

Repatriation of human remains or associated funerary objects

Step 1: Compile an itemized list.	Step 2: Initiate consultation.	Step 3: Consult.	Step 4: Complete an inventory.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of individuals and associated funerary objects • The geographical location • The acquisition history • Other information to identify lineal descendants or cultural affiliation • Presence of any hazardous substance treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any lineal descendant • Any Indian Tribe or NHO with potential cultural affiliation • Include itemized list, names of all consulting parties, and proposed timeline and method for consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to any consulting party • Address identification of lineal descendants, Indian Tribes or NHOs with cultural affiliation, types of associated funerary objects, and duty of care • Make a record of consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting parties and dates • Itemized list, updated • For each entry, a determination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lineal descendant • Clearly identified cultural affiliation • Reasonably identified cultural affiliation • None of the above <p>! Send to consulting parties and National NAGPRA !</p>
43 CFR 10.10(a)	43 CFR 10.10(b)	43 CFR 10.10(c)	43 CFR 10.10(d)(1)

Six months after Step 4 Step 5: Submit a Notice.	Any time after Step 5 Step 6: Receive and consider requests.	90 days after Step 6 Step 7: Respond to requests.	90 days after Step 7 Step 8: Repatriation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abstract of information in itemized list • Determination in inventory • Total number of individuals associated funerary objects • Contact information to submit requests <p>! Send to consulting parties and National NAGPRA !</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint request is a single request • Criteria for a request is EITHER: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requestor is identified in the notice OR • Requestor shows lineal descent or cultural affiliation - preponderance of the evidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written response to requestor and any other party in notice • ONE of following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets the criteria • Does not meet the criteria and request more information • Competing requests received 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written statement relinquishes possession or control to requestor(s) • After statement, consult on and document physical transfer and protect sensitive information <p>! Send to requestor(s) and National NAGPRA !</p>
43 CFR 10.10(e)	43 CFR 10.10(f)	43 CFR 10.10(g)	43 CFR 10.10(h)

Repatriation of human remains or associated funerary objects

1

Compile an itemized list.

- The number of individuals and associated funerary objects
- The geographical location
- The acquisition history
- Other information on lineal descendants or cultural affiliation
- Presence of any hazardous substance treatment

43 CFR 10.10(a)

2

Initiate consultation.

- Any lineal descendant
- Any Indian Tribe or NHO with potential cultural affiliation
- Include itemized list, names of all consulting parties, and proposed timeline and method for consultation

43 CFR 10.10(b)

3

Consult.

- Respond to any consulting party
- Address identification of
 - lineal descendants,
 - Indian Tribes or NHOs with cultural affiliation,
 - types of associated funerary objects, and
 - duty of care
- Make a record of consultation

43 CFR 10.10(c)

4

Complete an inventory.

- Consulting parties and dates
- Itemized list, updated
- For each entry, a determination:
 - Lineal descendant
 - Clearly identified cultural affiliation
 - Reasonably identified cultural affiliation
 - None of the above



Send to consulting parties and National NAGPRA

43 CFR 10.10(d)(1)

National NAGPRA Program

Updated 1/17/2025

Steps 1 through 4



Repatriation of human remains or associated funerary objects

Museums or Federal agencies must complete steps 1 through 4 and submit an inventory to all consulting parties and the National NAGPRA Program (nagpra_info@nps.gov) by a deadline.

