



The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION

August 7, 2017

NABS is seeking proposals from qualified researchers to provide research and provide documentation on Native American children who went missing from U.S. Indian boarding schools. Information provided to the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition will be used for submission to the United Nations Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances. Research may also be used for NABS's website, resource library, social media, and print publications for education about boarding school abuses.

I. INTRODUCTION

Structure

The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) is a non-profit corporation, incorporated in June 2012 under the laws of the Navajo Nation. The Coalition was formed to discuss and develop a national strategy to focus public attention and foster healing for the wrongs visited upon individuals, families, communities, American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Nations by the Indian Boarding School policy of the United States.

Mission

The Mission of NABS is to work to ensure a meaningful and appropriate response from responsible agencies for those Native American individuals, families, and communities victimized by the United States' federal policy of forced boarding school attendance and to secure redress from responsible institutions in order to support lasting and true community-directed healing.

Organizational Goal

To increase public awareness and to develop health and wellness strategies in the American Indian population that are holistic, community supported, and culturally appropriate toward countering the traumatic intergenerational effects of the boarding school policy.

Current Programs

NABS manages four programs:

1. **Awareness** – Promote awareness of the US Indian Boarding School Era, policies, and history



through education and outreach emphasizing truth telling about government and church involvement, the resulting trauma, and the lasting effects of the Boarding School Era and experiences.

2. **Action** – Take action to facilitate, sponsor, or participate in events, workshops, conferences, and to publish, support, or disseminate research and reports that support awareness, healing, and justice of Indian Boarding School survivors and their descendants.
3. **Justice** – Seek justice through pursuit of restitution, reparations, redress, public apology and official acknowledgment from all government and religious institutions involved.
4. **Healing** – Provide opportunities, training, models, and education for community-led, culturally relevant, spiritual, emotional, and psychological healing based on facts and research regarding historical, generational, and complex trauma.

II. RFP SCHEDULE

The following is a preliminary schedule of planned milestones. Please note that failure to submit requisite documents by the dates and times listed may result in disqualification of your bid. This schedule is subject to change by NABS as needed without notice:

- RFP Issued: 8/7/2017
- Bids Due: 9/1/2017
- Award: 9/8/2017
- Project Completion: 9/31/2018

NABS anticipates that a successful bidder will be selected on or about September 8, 2017. Work with NABS Staff to begin immediately in September 2017 and to be completed by September 31, 2018. NABS anticipates opportunity for ongoing services through 2018 and beyond. Hired consultant will work closely with and report to NABS' Staff.

III. PROJECT AND SCOPE OF SERVICES

Definition of US Indian Boarding School:

Indian Boarding Schools housed American Indian or Alaskan Native children who were removed from family and home, taken into Federal custody, and sent to live at government and church-run schools for at least nine months out of the year.

Research Projects Needed

Top Priority—Missing Children

- Find the names of children who went **missing** or disappeared from Boarding School custody whose whereabouts are still unknown (meaning the family was never notified of child's ultimate fate).



- This could be accomplished by working from the archives; or
- Contacting tribal communities and families for records.
- Document **unmarked graves** at boarding school sites.

Other Research Projects

- List of **all boarding school archives**, locations, what schools archived, where, and by whom
- Projects that focus on a particular boarding school, specific tribe, state, or region
- Other projects as defined by researchers pertaining to Boarding School records

The RFP

NABS is requesting proposals from **qualified researchers** to research the specified subject and provide documentation of resources/archives and how to access those.

The successful bidder will be expected to identify and research relevant sources (e.g. archives, articles, publications and other materials) regarding US Indian Boarding Schools.

Scope of Services required includes:

1. Provide research and documentation to NABS to use for its educational resources, website, social media, and print publications.
 - Documentation will include academic citations and a detailed methodology of how sources were obtained, accessed, and analyzed, etc.
2. Collaboration with NABS staff to identify relevant content.
3. Creation and delivery of detailed research as a final work product of a finished professional quality, free of errors.

Research contracts to be awarded at **\$1000-5000**, depending on scope of research and detailed budget. Researchers proposed budget will need to include all expenses and travel costs.

IV. STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The successful bidder shall have relevant experience in historical research, professional references to verify project experience, experience with nonprofits and Native organizations, cultural knowledge of tribes in Indian Country, and basic historical knowledge of US Boarding School History. Indian preference may be given.

V. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

At a minimum, proposals must contain the following information. A proposal that does not contain this information shall be deemed non-responsive and is subject to rejection.

1. Identify the bidder's qualifications to provide the services.
2. Identify experience in historical research.



3. Identify experience with nonprofits and Native communities.
4. Provide description of proposed process
5. Include timeline and itemized budget for project completion.
6. Provide at least three (3) references.
7. Identify any deviations from this RFP.

VI. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS:

All proposals will be received via email. No phone calls or snail mail.

Proposals must include (all in PDF format) a resume/CV and cover letter.

E-mail applications to: cmccleave@nabshc.org

Subject Line: Research Proposal/YOUR NAME

Proposal deadline is FRIDAY, Sept. 1, 2017 at 11:59 p.m., CST

If further information is needed to complete your proposal, please email your questions.

VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This RFP does not commit NABS to award a contract or pay any costs associated with the preparation and presentation of a proposal. NABS reserves the right to revise the selection process and, in its sole discretion, to accept or reject any or all responses to this RFP. NABS may negotiate with or request additional information from any or all considered bidders. NABS may waive informalities or irregularities in a proposal.

The successful bidder will be required to enter into a written contract with NABS. The successful bidder will be required to carry all appropriate insurance, such as professional liability, errors and omissions and general liability coverages. The successful bidder must not engage in discriminatory conduct.