



Montana Indian Language Preservation

Fiscal Activity 2022/2023

<u>Program Name (District)</u>	<u>Total Allocation</u>		<u>Total Payments</u>		<u>Balance</u>
Little Big Horn College	\$	168,750	\$	154,494	\$ 14,256
Fort Belknap Tribe	\$	168,750	\$	120,054	\$ 48,696
Little Shell Tribe	\$	168,750	\$	1,800	\$ 166,950
Blackfeet Tribe	\$	168,750	\$	89,000	\$ 79,750
Stone Child College	\$	168,750	\$	168,750	\$ -
Conf Salish-Kootenai Tribe	\$	168,750	\$	42,882	\$ 125,868
Fort Peck Tribe	\$	168,750	\$	84,375	\$ 84,375
Chief Dull Knife College	\$	168,750	\$	2,316	\$ 166,434
Totals	\$	1,350,000	\$	663,671	\$ 686,329

As of 9/7/2023

Montana Indian Language Preservation Program Update

Allocated funds are being used by tribal programs to generate new teaching resources, documenting important tribal knowledge for further use in education, and conducting immersive place based education opportunities for their community of learners. Many programs had projects that coincided with traditional gatherings typically held during the Summer months and are thus coming to a conclusion. Tribal programs have each drawn down at least 1 payment from their allocated funds and are working on spending down the remaining '23 fund obligations. Final expenditure reports will be produced soon.

Tribes have been notified of the reopening of the grant for the next fiscal year set for Oct. 1. Tribes were consulted on the updates regarding HB 287 and the new rules will take effect with the next round of funds. We're hopeful that the familiarity with the E-grants system will help smooth the application process this next round. The new round of funding will help tribal programs continue this work and expand their resource base. Funds should be distributed by February of next year.

OPI has been consulting tribal programs administering the funds and will continue to make themselves available for technical assistance.



Indian Education Organizational Structure and Staffing

Tribal Student Achievement, Relations, and Resiliency

The TRRU Unit has evolved to the Tribal Student Achievement, Relations, and Resiliency or TSARR, as the unit has absorbed the AISA unit positions. TSARR staff work to build relationships and understandings within the OPI and Montana school districts to incorporate **tribal voice**, share resources and build connections through consultation on matters affecting American Indian students. The TSARR unit staff strive to unify the Tribe and District to benefit the youth. The Tribal Consultation work bring our Sovereign leaders into supportive roles as they further engage in their youth population within education. Relationships and resiliency are core to our work with Communities, Knowledge Keepers, Youth, and Leaders and celebrate our efforts around our Tribal identity and what each Tribe and individual member deem as success.

In 2007, the Montana State Legislature passed Montana Code Annotated 20-9-330, appropriating \$200 per American Indian child, totaling over \$3 million dollars per year, to provide funding to school districts to support American Indian students in their educational journey and work to close the statistical achievement gap. The American Indian Student Achievement (AISA) Specialists provide guidance to districts regarding this funding. They emphasize the importance of relationship with a care first attitude needed by every student. The AISA specialists provide resources, training and support for districts to lift our American Indian youth towards an exciting future.

Director of Tribal Student Achievement, Relations, and Resiliency (Manager)

- Tribal inclusion, consultation, and diversity teachings
- Manage staff, grants, and programs.
- District service and support
- Point person for MACIE
- Oversee Indian Student Achievement efforts and student holistic support.
- Facilitate youth and knowledge keepers for inclusion and guidance.

American Indian Student Achievement Specialist

- Provide support to students and schools to close the achievement gap including work in climate, holistic supports and family/community engagement.
- Support the implementation of evidence-based and indigenous strategies for teaching and learning.
- Support efforts to integrate culture, language, and identity into learning environments.



Language and Culture Specialist

- Technical Assistance and grant management for Montana Indian Language Preservation (MILP) and Indian Language Immersion Program (ILIP) grants
- Class 7 Language and Culture Specialist license point of contact
- Language and culture curriculum, research, and development point of contact
- Support the implementation of evidence-based and indigenous strategies for teaching and learning.
- Support efforts to integrate culture, language, and identity into learning environments.

Tribal Youth Coordinator

- Establish youth leadership initiatives in schools.
- Organize and facilitate youth conferences.
- Organize youth to assist with efforts for tribal student achievement.
- Creates youth leaders, relations, and celebrates their resiliency.

American Indian Student Achievement Specialist

- Provide support to students and schools to close the opportunity gap including work in climate, holistic supports and family/community engagement.
- Support the implementation of evidence-based and indigenous strategies for teaching and learning.
- Support efforts to integrate culture, language, and identity into learning environments.

Indian Education for All

Montana's [constitutional requirement and duly enacted policy](#) require recognition of the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians and a commitment in our educational goals to preserve their cultural heritage. Every Montanan, whether Indian or non-Indian, should be encouraged to learn about the distinct and unique heritage of American Indians in a culturally responsive manner. The OPI Indian Education for All (IEFA) Unit works with districts, tribes, and other entities to ensure all schools have the knowledge, tools and resources necessary to honor the IEFA requirement and integrate it into their teaching materials and methods.

Director of Indian Education for All (Manager)

- Oversight of IEFA Unit Educational Resource Development and Dissemination
- Provides PD to School Staff and Educational Stakeholders
- Leads IEFA K-12 grant funding administration.



Indian Education Specialist

- Indian Education for All Implementation resource development and professional development provider
- Coordinate the Indian Education for All Best Practices Annual Conference
- Co-leads and coordinates IEFA K-12 grant administration.

Indian Education Specialist

- Updates IEFA lesson plans and collaborates with teachers and other educational entities to facilitate the development of culturally relevant resources.
- Provides on-site and in-person IEFA presentations and professional development as requested.
- Ongoing work to institutionalize IEFA through accreditation, content standards, and policies.

Indigenous Language & Cultural Specialist

- Indian Education for All Implementation resource development and provide professional development.
- Indian Education for All Biennial Rotunda Day Coordinator
- Lead in creating and providing the Making Montana Proud Poster Series released in 2018 and February 2023 updated versions.

Indian Education Specialist

- Indian Education for All Implementation resource development and professional development Provider
- Hub course development and monitoring for IEFA professional development courses.
- Publications updates

Administrative Assistant

- Performs specialized technical and administrative work in a variety of assigned duties and responsibilities for the IEFA and TSARR division directors and staff.
- Assist with MACIE meetings.

Total Current Positions = 11 FTE

Vacant Indian Education Position = 1/11

- **American Indian Student Achievement Specialist-recruiting**

Potential Upcoming Position:

- **AmeriCorps Tribal Culture Connections Corps Coordinator-position contingent on additional grant award**