



ACF Tribal Consultation Information for Registered Attendees

Thank you for registering for the **Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Tribal Consultation**. The information below outlines who may provide testimony, designee requirements, speaker protocol, online participation, and how testimony becomes part of the official consultation record.

Who May Provide Tribal Testimony?

ACF Tribal Consultation is a government-to-government process with federally recognized Indian Tribes. Tribal testimony may be provided by:

- **An elected or appointed Tribal leader;** or
- An **authorized Tribal designee** with delegated authority to speak on behalf of the Tribe.

Other registered attendees may participate or observe as permitted; however, their participation does not replace government-to-government consultation with Tribal governments.

Tribal Designees

A Tribal designee must provide documentation confirming their authority to represent the Tribe. The designee letter should be on **official Tribal letterhead**, identify the designee, authorize the individual to represent the Tribe during consultation, and be signed by the appropriate elected or appointed Tribal official.

Designee letters may be:

- **Emailed in advance** to tribalaffairs@acf.hhs.gov; or
- **Provided in person** to ACF staff on the day of the consultation, before the designee participates on behalf of the Tribe.

Speaker Protocol

To preserve the government-to-government nature of consultation, priority for oral testimony will generally be given in the following order:

1. **Highest-ranking Tribal official present from each Tribe**
2. **Other elected or appointed Tribal officials**
3. **Authorized Tribal designees**
4. **Other participants, as appropriate and as time permits**

We greatly value the opportunity to hear directly from Tribal leaders and authorized designees and want to make every effort to hear from as many Tribal Nations as possible.



Due to the number of registered participants, we respectfully ask that speakers limit their oral testimony to approximately five minutes to ensure that all participants have an opportunity to speak. We recognize that five minutes may not provide enough time to address every comment a Tribe wishes to raise, and we sincerely appreciate your consideration in helping provide an opportunity for others to be heard. Speakers are also encouraged to supplement their oral testimony with written testimony. ACF may adjust speaker procedures and time limits based on attendance and schedule constraints.

If time remains after all speakers have had an opportunity to provide testimony, ACF will make every effort to return to speakers who have additional comments.

Virtual Participation and Speaker Instructions

If you are participating virtually, please use the ZoomGov meeting information below to join the ACF Tribal Consultation. Virtual participants are encouraged to join approximately **10–15 minutes before the consultation begins** to allow time to confirm their display name and address any technical issues.

Join ZoomGov Meeting:

<https://acf-hhs-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1654916283?pwd=6DoJo05q2QgDlcdyX495mA3lGRSDg1.1>

Meeting ID: 165 491 6283

Passcode: 379712

To help ACF staff identify Tribal leaders and authorized designees and appropriately manage the order of speakers, virtual participants are asked to update their display name to include their **name, title, and Tribe** using the following format:

First and Last Name | Title | Tribe

For example:

Jane Smith | Tribal Chairwoman | [Tribe Name]

To update your display name after joining the meeting:

1. Open the **Participants** list.
2. Locate your name.
3. Select the **More options** menu next to your name.
4. Select **Rename** or **Edit display name**, depending on the option shown.
5. Enter your **name, title, and the Tribe you represent** using the format above.
6. Save or confirm the change.



If you are unable to update your display name, please notify ACF staff through the meeting chat or other available meeting support so that we can accurately identify you and the Tribe you represent.

When you are ready to provide oral testimony, please use the **Raise Hand** feature. ACF staff will recognize speakers in accordance with the speaker protocol above and available time. Please remain muted until you are recognized to speak.

Oral Testimony and Written Testimony

Tribal leaders and authorized designees may provide oral testimony, written testimony, or both. Oral testimony may be supplemented with more detailed written testimony for the official consultation record.

We recognize that the time available for oral testimony may not allow speakers to address every issue important to their Tribe. The written testimony period provides an additional opportunity to share recommendations, concerns, examples, supporting information, or other comments for ACF's consideration.

Written testimony is due Friday, September 25, 2026, by 5:00 p.m. ET.

Email: tribalaffairs@acf.hhs.gov

Subject: ACF Tribal Consultation Testimony

Written testimony received by the deadline will be included in the consultation record and considered by ACF.

One-On-One Meetings

One-on-one meetings with ACF program offices are separate from the official ACF Annual Tribal Consultation. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss program-specific priorities, ask questions, and identify opportunities for technical assistance and collaboration.

Discussions during one-on-one meetings are not part of the official consultation record and do not constitute oral testimony. Oral testimony must be provided during a designated consultation session or submitted in writing by the deadline above.

Consultation Preparation Materials

To help participants prepare for the ACF Tribal Consultation, **consultation materials and resources are available through the ACF Tribal Consultation Planning Pod.**

Participants are encouraged to review the [Planning Pod](#) before the consultation. Available resources may include the consultation agenda, attendee information, testimony preparation materials, and other resources to support your participation in the consultation.

Access the [ACF Tribal Consultation Planning Pod](#)



Please check the [Planning Pod](#) before the consultation for the most current materials and information.

Questions?

For consultation questions, contact the Administration for Native Americans (ANA):

tribalaffairs@acf.hhs.gov | 1-833-262-4636 (833-ANA-INFO)