If a museum or Federal agency...	An inventory must be submitted...
Acquires possession or control* (including transfer of a holding or collection previously included in an inventory)***	2 years
Locates previously lost or unknown*	2 years
Receives Federal funds for the first time*	5 years
Previously submitted an inventory but did not publish a notice of inventory completion by January 12, 2024**	January 10, 2029

* 43 CFR 10.10(d)(2)

** 43 CFR 10.10(d)(3)

*** 43 CFR 10.10(d)(4)

Museum Extensions: Any museum may request an extension if it has made a good faith effort but is unable to meet the deadline. A request must be submitted BEFORE the deadline and must include:

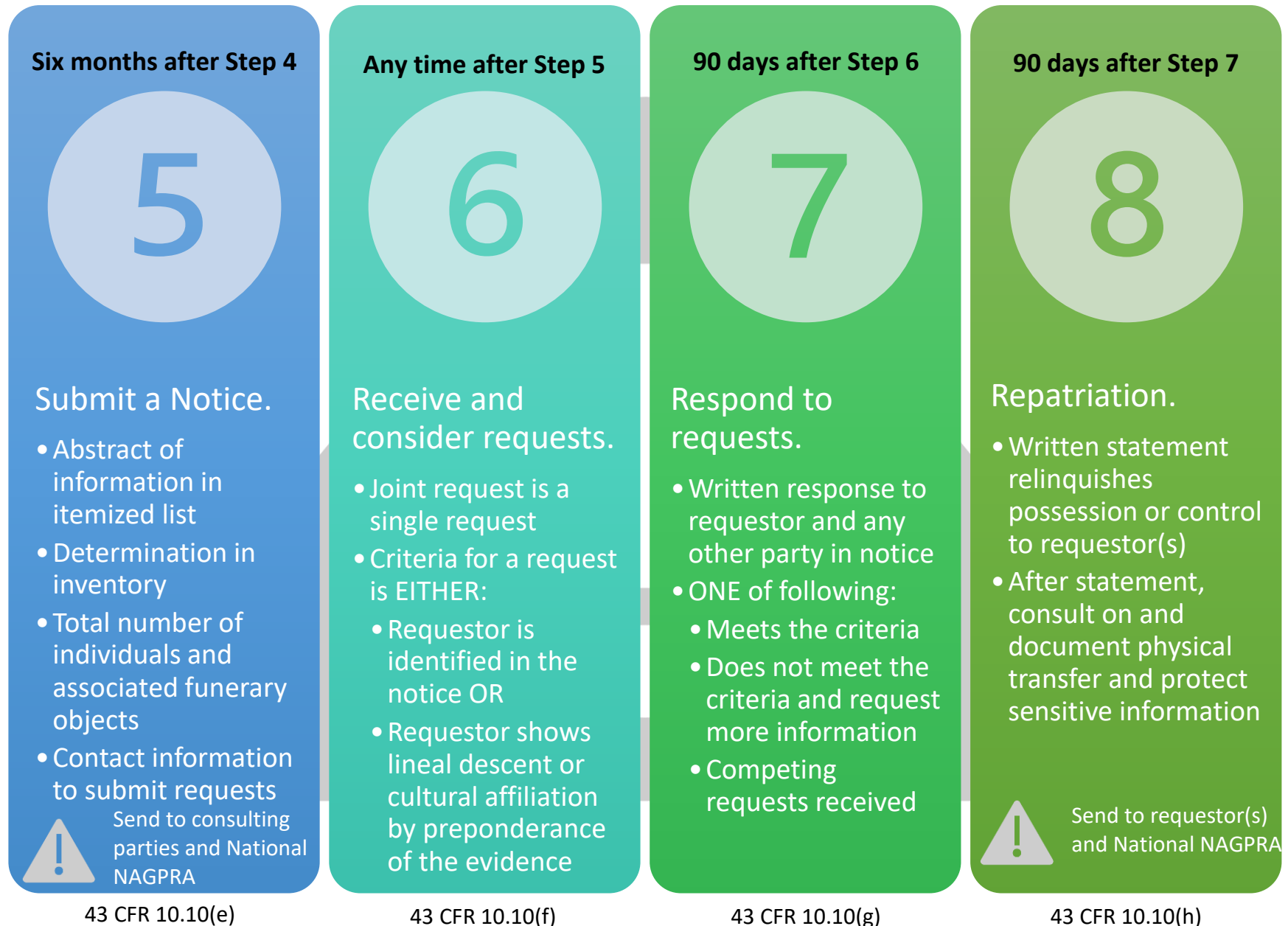
- Information showing the initiation of consultation;
- Names of all consulting parties and consent to the extension from a majority of consulting parties;
- Estimated number of human remains and associated funerary objects; and
- Written plan for completing or updating the inventory, including:
 - Specific steps required,
 - Schedule for completing each step and estimated date,
 - People responsible for each step, and
 - Proposal to obtain requisite funding.

