

The 66th Legislature appropriated \$350,000 for the Montana Tribal Colleges to offer HiSET testing opportunities to their local communities. The HiSET is a series of 5 tests to earn a state-issued high school equivalency credential.

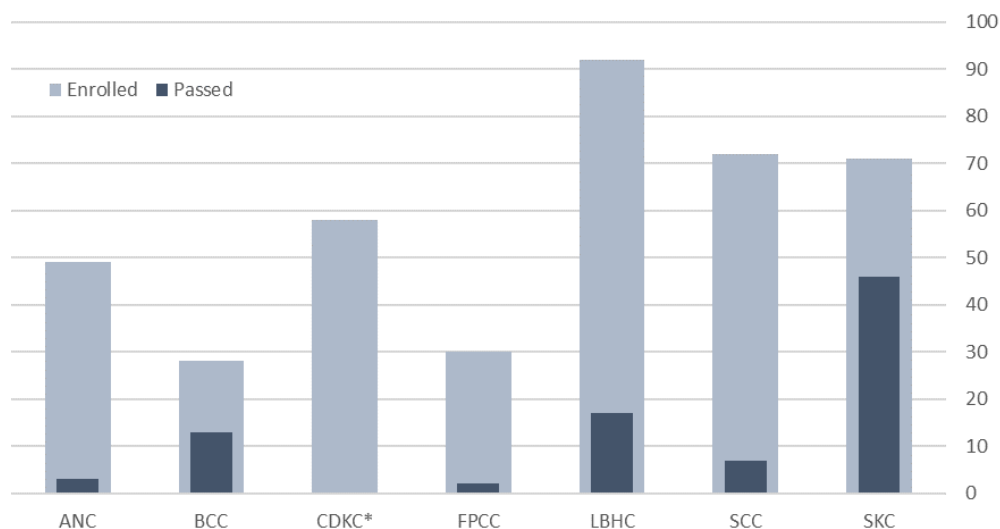
The majority of the Tribal Colleges have utilized the funding to become certified testing sites. The final college is in the process of becoming a certified testing site. They all offer test preparation courses along with tutoring services, study guides, and test vouchers to help the students succeed in obtaining their HiSET.

Some common challenges have been shared between the programs:

- Students stopping out mid-process. These students begin the program and are making progress when circumstances change and they remove themselves for periods of time
- Students entering at a lower grade level & requiring much more prep before being ready to take the HiSET
- Accessibility to testing centers
- Internet access for students to study on their own
- Finding and hiring qualified instructors and test coordinators

While the programs have faced some challenges, there have been many successes with the funding opportunity that was provided. Having testing sites located on the Tribal Colleges has been 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 the test at the college has helped reduce the barrier of traveling to large towns with testing centers. Many of the communities did not have programs that assisted high school dropouts or older/nontraditional students who are seeking to obtain their high school credential. The funding has brought the opportunity for members in these communities to grow educationally. The programs are seeing an improvement in the number of people that are taking the first step and participating in the prep classes and taking the HiSET exam and passing. The graph below shows the number of students enrolled in the HiSET prep courses and those that have successfully completed the HiSET.

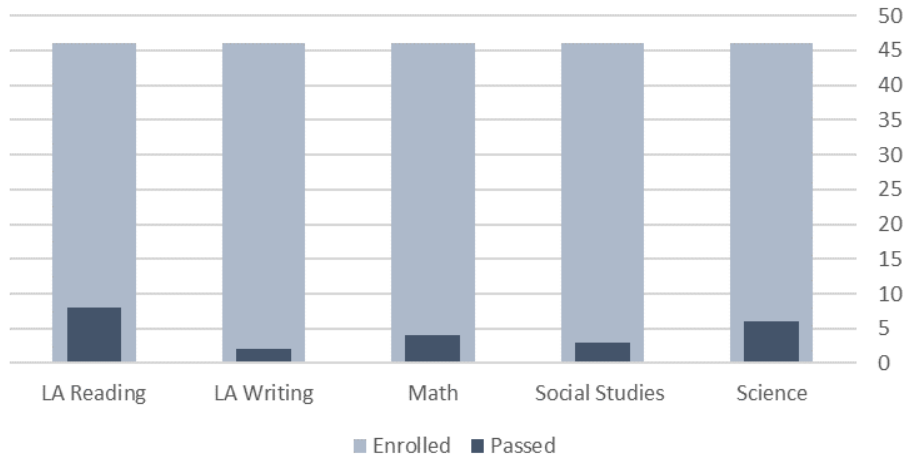
FY 2023 Students Enrolled in HiSET Prep Course & Passed the complete HiSET Test Series



