

Native American Teacher Training Programs

Notable Initiatives in Other States

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US Dept. of Education - Indian Education Professional Development Grants

- ▶ Administered by the Office of Indian Education
- ▶ Designed to prepare and train Indians to serve as teachers and school administrators
- ▶ Awards professional development grants to Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), Local Education Agencies (LEAs), Other Organizations and/or Agencies, State Education Agencies (SEAs)
- ▶ No professional development competition in 2015
 - ▶ Reworking current regulations for Indian Education Discretionary Grant Programs

American Indian Teacher Program (AITP)

Portland, Oregon

- ▶ Portland State University Graduate School of Education in consortia with Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, the Siletz, the Warm Springs, and the Umatilla
- ▶ Provides training and financial assistance for 18 Native American teachers-in-training to teach in schools with high numbers of Native students enrolled
 - ▶ Full tuition
 - ▶ Health Insurance
 - ▶ Annual living stipend
 - ▶ Graduate school fees (admission, basic skill test, matriculation, etc.)
 - ▶ Licensure costs
- ▶ Payback provision to US Dept. of Education
 - ▶ Service by teaching at a school serving American Indian/Alaskan Native students OR
 - ▶ Repay in cash all funding previously awarded



Minnesota Indian Teacher Training Partnership (MITTP)

- ▶ MN § 122A.63 established a grant program to assist American Indians to become teachers
- ▶ Offers scholarships and loans to American Indian students pursuing a teaching career at any of four Minnesota institutions:
 - ▶ St. Paul/Minneapolis – Augsburg College
 - ▶ Red Lake Schools – Bemidji State University (BSU)
 - ▶ Mahnomon Schools – Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM)
 - ▶ Duluth Public Schools – University of MN Duluth (UMD)
- ▶ Scholarships also available for current school district employees looking for additional certifications
- ▶ Future expansion/revisions



Oklahoma Native American Excellence in Education Early Childhood Teacher Project

- ▶ Southeastern Oklahoma State University in collaboration with the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations of Oklahoma
- ▶ After graduating, students teach in schools with at least a 5% Native American student population
 - ▶ Continued specialized training and support during entire first year of teaching
- ▶ Provides support and training for 12 Native American students pursuing degrees in Early Childhood and/or Special Education
 - ▶ Full tuition, books, and fees
 - ▶ Childcare
 - ▶ Laptop
 - ▶ Living stipend



Washington Future Native Teachers Initiative Wisdom Seekers Project

- ▶ Funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- ▶ Collaboration between the Washington Education Association, Evergreen State College, and Western Washington Native American Consortium
- ▶ 2-day conferences given to provide information, support, and encouragement for Native high school students interested in a career in education
- ▶ 2014: 52 student participants
- ▶ 2015: 65 student participants



Other Programs

- ▶ National Indian Education Association Scholarships
 - ▶ Catching the Dream Scholarship – Native American Leadership Program
- ▶ Teach for America Native Alliance Initiative (NAI)
 - ▶ Hawaii, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Twin Cities, and Washington State
 - ▶ Launched in 2010 to recruit more educational leaders from Native backgrounds and enhance teaching of Native American curriculum
 - ▶ Increase in number of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian individuals in TFA teaching corps and alumni base from 40 to nearly 200 since 2010



Other State Programs

- ▶ University of Massachusetts Boston Native American Early Childhood Education Scholars (NAECES) Program
- ▶ SUNY Potsdam Native American Teaching Initiative (NATI)
- ▶ Apache Teacher Corps Project – Arizona Board of Regents ASU
- ▶ University of Nebraska-Lincoln Indigenous Roots Teacher Education Program (ROOTS)