Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Life Cycle

If you are thinking about conducting a research project with, or about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people or communities, the project must respect and take into account the values and cultural protocols of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

4. Dissemination

- Review local and national data sharing guidelines and ensure compliance
- Ensure Indigenous data confidentiality by only sharing and reporting data within the conditions of informed consent
- Ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and/or communities receive results of the project

3. Conduct

- Adhere to Ethical Conduct, the Australian Code, and the National Statement
- Adhere to ethics approval, including reporting requirements
- Adhere to any funding requirements
- Adhere to any agreements with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people or communities



1. Proposal

- Read and understand: Ethical Conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities
- Determine whether the project constitutes community engagement or research, or both. Seek advice from Riawunna on community relationship building
- Consider how you will build a respectful, culturally and historically aware relationship with the community
- Determine how you will include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and governance into the project

2. Funding & Ethics

- Apply for funding such as NHMRC funding for Indigenous research and researchers
- Consult an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ethics Advisor on the research plan and ethics application
- Complete the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ethics supplementary form; demonstrate how the project meets the six ethical values. Submit alongside ethics application
- Seek ethics approval through the appropriate Human Research Ethics Committee

Research Integrity and Ethics Unit

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