



**Office of Public Instruction**  
**Elected Official Funding Requests**  
 December 2022

<b>Request</b>	<b>FY2024</b>	<b>FY2025</b>
<p>This is an elected official request for \$166,348 of general fund in the second year of the biennium to fund the on-going maintenance costs of the new TeachMT licensing system. The new TMT system is part of the agencies focus to modernize its various IT systems. The previous licensure system was an antiquated system which didn't meet the efficiency needs of the teachers or have the capabilities to effectively interface with other OPI systems. As with any IT system there are on-going vendor maintenance costs for maintaining the system and to ensure the systems operating version is current and is responsive to technology changes. OPI is using ARP funds to cover the first three years of maintenance costs and is requesting OTO funding for fiscal year 2025. OPI anticipates the new TMT system to be a more operationally efficient system which may result in reduced overall costs to administer the licensing program. OPI will complete a cost assessment to determine if any reductions in operational costs are sufficient to cover on-going maintenance costs which may eliminate the need for future legislative funding requests.</p>	State Level Activities \$ -	\$ 166,348
<p>This is an elected official request for \$100,000 of general fund for the 2025 biennium (OTO) to fund the Tribal Relations and Resiliency Unit in on-going efforts to create opportunities for Local Education Agencies (LEA's) and tribal leaders to work together on behalf of American Indian and Alaska Native students. Four key components make up this request which are: tribal consultation, Knowledge Keepers of Indigenous Nations (KKIN), youth leadership development, and Tribal Leaders Education Summit.</p> <p>\$35,000 Tribal Consultation - which will be used to maintain our authentic and meaningful consultation efforts as we seek guidance from our tribal nations to address their needs and support their efforts. As drafted by the US Department of Education bulletin dated September 2016, under ESSA Section 8538, consultation is intended to create opportunities for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and tribal leaders to work together on behalf of American Indian and Alaska Native students. The consultation process allows affected LEAs to gather input from Indian tribes and tribal organizations to encourage relationships and collaboration that is a critical part of improving academic outcomes. We have successfully engaged in these efforts receiving support and guidance from multiple tribal nations, with one nation providing a resolution of support.</p> <p>\$15,000 Knowledge Keepers of Indigenous Nations (KKIN) - which is used to continue our work through the guidance of knowledge keepers representing every tribal nation in Montana. We consult this group to develop sustainable tribal informed resources to enhance our public education system and offer support in education, including, land-based education, virtue teachings of self-identity and quality, culturally appropriate knowledge and resources with robust information that exists within the indigenous communities that populate our Great State.</p> <p>\$35,000 Youth Leadership Development and Initiatives - which will build a robust effort of leadership development through the existing RISE youth leadership group, while building local youth leadership teams if requested by school districts. Youth voice is essential as we develop leadership and seek solutions to innovate our educational system to a modern technological time while maintaining the character development of being a person of integrity. These efforts also support student exchanges, local and regional youth led initiatives and competitions as well as a statewide youth led and designed leadership conference. Building relationships between diverse communities and schools. Many of our youth provide guidance and direction as they gain confidence in their ability and belief in self to stand up as a strong leader. Many of the youth take these lessons on in their life and success in whichever path they choose.</p> <p>\$15,000 Tribal Leaders Education Summit - which will be used to hold an annual event centered in authentic consultation, collaboration, and relationship development for the benefit of our students. As we improve our efforts of consultation and action from the requests and needs, it is evident that our tribal leaders and organizations want to provide guidance and support for their students as best as they can. This summit will provide access to our tribal leaders and knowledge keepers to improve and guide our efforts of school innovation and improvement. Building relationships between our educational units within the Office of Public Instruction as well as our local educational agencies. To co-exist and support the students in their educational journey. The outcomes of this work mean an improved communication and collaboration amongst school districts and tribal nations. Sharing resources and assisting where needed.</p>	State Level Activities \$ -	\$ 100,000
<p>This is an elected official request to correct the funding in SWPL 2 – Fixed Costs. The funding was changed by OBPP after budget submission from general fund to proprietary. As these fixed costs are not included in the current approved Department of Education Indirect Cost Rate, OPI does not have the ability to recover these costs if redirected to the Proprietary Fund. This request will correct SWPL 2 and properly appropriate the funds to general fund authority as originally requested. OPI discussed this with Nancy Hall and Amy Sassano at OBPP and agree that this correction is necessary.          (This is the amount of general fund that should have been allocated)</p>	State Level Activities \$135,270.00	\$137,623.00