Title VI: American Indian and Alaska Native Education

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT INDIAN EDUCATION FORMULA GRANTS

KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

September 18, 2024

Kansas State Board of Education

900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 600 | Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212 | (785) 296-3203 | www.ksde.gov/state-board

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Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

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- Academic preparation,
- Cognitive preparation,
- Technical skills,
- Employability skills and
- Civic engagement

to be successful in postsecondary education, in the attainment of an industry recognized certification or in the workforce, without the need for remediation.

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Danny Zeck, *Vice Chair*
danny.zeck@ksde.gov

District 2



Melanie Haas
melanie.haas@ksde.gov

District 3



Michelle Dombrosky
michelle.dombrosky@ksde.gov

District 4



Connie O'Brien
connie.o'brien@ksde.gov

District 5



Cathy Hopkins, *Chair*
cathy.hopkins@ksde.gov

District 6



Dr. Beryl A. New
beryl.new@ksde.gov

District 7



Dennis Hershberger
dennis.hershberger@ksde.gov

District 8



Betty Arnold
betty.arnold@ksde.gov

District 9

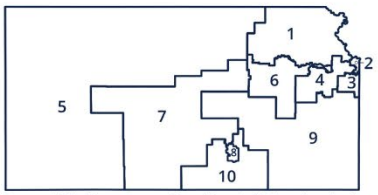


Jim Porter
jim.porter@ksde.gov

District 10



Debby Potter
debbie.potter@ksde.gov



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KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102 | Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212 | (785) 296-3201 | www.ksde.gov

Kansas Commissioner of Education



Dr. Jake Steel
jake.steel@ksde.gov

Deputy Commissioner
Division of Fiscal and Administrative Services



Dr. Frank Harwood
frank.harwood@ksde.gov

Deputy Commissioner
Division of Learning Services



Dr. Renee Nugent
renee.nugent@ksde.gov

Deputy Commissioner
Division of Accountability and Technology



Dr. Zach Conrad
zach.conrad@ksde.gov

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May 27, 2026

TITLE VI: AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE EDUCATION

General Information about Indian Education Formula Grants[1]

Purpose of Program

The Formula Grants program provides grants to support local educational agencies (LEAs), Indian Tribes and organizations, and other eligible entities in developing and implementing elementary and secondary school programs that serve Indian students. These funds must be used to support comprehensive programs that are designed to meet the unique cultural, language, and educational needs of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) students and ensure that all students meet challenging State academic standards. These grants are an extension of sovereign treaty obligations to support Indigenous students as they work toward graduation so they may have a successful post-secondary experience.

[1]Much of the information contained in this guidance document comes from the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Office of Indian Education (OIE) Indian Education Formula Grant Program Formula Grant Electronic Application System for Indian Education (EASIE) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Part I Formula Grant EASIE Version 18.0, January 2024.

Eligibility

Determining Eligibility

Eligible applicants for the Indian Education Formula Grant program include:

- Local educational agencies (LEAs) that serve Indian students

  An LEA can be one of the following:

  - A public board of education or other public authority legally constituted within a state for either administrative control or direction of, or to perform service functions for public elementary or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision of a state; or
  - Such combination of school districts or counties a state recognizes as an administrative agency for its public elementary or secondary schools; or
  - Any other public institution or agency that has administrative control and direction of a public elementary or secondary school. (Source: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Section 8101(30))
- Elementary and secondary schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)
- Indian Tribes under certain conditions
- Indian Organizations (IOs) under certain conditions

In order to participate in the Title VI Indian Education Formula Grant program, eligible LEA applicants must have a minimum of 10 Indian students enrolled in the LEA or not less than 25 percent of the total number enrollment. Exceptions – – The enrollment requirement does not apply to LEAs located within a 50 mile radius of tribal reservation.

Student Count Information

In order to participate in the Indian Education Formula Grant Program to LEAs, All students must either have a completed ED 506 Indian Student Eligibility form[1] or have been included in Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP) count. BIE-funded schools may use either the Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP) count or the ED 506 form[1] count to verify their Indian student count. Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)-funded schools that enter an ISEP count must use the most current Indian student count certified by the BIE.[2]

The Count Period

The count period is the duration of the time during the current school year in which the eligible Indian students enrolled in the LEA are counted to determine the applicant's student count. Since the program provides funds on a per pupil basis, the student count determines an applicant's funding for the grant. The count period must be consecutive (calendar) days and may be from 1 to 31 consecutive (calendar) days beginning no earlier than

