Tribal College and University (TCU) Demographic Information:

- 37 TCUs operating more than 75 campuses and sites in the U.S.
- A student/faculty ratio of 8:1.
- Average annual tuition of $2,800 makes a TCU education the most affordable in the nation.
- Nearly 80 percent of TCU students receive federal financial aid.
- All TCUs offer associate degree programs; 18 offer baccalaureate programs; five offer master's degree programs.
- More than 230 federally recognized tribes are represented at TCUs, including AI/AN students from more than 30 states, including 14 states that do not have their own TCU.
- TCUs are a proven and solid investment: for every $1 invested in TCUs, the return is at least $5.20 annually, according to an independent study.
Limited Funding: Through the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act (TCCUA), most TCUs received $8,303 per Indian Student for academic year 2020-21 for basic institutional operations. It has taken over 42 years to come within reach of achieving the Congressionally authorized funding level of $9,937 per Indian Student (adjusted for inflation). We ask Congress to step toward adequately funding the 37 federally recognized tribes—historically underfunded—TRIBAL institutions of higher education.

Infrastructure Improvement: A key part of the mission of TCUs is to prepare AI/ANs and other rural community members to thrive in the nation’s workforce. For TCUs to realize this goal, they must have the facilities necessary to educate and train students for 21st Century jobs. A 2018 study involving 22 TCUs revealed a list of chronic facilities-related needs, including student and faculty housing, classrooms, libraries, and laboratories. Extrapolating data from this study to all 35 accredited TCUs, displays total current needs: **Deferred Maintenance/Rehabilitation: $500 million; Completion of Master Plans: $837 million.** In FY 2021, 42 years since the program was originally authorized, Congress provided $15 million for TCU infrastructure needs. This funding will be used in the upcoming year to begin addressing various TCU shovel ready projects.

### Agency: Bureau of Indian Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorization/TCU Program</th>
<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2022 AIHEC Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act [25 USC 1801 et seq.]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title I, II, III and contracts (29 TCUs)</td>
<td>$74,282,000</td>
<td>$76,510,000</td>
<td>$93,257,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title V (Tribal career/technical institutions)</td>
<td>$7,914,000</td>
<td>$8,151,000</td>
<td>$15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCU Infrastructure Improvement (25 USC 1813)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$15,000,000</td>
<td>$500,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Culture and Art Development Act [20 USC 4411]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of American Indian Arts w/Center for Lifelong Education &amp; Museum</td>
<td>$10,458,000</td>
<td>$10,772,000</td>
<td>$11,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Snyder Act [25 USC 13]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haskell Indian Nations University and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute</td>
<td>$23,748,000</td>
<td>$26,258,000</td>
<td>$28,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Honor Sovereignty:** Most TCUs are chartered by their respective American Indian tribes which hold a long-established special legal relationship with the U.S. federal government. Their relationships were actualized by more than 400 treaties, several Supreme Court decisions, Congressional action, and the ceding of more than one billion acres of land to the U.S. Despite the trust responsibility and treaty obligations, TCUs’ primary source of operating funds from the federal government has never been fully funded.

**Chronic Underfunding:** Through the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act (TCCUA), most TCUs received $8,303 per Indian Student for academic year 2020-21 for basic institutional operations. It has taken over 42 years to come within reach of achieving the Congressionally authorized funding level of $9,937 per Indian Student (adjusted for inflation). We ask Congress to step toward adequately funding these deserving—historically underfunded—TRIBAL institutions of higher education.

The Nation’s 37 Tribal Colleges and Universities:
- Operate more than 75 campuses and sites in 16 states
- 80 percent of TCU students receive federal financial aid
- TCU students represent well over half of the 574 federally recognized tribes
- Serve over 160,000 AI/AN students and other rural residents annually through academic and community-based programs.
### Appropriations Bill: LHHSSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorization/TCU Program</th>
<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2022 AIHEC Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Act [20 USC 1059c] (OPE)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCU Strengthening Institutions (HEA Title III-Part A)</td>
<td>$36,633,000</td>
<td>$38,080,000</td>
<td>$45,000,000 (Part A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Perkins Technical and Career Education Act [20 USC 2327] (OPE)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Postsecondary Career &amp; Technical Institutions</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
<td>$10,634,000</td>
<td>$15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Education: Special Programs for Indian Children [20 USC 7442]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Education Professional Development</td>
<td>$13,634,235 (approx) of $67,993,000</td>
<td>Unknown of $67,993,000</td>
<td>$20,000,000 of $78,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TCU HEA-Title III:** TCUs provide high quality, culturally appropriate higher education opportunities to some of the most rural, isolated, impoverished, and historically underserved areas of the country. The TCU Strengthening Institutions program (HEA Title III) provides essential formula-based aid to TCUs. The funding allows TCUs to help tribes and rural communities build a skilled Native workforce in key fields, provide comprehensive student support services, develop new programs, modernize fiscal management systems, and build safer 21st century campuses.

