

WHAT IS RESEARCH ETHICS?



Research ethics are rules and principles that researchers must follow to protect the dignity, rights, culture, and heritage of Aboriginal peoples.¹ These guidelines also ensure that research is conducted in a way that is safe, respectful, and prioritises the well-being of everyone involved.

Why are Research Ethics important?

Protecting our communities

Research ethics safeguard the dignity and rights of Aboriginal peoples, ensuring that research is done respectfully and with the community's best interests at heart.

Cultural Safety

Research must be conducted in environments that respect, honours and values Aboriginal culture, heritage and sovereignty.

Trust and respect

Following ethical guidelines helps build trust between researchers and Aboriginal communities, ensuring that the research benefits everyone involved.

What Research Ethics do you need to engage with our region?

Minimum requirement for all research projects:

Aboriginal Health Research Ethics Committee (AHREC) - AHREC reviews all health-related research proposals involving Aboriginal people or communities in South Australia. It is important to note that AHREC focuses on health research and does not review studies without a direct health focus.²

If relevant:

A university's Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) – it is a requirement that all human research is reviewed and approved by a HREC.

SA Department for Health and Wellbeing Human Research Ethics Committee (DHW HREC) - If your research proposal is initiated or conducted by SA Health staff and/or external researchers seeking access to SA Health data and/or clients.

For more information
QR to our website



¹Kennedy M and Bryant J (2024) Ethics in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research, "9 https://www.lowitja.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Lowitja-Discussion-Paper_Ethics-in-Aboriginal-and-Torres-Strait-Islander-Health-Research_2024_Final-1.pdf.

²Ethical Review: AHREC, accessed 1 August 2024, <https://ahcsa.org.au/research-and-ethics/ethical-review-ahrec>.