

AIHEC Position Description – September 2016

Position Title: Tribal Climate Science Liaison

This full-time, professional position will provide direct extension support to Tribes and Tribal colleges (TCUs) located in Arizona, Utah, Nevada and California, the states comprising the service area of the Department of the Interior Southwest Climate Science Center (SW CSC), located on the campus of the University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ. The position will work with the SW CSC to develop and implement a communication, education and outreach program involving Tribal governments, schools and communities focused on supporting climate resilience planning and implementation. Tribal community-based activities to be supported by the climate science liaison include outreach/engagement, education and research associated with mobilizing community response to anticipated environmental, health, and safety impacts of climate change.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Conduct outreach to Tribal communities within the SW CSC service area to inform them of the climate science and adaptation resources available through the liaison and the SW CSC and its partners through meetings with Tribal governments, departments, NGOs, TCUs and schools, and individuals involved in climate adaptation work;
- Provide climate adaptation planning support to Tribal governments and community climate resilience stakeholders in coordination with the SW CSC and other partners;
- Facilitate connections between Tribal communities and SW CSC and other federal agencies (e.g., Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, Regional Integrated Science Assessment (RISA) programs, USDA Climate Hubs, and tribal extension programs, etc.) needed to supplement community climate adaptation planning, research and adaptive response efforts;
- Assist Tribal nations and community stakeholders in identifying local climate research needs and interpretation of locally-relevant research findings;
- Provide technical support to Tribal nations and community stakeholders in design and implementation of climate research projects, in coordination with SW CSC research personnel;
- Provide recommendations to Tribal nations and community stakeholders on improving climate resilience;
- Maintain ongoing contact with and provide assistance upon request to Tribal resource managers and other Tribal personnel involved in climate response planning and risk management;
- Participate in a network of Tribal climate science liaisons working within the CSC system;
- Coordinate a national workgroup of TCU/AIHEC partners to address policy and resource issues associated with Tribal climate resilience;
- Use Web software to input, update, and maintain a project site for outreach and coordination of activities with SWCSC and Tribal communities;
- Draft correspondence, reports, strategic plans and other documents as needed;

Position Requirements

- Ph.D. degree preferred, or Master's degree with at least three years of experience, in an area of science relevant to climate change and Tribal issues, including the social sciences and public health;
- Familiarity with recent climate change research and resources within applicant's area of expertise;
- Understanding of American Indian Tribal communities and traditional ecological knowledge is highly desirable;
- Ability to assist in development and evaluation of research plans, methods and outcomes;
- Strong oral and written communication skills, especially the ability to articulate relevant climate change-related issues and concepts to American Indian communities and non-scientists generally;
- Demonstrated ability to work both independently and as a collaborative team member
- Knowledge of consensus building and group facilitation processes;
- Demonstrated ability to organize, prioritize, document and manage multiple projects.

This position is funded for one year by the Department of the Interior. While AIHEC and the SWCSC are working on making this a long-term position, that is contingent upon availability of funds.

This position reports to: AIHEC Senior Associate for Strategic Initiatives and the SWCSC Director.

Competitive salary (commensurate w/ experience), excellent benefits;

Qualified candidates must submit cover letter, résumé, and salary history **by October 12, 2016** to:

American Indian Higher Education Consortium

Attn: Climate Science Liaison Search, 121 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Email: jobs@aihec.org - subject line = Climate Science Liaison Search

Fax: (703) 838-0388 – ATTN: Climate Science Liaison Search