**Tribally Controlled Career and Technical Institutions:** Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act provides specific program support for tribally chartered and controlled career and technical institutions, which provide vitally needed workforce development, job creation education, and training programs to AI/ANs from tribes and communities with some of the highest unemployment rates in the nation.

**Indian Education Professional Development Program (Report Language Request):** To accompany the FY 2022 LHHSSE appropriations bill, report language is needed designating $20 million of the funds appropriated for the Special Programs for Indian Children, specifically for the Indian Education Professional Development Program to help TCUs and other institutions more systemically address the growing need for AI/AN teachers and administrators.

### Appropriations Bill: LHHSSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorization/TCU Program</th>
<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2022 AIHEC Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head Start Act: Technical Assistance and Training [20 USC 9843]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCU-Head Start Partnership Program</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
<td>$8,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TCU-Head Start Partnership Program:** Head Start programs operated by AI/AN tribes (Region XI) face challenges in hiring credentialed teachers. While 72.47 percent of teachers in non-AI/AN Head Start programs are properly credentialed, only 42.1 percent of all teachers in AI/AN programs are credentialed (National Native American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start Collaboration Office, 2017). TCUs are ideal catalysts for filling this gap, as demonstrated by the TCU-Head Start Program from 2000–2007, which provided scholarships and stipends for AI/AN Head Start teachers and teacher’s aides to enroll in TCU early childhood education programs. Before the program ended in 2007, TCUs had trained more than 400 Head Start workers and teachers, many of whom have since left for higher paying jobs in elementary schools. In FY 2020, this program was reestablished at $4 million, which funded six TCU programs. We urge Congress to continue building this vital initiative -- the youngest AI/AN students deserve qualified teachers.
**Appropriations Bill: AGRICULTURE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHORIZATION/TCU PROGRAM</th>
<th>FY 2020 ENACTED</th>
<th>FY 2021 ENACTED</th>
<th>FY 2022 AIHEC REQUEST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equity in Educational Land Grant Status Act [7 USC 301 note]</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 Institutions Extension Program (NIFA)</td>
<td>$8,000,000</td>
<td>$8,500,000</td>
<td>$12,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 Institutions Research Program (NIFA)</td>
<td>$3,801,000</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
<td>$21,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 Institutions Equity Payment (NIFA)</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
<td>$4,500,000</td>
<td>$8,750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American Endowment Payment (NIFA)</td>
<td>$11,880,000* (FY 2019 interest disbursement = $4.6M)</td>
<td>$11,880,000* (FY 2020 interest disbursement = $5M)</td>
<td>$17,000,000* Annual corpus payment (FY 2020 interest disbursement = $5M)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Consolidated Farm & Rural Development Act [7 USC 1926(a)]** | | | |
| TCU IT Fund | | | $24,000,000 |
| TCU Essential Community Facilities | $5,000,000 | $5,000,000 | $10,000,000 |

| **Smith-Lever Act [7 USC 341 et seq.]** | | | |
| Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program (FRTEP) | $3,039,000 | $3,200,000 | $5,000,000 |

**Inequality among Land Grant Institutions**: The Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act created the “1994 land-grants” more than 25 years ago. Since then, funding for the 1994 land-grant programs has remained inadequate to address growing agricultural needs and opportunities in Indian Country. Stark inequities in federal funding and resources exist in the land-grant system. The first Americans, last to join the nation’s land-grant family, deserve parity.

**TCU IT Fund**: The ongoing pandemic has exacerbated the digital divide and homework gap and underscored the lack of broadband access across Indian Country. To address these deficiencies, Congress should establish a permanent TCU IT Fund within the existing (and previously under-used) USDA-Rural Utilities Service Program. An annual $24 million set-aside for TCUs, which are the 1994 Land-grant institutions, is needed to cover ongoing equipment costs, maintenance and upkeep, infrastructure expansion, and IT staffing.