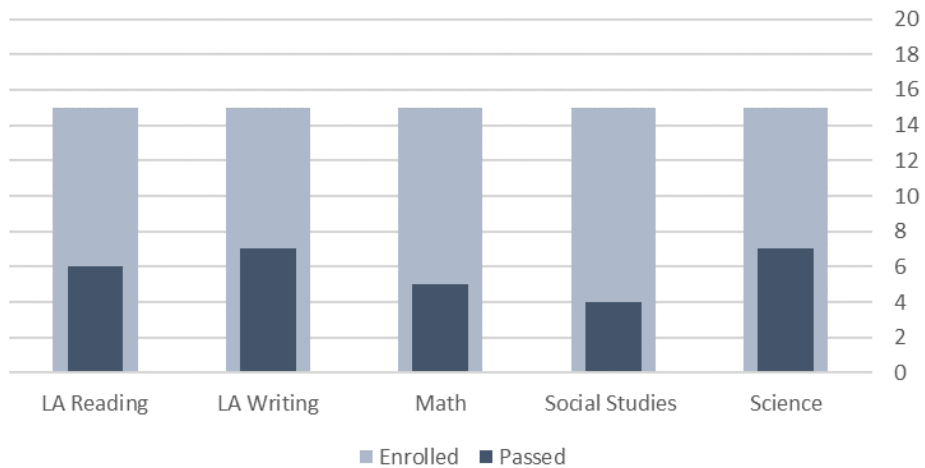
*CDKC is not a testing site currently and they are unable to receive data on student pass rates

One of the challenges the programs have faced is the students are not prepared to take the HiSET upon entry. There has been significant time and effort spent during the test prep phase of preparing students for successful completion. In order to complete a HiSET, there are 5 subject test areas a student must be prepared for. The charts below represent the number of students still in test preparation and the number of tests successfully completed by the subject area.

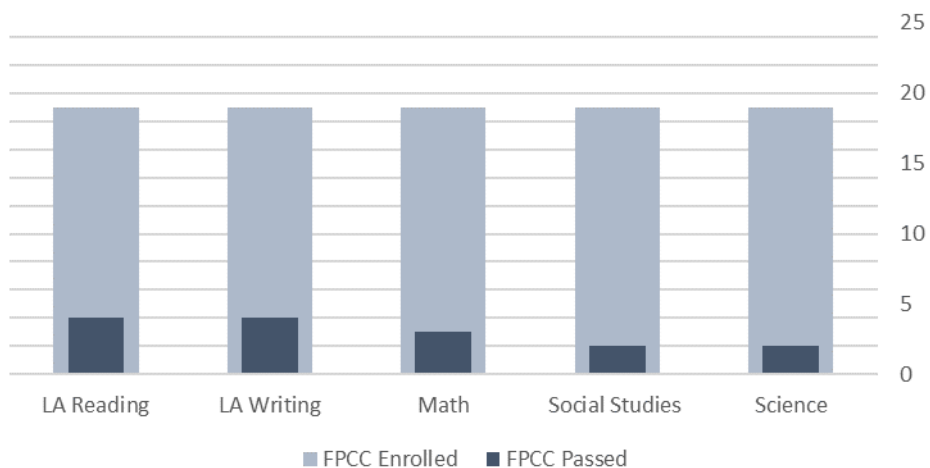
ANC Student Progress with HiSET Test Prep



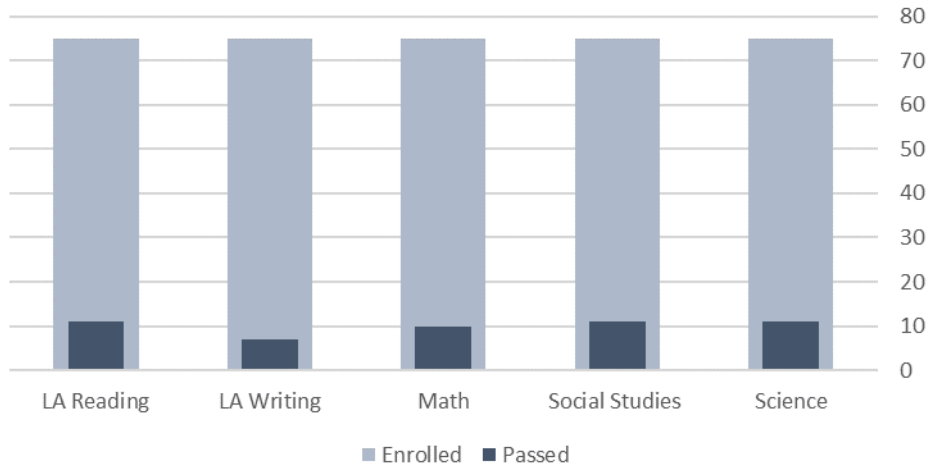
BCC Student Progress with HiSET Test Prep



FPCC Student Progress with HiSET Test Prep



LBHC Student Progress with HiSET Test Prep



SKC Student Progress with HiSET Test Prep