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1 **U.S. Department of Education. (n.d.).** *Indian Student Eligibility Certification Form for Title VI Indian Education Formula Grant Program.* https://campussuite-storage.s3.amazonaws.com/prod/1559065/85f87584-9de8-11eb-8afd-0a853569f59d/2510520/267ca05a-651d-11ed-a3ec-02cc131b6617/file/ED20form20R15.pdf

2 **U.S. Department of Education, Office of Indian Education (OIE). (2024).** *Formula Grant Electronic Application System for Indian Education (EASIE).* https://easie.communities.ed.gov/services/PDCService.svc/GetPDCDocumentFile?fileId=46190

the first day of the current school year and ending no later than the date on which Part I is submitted. (Example: December 15 - January 15 of the current school year.) If you enter a count period in Electronic Application System for Indian Education (EASIE) that exceeds 31 consecutive days, or includes a future date, you will receive an error message on the screen; you must correct the count period. Counts are conducted annually.

The 506 Form

Before submitting a valid Indian student count, the applicant should review their ED 506 form[1] on file to confirm that all the information is filled out completely for each student that is enrolled during the count period. If any of the ED 506 form's[1] information is missing, unknown, or noncompliant, it should not be included in the Indian student count. As some information may not be completely thorough it is important to complete the form and correct inaccuracies at a later date.

- In order to have a complete ED 506 form,[1] the student's tribal affiliation must be listed and either a grandparent, parent, or the child must be enrolled in the tribe with proof which could include a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB), enrollment number, or a short explanation as to why proof is unavailable. This form serves as the official record of the eligibility determination for each individual child included in the Indian student count.
- An ED 506 form[1] should be completed for each eligible Indian student unless the student is included in an ISEP count at a Bureau-funded school.
- A new ED 506 form[1] does NOT have to be completed each year of enrollment in the LEA as long as a signed, completed form is on file and there is documentation that the student was enrolled during the count period and must be listed on the LEA's enrollment roster(s) for at least one day during the count period.
- Once an Indian child is determined to be eligible to be counted for a grant award, the applicant shall maintain a record of such determination and shall not require a new or duplicate determination or form to be made for such child for a subsequent application for this grant.
- BIE schools may use either the Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP) count or the ED 506 form[1] count to verify their Indian student count. BIE schools that enter an ISEP count must use the most current Indian student count certified by the BIE.
- No edits or alterations can be made to the official ED 506 form.

A completed ED 506 form[1] certifies that a student is:

- **A member or enrollee of an Indian tribe or band, as membership/enrollment is defined by the Indian tribe or band, including any tribe or band terminated since 1940, and any tribe or band recognized by the State in which the tribe or band resides;**
- **A descendant of a parent or grandparent who meets the requirements described in the paragraph above;**
- **Considered by the Secretary of the Interior to be an Indian for any purpose;**
- **An Eskimo, Aleut, or other Alaska Native; or**
- **A member of an organized Indian group that received a grant under the Indian Education Act of 1988 as it was in effect on October 19, 1994.**

In order for an ED 506 form[1] to be completed in full, it must contain all of the following information:

- **Name of child and date of birth**
- **School name and grade**
- **Name of the Tribe, Band of Indians**
- **Whether the Tribe or Band listed is federally recognized (including Alaska Native); state recognized; terminated; or an organized Indian group, (see definitions below)**
- **Name of the individual with tribal membership**
- **Whether the individual named is the child, the child's parent, or the child's grandparent**
- **Proof of membership/enrollment, as defined by the Tribe, which can be either: Membership or enrollment number (if readily available), OR other evidence establishing the membership/enrollment, OR reasonable explanation for unavailability of proof of membership/enrollment**
- **Name and address of the organization that maintains updated and accurate membership data for the Tribe, Band, etc. of Indians**
- **The name and address of the parent or legal guardian of the child**
- **Signature of the parent or the legal guardian of the child**
- **Date the ED 506 form[1] was completed and email address**

Finding officially recognized Organized Indian Groups:

- **Federally Recognized - an American Indian or Alaska Native Tribal entity that is recognized by the Department of Interior[3].**
- **State Recognized - an American Indian or Alaska Native Tribal entity that has recognized status by a State. Neither the US Department of Education nor Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) maintains a master list. It is recommended that you use official state websites only.**
- **Terminated Tribe - a Tribal entity that once had a federally recognized status from the United States Department of Interior[3] and had that designation terminated after 1940. Alaska Native – An Eskimo, Aleut, or other Alaska Native who does not fall into one of the other categories listed.**
- **Organized Indian Group - Member of an organized Indian group that received a grant under the Indian Education Act of 1988 as it was in effect until October 19, 1994.**

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3 Department of Interior provides a current list of federally recognized tribes. https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/12/2023-00504/indian-entities-recognized-by-and-eligible-to-receive-services-from-the-united-states-bureau-of

Tribal Consultation

Consultation requirements under section 8538 of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). LEAs that educate American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) students will be required to consult with local Indian tribes or local native organizations (if not within 50 mile radius of tribal reservation) prior to submitting a plan or application under covered ESSA formula grant programs.

