

NATIVE AMERICAN PARENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER - NAPTAC

NAPTAC

The Native American Parent Technical Assistance Center provides Technical Assistance to OSEP funded parent centers across the United States who serve Native American families of children and youth with disabilities. NAPTAC provides three levels of Technical Assistance: *Universal, Targeted and Intensive*.

Schools regulated by, and/or for, Native Americans

Native American children have the opportunity to attend a variety of schools across the United States. Some are public schools that are governed and funded by federal, state, and local funding. Other schools may be governed and funded by the Bureau of Indian Education, and other schools may be on tribal lands, however, may receive a combination of funding and have varying governing bodies. Another type of school on tribal lands is funded and governed solely by the tribe. The descriptions below will hopefully clarify the different types of schools and the various funding and governing entities that impact the education of Native American children.

Public Schools on Tribal Lands

Public schools on tribal lands are funded by the individual state in which the tribal lands are located, and the schools are subject to state standards and assessments. These schools are operated and funded by federal and state monies as are the public schools that are not located on tribal lands. Public schools that lease land on or near tribal lands receive federal impact aid dollars to partially restore the effect of tribal trust lands on state and local tax revenues.

Example:

Pine Point School, which is a Kindergarten to 8th grade school, is located on the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota. It is a public school and is operated by the Minnesota Department of Education - Office of Indian Education. For parents whose child has a disability and attends this school, parental/school conflicts may be processed through the Minnesota Department of Education.

Resources:

www.ed.gov

*U.S. Department of Education

*State Departments of Education

Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Schools ***(formerly Bureau of Indian Affairs Schools - BIA Schools)***

There are only two educational systems for which the federal government has direct responsibility: Department of Defense schools, and federally funded and tribally operated schools that serve American Indian students through Department of Interior under the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE). The BIE was established through reorganization of what had been the educational responsibilities of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

The federal government's responsibility of the education of Native people came about in response to specific treaty rights, as well as numerous statutes, court decisions, and other commitments. The BIE is responsible for the 183 elementary and secondary schools, and residential schools (as well as some tribal colleges) located on 63 reservations, in 23 states representing 238 different tribes.

BIE Operated Schools are the Bureau of Indian Education operated and funded elementary, secondary, or residential schools, i.e., Sherman Indian School in California.

Tribal Contracted or Grant Schools are elementary, secondary, or residential schools that receive operating funds under a contract or grant with BIE/BIA under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act [25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.] or under the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 [25 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.].

Example:

Circle of Life School is a Kindergarten – 12th grade school located on the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota. It is a tribal contracted school, which is operated by the Bureau of Indian Education. For parents whose child has a disability and attends this school, parental/school conflicts may be processed through the Bureau of Indian Education.

Resources:

www.bie.gov

*List of states with BIE funded schools

*List of BIE funded schools directory

Tribally Controlled Community Colleges are located on, or near reservation

communities to provide post secondary learning opportunities for American Indian and Alaskan Native students. There are currently 35 tribally controlled community colleges.

Example:

White Earth Tribal and Community College is located Mahnomen, Minnesota. The White Earth Tribal and Community College is an Anishinaabe (tribally) controlled liberal arts institution of higher education, is dedicated to educational excellence through provision of a culturally relevant curriculum, in partnership with students, staff, community, and industry. It is operated and directed by a tribal council of trustees.

Federally Operated Colleges and Universities

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) is located in Albuquerque, NM. SIPI is one of two National Indian Community Colleges and Land Grant Institutions (Haskell Institute in Lawrence, KS being the other). SIPI is a community college that serves American Indian and Alaska Native students.

Resources:

www.bie.gov - Colleges and Universities

*List of Colleges and Universities and states they are located.



www.NAPTAC.org



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