See 43 CFR 10.10(d)(5)

Deadline to Complete/Update an Inventory

National NAGPRA Program
Updated 1/17/2025

Repatriation of human remains or associated funerary objects



Steps 5 through 8

National NAGPRA Program
Updated 1/17/2025

Repatriation of human remains or associated funerary objects

Steps to Repatriation	Shorter Timeline (42 days)	Longer Timeline (~3 years)
Receive a new collection.	Day 1	Day 1
Step 1: Compile an itemized list.	Day 2	Day 365
Step 2: Initiate consultation.	Day 3	Day 366
Step 3: Consult.	Day 4*	Day 367*
Step 4: Complete an inventory.	Day 5	Day 730 NLT 2 years after Day 1
Step 5: Submit a notice.	Day 6	Day 912 NLT 6 months after Step 4
Publication of notice in Federal Register.	Day 11** (min. 5 days after submission)	Day 942** (max. 30 days after submission)
Step 6: Receive and consider requests.	Day 12*	Day 943*
Step 7: Respond to requests.	Day 42 NET 30 days after publication	Day 1,033 NLT 90 days after Step 6
Step 8: Repatriation.	Day 42	Day 1,123 NLT 90 days after Step 7

NET=No earlier than

NLT=No later than

* Step 3 and Step 6 depend on actions by lineal descendants, Indian Tribes, or NHOs. In both timelines, we assumed one day for Step 3 and Step 6 but both steps will likely take longer.

** Publication of a notice in the Federal Register takes, at minimum, 5 days and, at maximum, 30 days based on current (Dec. 2024) review requirements. This timeline is subject to change and does not include additional time if a notice submission must be returned for corrections. See 43 CFR 10.10(e)(3).

Timelines for Repatriation

National NAGPRA Program
Updated 1/17/2025

Repatriation of other cultural items

Step 1: Compile a summary.	Deadlines for compiling a summary.	30 days after Step 1 Step 2: Initiate consultation.	Step 3: Consult.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated number and general description The geographical location (provenience) The acquisition history (provenance) Other information and presence of hazardous substance treatment <p>! Send to National NAGPRA !</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 months after acquiring or locating cultural items 6 months after transfer of a holding or collection previously included in a summary 3 years after receiving Federal funds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any lineal descendant Any Indian Tribe or NHO with potential cultural affiliation Include summary, names of all consulting parties, and proposed timeline and method for consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to any consulting party Address identification of lineal descendants, Indian Tribes or NHOs with cultural affiliation, types of objects that might be cultural items, and duty of care Make a record of consultation
43 CFR 10.9(a)(1)	43 CFR 10.9(a)(2)-(3)	43 CFR 10.9(b)	43 CFR 10.9(c)

Step 4: Receive and consider requests.	90 days after Step 4 Step 5: Respond to requests.	30 days after Step 5 Step 6: Submit a Notice.	90 days after Step 6 Step 7: Repatriation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint request is a single request Criteria for a request: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets definition of a cultural item Requestor is culturally affiliated Information shows no right of possession 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written response to requestor and any consulting party ONE of following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets the criteria Does not meet criteria - more information Meets criteria -assert right of possession Competing request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abstract of information in summary Total number and brief description Requestor Contact information for additional requests <p>! Send to requestor(s), consulting parties, and National NAGPRA !</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written statement relinquishes possession or control to requestor(s) After statement, consult on and document physical transfer and protect sensitive information <p>! Send to requestor(s) and National NAGPRA !</p>
43 CFR 10.9(d)	43 CFR 10.9(e)	43 CFR 10.9(f)	43 CFR 10.9(g)

Repatriation of other cultural items

1

Compile a summary.