**State**

- HBCUs: 22%
- TCUs 1%
- State 77%

**HBCUs 1862s**

- State (1862s): $259M
- 19 HBCUs (1890s): $73M
- 35 TCUs (1994s): $4M

**TCUs 1890s**

- State (1862s): $315M
- 19 HBCUs (1890s): $62M
- 35 TCUs (1994s): $8.5M

**State**

- HBCUs: 16%
- TCUs 2%
- State 82%
Appropriations Bill: ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

Department of Energy  

Agency: National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHORIZATION/TCU PROGRAM</th>
<th>FY 2020 ENACTED</th>
<th>FY 2021 ENACTED</th>
<th>FY 2022 AIHEC REQUEST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOE—National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Alliances: Tribal College &amp; University Program (formerly part of Minority Serving Institutions Partnership Program, MSIPP)</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TCU Advanced Manufacturing Network Initiative (AMNI): Currently funded through MSIPP, the AIHEC/TCU Advanced Manufacturing Network Initiative is an innovative training and education program at five TCUs. The goal is to develop an American Indian/Alaska Native advanced manufacturing technical and engineering workforce through certificate and four-year degree programs. The initiative facilitates partnerships between tribes, TCUs, National Laboratories, and industry partners to create new reservation-based economic and employment opportunities through the design, manufacture, and marketing of high-quality products. The AMNI project is an impactful TCU science and technology initiative that has the potential to create new jobs in Indian Country and help federal agencies fill critical STEM research and development vacancies. Significantly more Native students and communities would benefit from a more concerted effort by NNSA in collaboration with the TCUs, AIHEC, and industry partners.

Report Language Request: The Conference Report to the FY 2022 Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill should explicitly designate $5 million for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program and direct the Department to fully distribute the designated funding to TCUs.

Appropriations Bill: COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

National Science Foundation  

Directorate: Education and Human Resources (EHR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHORIZATION/TCU PROGRAM</th>
<th>FY 2020 ENACTED</th>
<th>FY 2021 ENACTED</th>
<th>FY 2022 AIHEC REQUEST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSF—Education and Human Resources (EHR)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF-Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP)</td>
<td>$15,000,000</td>
<td>$16,500,000</td>
<td>$20,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In FY 2017, NSF awarded $5.558 billion in research and education funding to the nation’s higher education institutions. TCUs received $13.8 million of this funding, or less than one-fourth of one percent. The NSF TCU program, which is administered and modestly funded through the EHR, is a competitive grant program that enables TCUs to enhance the quality of their STEM instructional, research, and outreach initiatives. NSF-TCUP grantees complete a comprehensive STEM program needs analysis as a basis for developing programs that are responsive to both local and national STEM workforce and research priorities. Through NSF-TCUP, TCUs establish and maintain programs that represent a key component of the career pipeline for the American Indian/Alaska Native STEM workforce.

Although the title of this program is TCU-specific, NSF also allows Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions to compete for funding under NSF-TCUP. This provision allows funds, which are intended to address disparities in TCU STEM programming, to be used by larger, state-supported institutions that are far from resource-challenged. We request that Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions be removed from the NSF-TCU program and, instead, that a separate program be established for these institutions.
**AIHEC TRIBAL COLLEGES**

**Alaska**
- Ilisaġvik College
  - Barrow, AK

**Arizona**
- Diné College
  - Tsaile, AZ
  - additionally: Chinle, AZ
  - Crownpoint, NM
  - Shiprock, NM
  - Tuba City, AZ
  - Window Rock, AZ

- Tohono O'odham Community College
  - Sells, AZ

**Kansas**
- Haskell Indian Nations University
  - Lawrence, KS

**Michigan**
- Bay Mills Community College
  - Brimley, MI
  - additionally: L’Anse, MI
  - Petoskey, MI
  - Manistee, MI
  - Sault Ste. Marie, MI

- Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College
  - Baraga, MI
  - additionally: L’Anse, MI

- Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
  - Mount Pleasant, MI

**Minnesota**
- Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
  - Cloquet, MN

- Leech Lake Tribal College
  - Cass Lake, MN

- Red Lake Nation College
  - Red Lake, MN

- White Earth Tribal and Community College
  - Mahnomen, MN

**Montana**
- Aaniiih Nakoda College
  - Harlem, MT

- Blackfeet Community College
  - Browning, MT

- Chief Dull Knife College
  - Lame Deer, MT

- Fort Peck Community College
  - Poplar, MT
  - additionally: Wolf Point, MT

- Little Big Horn College
  - Crow Agency, MT

- Salish Kootenai College
  - Pablo, MT

- Stone Child College
  - Box Elder, MT

**Nebraska**
- Little Priest Tribal College
  - Winnebago, NE
  - additionally: HoChunk Village, NE
  - Sioux City, IA

- Nebraska Indian Community College
  - Macy, NE
  - additionally: Niobrara, NE
  - South Sioux City, NE
  - Walthill, NE

- New Mexico
  - Institute of American Indian Arts
    - Santa Fe, NM

- Navajo Technical University
  - Crownpoint, NM
  - additionally: Chinle, AZ
  - Teec Nos Pos, AZ

- Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
  - Albuquerque, NM

**North Dakota**
- Cankdeska Cikana Community College
  - Fort Totten, ND

- Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College
  - New Town, ND
  - additionally: Mandaree, ND
  - Parshall, ND
  - Twin Buttes, ND
  - White Shield, ND

- Sitting Bull College
  - Fort Yates, ND
  - additionally: Mclaughlin, SD
  - Mobridge SD

**South Dakota**
- Oglala Lakota College
  - Kyle, SD
  - additionally: Allen, SD
  - Batesland, SD
  - Eagle Butte, SD
  - Manderson, SD
  - Martin, SD
  - Oglala, SD
  - Pine Ridge, SD
  - Porcupine, SD
  - Rapid City, SD
  - Wanbly, SD

- Sinte Gleska University
  - Mission, SD
  - additionally: Lower Brule, SD
  - Marty, SD

- Sisseton Wahpeton College
  - Sisseton, SD

**Washington**
- Northwest Indian College
  - Bellingham, WA
  - additionally: Auburn, WA (Muckleshoot)
  - Kingston, WA (Port Gamble S’Klallam)
  - La Conner, WA (Swinomish)
  - Lapwai, ID (Nez Perce)
  - Olympia, WA (Nisqually)
  - Tulalip, WA

**Wisconsin**
- College of Menominee Nation
  - Keshena, WI
  - additionally: Green Bay, WI

- Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College
  - Hayward, WI
  - additionally: Hertel, WI (St. Croix)
  - Lac du Flambeau, WI
  - Washburn, WI

**DEVELOPING TCUS**

**Arizona**
- San Carlos Apache College
  - San Carlos, AZ

**California**
- California Tribal College
  - Woodland, CA

**Oklahoma**
- College of the Muscogee Nation
  - Okmulgee, OK
American Indian Higher Education Consortium

AIHEC serves its network of member institutions—a unique community of tribally and federally chartered institutions working to strengthen tribal nations and make a lasting difference in the lives of American Indians and Alaska Natives—through public policy, advocacy, research, and program initiatives to ensure strong tribal sovereignty through excellence in American Indian higher education.

Tribal Colleges and Universities

As a member-based organization created by and for Tribal Colleges and Universities, the presidents of each accredited United States-based TCU compose AIHEC’s board.

TCUs are essential in providing culturally based education and research opportunities for American Indians and Alaska Natives. They offer higher education that is uniquely tribal, founded on Native language, culture, and philosophy with strong student support systems and community engagement.

TCUs strengthen tribal nations, preserve tribal languages and traditions, build a national Native workforce, sustain tribal lands and communities, and provide academically rigorous education and research opportunities.

TCUs are chartered by their respective tribal governments, including the ten tribes within the largest reservations in the United States. They operate more than 75 sites in 16 states—virtually covering Indian Country—and serve students from more than 230 federally recognized Indian tribes.

TCUs vary in enrollment (size), focus (liberal arts, sciences, workforce development/training), location (woodlands, desert, frozen tundra, rural reservation, urban), and student population (predominantly American Indian and Alaska Native). However, tribal identity is the core of every TCU, and they all share the mission of tribal self-determination and service to their respective communities.

American Indian Higher Education Consortium
121 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
www.aihec.org

703.838.0400
Patrese Atine (x111) • patine@aihec.org
Carrie Billy (x110) • cbilly@aihec.org