In order to identify a collaborative cancer-related research project, to be funded starting September 1, 2015, the Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention (NACP) invites Letters of Intent from interested investigator teams. The NACP is working to define and eliminate obstacles to health equity in areas of Native American cancer incidence, mortality, survivorship, and representation. The NACP, funded by the NIH National Cancer Institute (#U54CA143924 and #U54CA143925), is an interdisciplinary and collaborative program among Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona Cancer Center, and Native American communities. Its mission is to alleviate the unequal burden of cancer among Native Americans of the Southwest through research, training and outreach programs that are collaborative with the communities they serve. The most recent guidelines for this Partnership are published in PAR-12-055 and are attached. The PAR can also be viewed through the NIH website at http://www.nih.gov/.

**NACP GOALS** – All efforts within the NACP are aimed toward the following goals:

1. To foster and support culturally appropriate research capacity at our institutions through research projects, faculty recruitment and faculty development.
2. To honor the culture of the Native American communities we serve by providing opportunities to integrate their values, beliefs and needs into every aspect of NACP.
3. To increase the number of culturally competent biomedical researchers and health workers by increasing the number of Native American students, postdoctoral fellows and faculty trained in cancer prevention, cancer control, and cancer-related health care policy.

The NACP welcomes applications for collaborative basic or translational research projects addressing cancer prevention or control. Projects involving behavioral or population science are encouraged, as are projects focusing on the Navajo, Hopi, or Tohono O’odham reservation communities. All projects must be co-led by at least one investigator at NAU and at least one investigator at UACC. We seek to provide seed funding for projects that will develop to apply for future external support.

**LETTER OF INTENT** – Interested investigators submitting new proposals should submit a letter of intent that briefly describes the nature and scope of the project (1 paragraph) and the names and contact information of the co-investigators from NAU and UACC. Because applications will also be reviewed by external reviewers, we ask that the LOIs also list the names and contact information for one or more potential external (outside of both NAU and UA) reviewers with expertise appropriate to the project. Please note that investigators who have a proposal idea but who have not yet identified a collaborator at the partner institution are encouraged to contact Diane Stearns (diane.stearns@nau.edu) or Jesse Martinez (JMartinez@uacc.arizona.edu) before the above deadline. The NACP will work with interested investigators to find collaborators at NAU or UACC, and to develop competitive proposals. LOIs should be emailed to Ms. Maria Jackson (Maria.Jackson@nau.edu) by 5 pm on Monday, December 1, 2014.

**NEW PILOT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS (CALL FOR PROPOSALS)** – We anticipate having funds to initiate one new pilot project/program in September 2015. Projects/Programs may be funded for up to $120,000 per year in total direct costs to be shared between NAU and
UACC, for no more than three years, with renewal contingent on project productivity. The usual funding ratio is 50% to NAU and 50% to UACC. Individual budgets should be calculated for each institution.

PROPOSAL FORMAT – Proposals should follow the NIH format for the PHS 398 Research Plan. Details may be found in PAR 12-055 and in the NIH PH S 398 Instructions. Proposals should contain the following sections:

- **Title Page and Specific Aims** (1 page limit): Title of project, names of co-leaders from both partner institutions, and specific aims stating the objectives of the project.
- **Relevance to NACP** (1 page limit): Describe how this project will advance the overall goals of the NACP and how Native American students/investigators/collaborators will be involved.
- **Budget Pages:** For initial and entire proposed period of support, consisting of a different budget for each institution (NIH PHS 398 Sections 4.4-4.5)
- **NIH Biosketch Forms:** For all senior/key personnel and other significant contributors (NIH PHS 398 Section 4.6)
- **NIH Other Support Pages:** For all senior/key personnel and other significant contributors (NIH PHS 398 Section 4.6.1)
- **Research Strategy** (up to 6 pages) to include:
  - Significance
  - Innovation
  - Preliminary Studies
  - Approach

**Notes:** (1) Other Sections of PHS 398 (Sections 5.5.4-5.5.15) must also be completed if applicable but are excluded from page limitations. (2) Any research involving human subjects will require IRB approval. (3) Any research involving Native American participants will be required to follow ABOR policy on Tribal Consultation.


Proposals will be evaluated based on (1) scientific merit of the research project, (2) strength of the project team, (3) potential of the proposed project to garner independent external support, and (4) relevance to Native American cancer related health concerns. Frequent reasons for a project to not achieve a fundable score are: (1) low scientific merit; (2) low relevance to the objectives of the partnership; (3) low potential to develop into an externally funded project/program through competitive peer review.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION – Proposals are due electronically by 5 pm on Friday, April 3, 2015. One application package should be submitted by each pair of investigators. Applications should be submitted to Ms. Maria Jackson (Maria.Jackson@nau.edu) at NACP.