

HiSET OTO Funds to the Tribal Colleges
23 Biennium
Fiscal Year End 2022

	Aaniiih Nakoda College	Blackfeet CC	Chief Dull Knife College	Fort Peck CC	Little Big Horn College	Salish Kootenai College	Stone Child College
# of Students	13	17	33	45	24	29	34
Funds Spent	\$ 22,569	\$ 25,968	\$ 2,557	\$ 20,644	\$ 2,557	\$ 4,688	\$ 7,692
Comments	Able to reach the 3 communities on the Fort Belknap Reservation with the funding.	Dedicated HiSET preparation center & staffing	Purchased HiSET Academy licenses	Provided services to the 2 communities on Fort Peck Reservation	Implemented an Adult and Continuing Education program	Working on launching boot camps	Partnered with HRDC in Havre to becoming a testing site
	Provided practice exams, study books, supplies, transportation costs, and testing fee vouchers	Provided practice exams, study books, supplies, and testing fee vouchers	Pay testing fee	Provided practice exams, study books, supplies, transportation costs, and testing fee vouchers	Provided practice exams, study books, supplies, provided online HiSET instruction, and testing fee vouchers	Provided practice exams, study books, supplies, transportation costs, and testing fee vouchers	Provided study books, supplies, and testing fee vouchers
		Offering 1st year tuition waiver for successful completion		Have 72 students continuing from last year to complete	MOU with Billings Adult & Community Education to provide the TABE test at LBHC	Looking at additional options to utilize computerized tests and developing an online HiSET prep course	Outreach efforts with local high schools to expanded the availability of the HiSET option for those that didn't matriculate

	Subscription to AZTEC for web-based learning software to reach those that cannot visit the center in person.	Offering self-paced and group session options for the students	In the time period we have had 128 students enter into the program and complete portions of the course work. There are 30 are still currently working on the HiSet Academy program and in contact with the instructor.		Offered summer sessions to keep students engaged & moving toward the goal of completing the HiSET	Exploring options with the Lake County Job Service, Tribal employment programs, and looking into how we can build our capacity within the local schools	
Completions	3	8			5	19	6
% Completing	23%	47%			21%	66%	18%

Challenges:

- Students entering at a lower grade level & requiring much more prep before moving into the HiSET
- Accessibility to testing centers
- Still experiencing closures due to COVID
- Experienced the stop-out student. These students begin the program and are making progress when life happens and they remove themselves for periods of time, often for a period of years
- Vacant instructor and test coordinator positions
- Internet access

Future funding:

We are serving an area that is the Blackfeet Reservation, which is roughly 1.5 million acres and larger than the state of Delaware. The majority of people are low income and first-generation college students when they go to school. Also some people don't have the means to travel to Central or Western Montana to take their HiSET tests. Just the ease for people to take their tests here at home has been greatly appreciated by the testers

They are so beneficial with getting people enrolled in higher education or going into the workforce. The accessibility for people on and off the reservation to come and take them here at the college has been helpful as well

Currently there are not any programs in our community that assists with highschool dropouts and older/nontraditional students who are seeking to obtain their highschool credential. The funding has brought the opportunity for members in our community to grow educationally.

I do feel this project is successful. Although we have not be able to meet our beginning goals for those that have past the test, we have seen an improvement this past year in the amount of people that are taking the first step and participate in the prep classes.