complete the program will have acquired the ability to articulate a behavioral health research question into a research project, demonstrated understanding of the requirements of conducting research within AIAN Institutional Review Board (IRB) jurisdictions, and demonstrated the facility with research tools, instrumentation and methods necessary to implement, analyze, and disseminate findings of a behavioral health research project.



### III. COMPETITIVE SELECTION FOR AWARD

**Successful applicants (12 maximum) will receive tuition, fees, books, materials, travel expenses for required on-site sessions and a \$3,000 stipend in addition to their work in developing and implementing a behavioral health research project.**

#### 1. Applicant Eligibility

- Applicant must be a faculty or staff member of a Regular AIHEC member in good standing.
- Must be willing to develop and implement a behavioral health research project through participation in the graduate certificate program.

### IV. REQUIRED APPLICATION FORMAT

- *Cover Letter*
- *Completed AIHEC Application Form*
- *Vita*
- *College Transcripts (unofficial for application review with official transcripts required for full admission)*
- *SBC Graduate Program Application (including a letter of reference)*
- *Approval of Supervisor and College President*

### V. APPLICATION SUBMISSION

1. Applicants are required to submit ONE electronic copy of the **completed** application and accompanying materials.
2. Application packages electronically submitted after the deadline date and time will not be considered
3. Submit applications (and questions) to: **Deborah His Horse is Thunder**, NARCH Project Director  
American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)  
121 Oronoco Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Email: [dhishorseisthunder@aihec.org](mailto:dhishorseisthunder@aihec.org)  
Telephone: 701.527.3913

### V. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

1. A joint review committee made up of AIHEC and Sitting Bull College will meet to evaluate applications and will make recommendations to AIHEC for funding purposes and to SBC for graduate school admission. The intent is to begin the first class on September 23, 2017. Classes will consist of on-site and hybrid delivery.
2. AIHEC will make the final selection on funded applicants.

**Award Notification:** Applicants will be notified by Friday, September 15, 2017.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is a 5-year project funded through the National Institutes of Health Native American Research Centers in Health (NARCH) program.

## **AIHEC/SBC Indigenous Research Methodology Graduate Certificate Application**

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone:

Tribal College/University:

How long at TCU?

Academic Department/Program:

Professional certifications:

Please describe the behavioral health aspects of your work and educational experience.

Please briefly describe your long term professional plans involving behavioral health research.

Name:

Title:

Department:

Email:

Phone:

Signature of applicant:

Date:

Signature of supervisor:

Date:

Signature of TCU President:

Date:

***SBC Graduate Program Application (Attached) Notes:***

- 1) Disregard the deadline cited in this application.***
- 2) Disregard the request for Praxis scores if not a certified K-12 teacher.***
- 3) Please request official transcripts to be submitted to SBC. Unofficial transcripts can be submitted with this application for initial review.***
- 4) Please disregard the "Criteria for Admission" on the SBC application form as it is mislabeled and would not apply to this graduate certificate program.***