Under section 8538, an affected LEA is one that either:

1. **has 50 percent or more of its student enrollment made up of AI/AN students; or**
2. **received an Indian education formula grant under Title VI of ESSA that exceeds $40,000.**

Consultation must be…

1. **"timely and meaningful consultation on issues affecting American Indian and Alaska Native students."**
2. **"in a manner and in such time that provides the opportunity for such appropriate officials from Indian tribes or tribal organizations to meaningfully and substantively contribute."**

Consultation in "Affected" School Districts:

According to Title VI (6114(b)(7), (c)(3)(C)), Each application must include an assurance that the program "was developed…in open consultation with representatives of Indian tribes on Indian lands located within 50 miles of any school that the agency will serve if such tribes have any children in such school.

Advisory Committee Section

Each application submitted under subsection (a) shall include assurances that the LEA developed the program must have participation and written approval of a committee

1. **That is composed of, and selected by**
    a. **Parents and family members of Indian children in the local educational agency's schools;**
    b. **Representatives of Indian tribes on Indian lands located within 50 miles of any school that the agency will serve if such tribes have any children in such school;**
    c. **Teachers in the schools; and**
    d. **If appropriate, Indian students attending secondary schools of the agency;**
2. **A majority of whose members are parents and family members of Indian children;**
3. **With respect to an application describing a schoolwide program in accordance with section 6115(c), that has**
    a. **Reviewed in a timely fashion the program;**
    b. **Determined that the program will not diminish the availability of culturally related activities for Indian students; and**
    c. **Determined that the program will directly enhance the educational experience of Indian students;**

4. And that has adopted reasonable bylaws for the conduct of the activities of the committee and abides by such bylaws.

Certification

On the certification page, the authorized official representative acknowledges the following, I certify that I am authorized to legally bind this entity, and that, based on the information provided to me, the above count represents the number of eligible Indian students enrolled in the schools of the applicant entity and for whom a Student Eligibility Certification (ED 506) Form was on file (or for BIE-funded schools an Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP) count or ED 506 Form were used) during the count period indicated, pursuant to the requirements of 20 U.S.C. 7427. It is understood that this count will be used to calculate an award of federal assistance and that it is subject to audit. I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information in this application is true, reliable, and valid and I understand that any false statement provided herein that I have made is subject to penalties under The False Claims Act, 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Example Activities are supported through Title VI funds:

- **Activities that support American Indian/Alaska Native language programs and American Indian/Alaska Native language restoration programs, which may be taught by traditional leaders.**
- **Culturally related activities.**
- **Early childhood and family programs that emphasize school readiness.**
- **Enrichment programs that focus on problem solving and cognitive skills development and directly support the attainment of challenging State academic standards.**
- **Integrated educational services in combination with other programs that meet the needs of American Indian/Alaska Native children and their families, including programs that promote parental involvement in school activities and increase student achievement; career preparation activities to enable American Indian/Alaska Native students to participate in programs such as the programs supported by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, including programs for tech-prep education, mentoring, and apprenticeship.**
- **Activities to educate individuals so as to prevent violence, suicide, and substance abuse.**
- **Activities that promote the incorporation of culturally responsive teaching and learning strategies into the educational program of the local educational agency.**
- **Family literacy services; cultural and educational needs of American Indian/Alaska Native children, and incorporate appropriately qualified tribal elders and seniors.**
- **Activities that recognize and support the unique cultural and educational needs of American Indian/Alaska Native children, and incorporate appropriately qualified tribal elders and seniors.**
- **Graduation retention and Dropout prevention strategies for American Indian/Alaska Native students.**
- **Strategies to meet the educational needs of at risk American Indian/Alaska Native students.**
- **Strategies to support American Indian/Alaska Native students in correctional facilities, including such strategies that support American Indian/Alaska Native students who are transitioning from such facilities to schools served by local educational agencies.**

For more information, contact:

Adam Topliff
Humanities Program Manager
785-296-3892
nathan.mcalister@ksde.gov



Kansas State Department of Education
900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212
www.ksde.gov