- Estimated number and description
- The geographical location (provenience)
- The acquisition history (provenance)
- Other information/presence of hazardous substance



Send to National
NAGPRA

43 CFR 10.9(a)(1)



Deadlines for compiling a summary.

- 6 months after acquiring or locating cultural items
- 6 months after transfer of a holding or collection previously included in a summary
- 3 years after receiving Federal funds

43 CFR 10.9(a)(2)-(3)

30 days after Step 1

2

Initiate consultation.

- Any lineal descendant
- Any Indian Tribe or NHO with potential cultural affiliation
- Include summary, names of all consulting parties, and proposed timeline and method for consultation

43 CFR 10.9(b)

3

Consult.

- Respond to any consulting party
- Address identification of lineal descendants, Indian Tribes or NHOs with cultural affiliation, types of objects that might be cultural items, and duty of care
- Make a record of consultation

43 CFR 10.9(c)

Steps 1 through 3 and Deadlines to Compile a Summary

National NAGPRA Program
Updated 1/17/2025

Repatriation of other cultural items

4

Receive and consider requests.

- Joint request is a single request
- Criteria for a request:
 - Meets definition of a cultural item
 - Requestor is culturally affiliated
 - Information shows no right of possession

43 CFR 10.9(d)

90 days after Step 4

5

Respond to requests.

- Written response to requestor and any consulting party
- ONE of following:
 - Meets the criteria
 - Does not meet criteria - more information
 - Meets criteria - assert right of possession
- Competing request

43 CFR 10.9(e)

30 days after Step 5

6

Submit a Notice.

- Abstract of information in summary
- Total number and brief description
- Requestor
- Contact information for additional requests



Send to requestor(s), consulting parties & National NAGPRA

43 CFR 10.9(f)

90 days after Step 6

7

Repatriation.

- Written statement relinquishes possession or control to requestor(s)
- After statement, consult on and document physical transfer and protect sensitive information



Send to requestor(s) and National NAGPRA

43 CFR 10.9(g)

Steps 4 through 7

National NAGPRA Program
Updated 1/17/2025

Repatriation of other cultural items

Steps to Repatriation	Shorter Timeline (42 days)	Longer Timeline (15 months)
Receive a new collection.	Day 1	Day 1
Step 1: Compile a summary.	Day 2	Day 182 NLT 6 months after Day 1
Step 2: Initiate consultation.	Day 3	Day 212 NLT 30 days after Step 1
Step 3: Consult.	Day 4*	Day 213*
Step 4: Receive and consider requests.	Day 5*	Day 214*
Step 5: Respond to requests.	Day 6	Day 304 NLT 90 days after Step 4
Step 6: Submit a notice.	Day 7	Day 334 NLT 30 days after Step 5
Publication of notice in Federal Register.	Day 12** (min. 5 days after submission)	Day 364** (max. 30 days after submission)
Step 7: Repatriation.	Day 42 NET 30 days after publication	Day 454 NLT 90 days after publication

NET=No earlier than

NLT=No later than

* Step 3 and Step 4 depend on actions by lineal descendants, Indian Tribes, or NHOs. In both timelines, we assumed one day for Step 3 and Step 4 but both steps will likely take longer.

** Publication of a notice in the Federal Register takes, at minimum, 5 days and, at maximum, 30 days based on current (Dec. 2024) review requirements. This timeline is subject to change and does not include additional time if a notice submission must be returned for corrections. See 43 CFR 10.9(f)(3).

Timelines for Repatriation

National NAGPRA Program
Updated 1/17/2025