



REQUEST FOR APPLICATION (RFA)

INDIAN EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CULTURAL INCLUSION INITIATIVE

RFA ISSUE DATE: April 6, 2016

Last Date to Submit RFA: May 09, 2016, by 5:00 p.m.

This is a Request for Application (RFA) and does not constitute an award. If this RFA results in an award, then the superintendent, and/or district chartered school administrator will be notified by an official award letter.

Only upon receipt of an award letter, signed by Hipolito Paul Aguilar, Deputy Secretary of Finance and operations, may the district and/or district-chartered school submit a Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) through the OBMS with an executed Intergovernmental Agreement.

Application Checklist

Please take the time to complete the checklist below to ensure that all required information and actions have been completed before submitting the RFA to De Alva Calabaza, Indian Education Division—New Mexico Public Education Department at dealva.calabaza@state.nm.us.

- All pages of the 2017 RFA for the Indian Education School District and Cultural Inclusion Initiative must be completed as follows:
 - _____ Cover page
 - _____ Submission of Initiative Program application to dealva.calabaza@state.nm.us no later than 4:00 pm, **May 09, 2016**.
 - _____ An original District Assurances page signed, **original hard copy mailed** to De Alva Calabaza to be received no later than 5:00 pm, **May 09, 2016**.

Purpose

The purpose of the Indian Education School District Initiative is to provide a twenty-five thousand dollar (\$25,000) grant for a one year period to New Mexico public school districts, namely the twenty-three (23) school districts, and district-chartered or state-chartered schools (see Appendix D) that enroll a significant number of American Indian students for the purpose of improving academic and cultural achievement opportunities related to one of the following Indian Education Act purposes:

1. Ensure equitable and culturally relevant learning environments, educational opportunities, and culturally-relevant instructional material.
2. Ensure maintenance of native language.
3. Provide for the study, development and implementation of education systems that positively affect the educational success of American Indian students.
4. Encourage parental involvement.
5. Ensure that parents, tribal departments of education, community-based organizations, the Department of Education, universities, tribal, state, and local policy makers work together to find ways to improve educational opportunities for American Indian students.
6. Developing collaborative partnerships with school districts, Bureau of Indian Education, urban American Indian organizations, and tribal governments.

Goal

The goal of this program is to support New Mexico public school districts that demonstrate effective culturally-relevant programs and practices which contribute to the academic and cultural success of New Mexico American Indian students to improve academic and cultural achievement opportunities of American Indian students.

District Eligibility

Eligible applicants must be one of the 23 New Mexico public school districts and/or state-chartered or school district-chartered schools (See Appendix D) serving a significant number of American Indian students that demonstrate a commitment to the success of American Indian students at their school. Grants will be awarded during the **2017 fiscal year; and programs may be funded July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017**. Awards will be made up to **\$25,000**. Funds may be utilized for costs related to personnel, professional development, curriculum/resource materials, tribal heritage language support, supplies, transportation, lodging, and stipends. **Note: Funds made available under this grant shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, any other federal, state, or local education funds. If your district receives bilingual program funds, please provide a justification that grant will not supplant the bilingual program.**

In addition, if a school district and/or charter have a proposal which will take more than one year for complete implementation, such proposals may be considered a priority. The work plan must outline what is proposed to be accomplished in each year of the program and specify objectives and outcomes for each year which will be productive and provide a justifiable deliverable even if no additional years are funded. Additional years of funding, not to exceed a total of 4 years, will be considered each year utilizing the School District Initiative Grant Application process. The additional year funding application will be reviewed and assessed as a proposal within the regular application process. If the school district program proposal is

accepted for an additional year of funding an Interagency Agreement will be completed and processed for that year.

Upon award of funds, the Indian Education Division will work with school district and/or charter to develop an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) which must be signed prior to issuance of any grant funds through the Operating Budget Maintenance System.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

The application process allows for a New Mexico school district and/or charter to submit an application that will support the purpose of improving academic and cultural achievement opportunities related to one of the outline Indian Education Act purposes. Eligible applicants are asked to select a focus area(s) (*no more than two focus areas*) to ensure sustainable quality deliverables at the end of the grant period.

Focus Areas:

1. Multicultural Community- and School-Based Language Support

- Native language programs focused on the maintenance and revitalization of the native language for all tribal members
- Language and cultural classes
- Engage in a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Tribes/Pueblos and urban communities to support and enhance the community- to school based language programs
- (MOA) with Tribes to allow certified tribal community members to apply for the Native American Language and Culture teacher certificate K-12 and teach the Tribal heritage language program to tribal members as a school supported language course
- Engaging elders and traditional leaders through tribal support
- Support and promote resources through Bilingual/Multicultural programs
- Data Management for number of students, classes and educators

3. Curriculum Development and Implementation

- Native language materials, including native language assessments to be used by native language teachers for native language courses
- Engaging community members and elders in the development of curricula materials
- Utilizing technology to enhance the development of native history and New Mexico governments curriculum and curricula materials
- Establish "Best Practices" inclusive of instructional methodology and strategies, while honoring the indigenous or urban communities' identified cultural goals
- Plan and develop with PED and urban entities memorandum of agreement(s)/understanding(s) addressing issues and collaboration directed to American Indian students

4. Professional Development

- Training for native language teachers and/or licensed educators on delivery of instruction, classroom management curriculum development, assessment, etc.
- Native language conferences, symposiums, seminars, institutes and courses
- Training on proper native language usage by elders and traditional leaders
- Cultural Competency training: Community support
- Culturally Responsive Training: diversity and equity based
- Participate in required PED-IED grantee trainings and to present program data/collaboration as terms of grant agreement for the duration of the grant funding

5. Partnerships

- Developing processes (e.g. MOAs) to ensure equitable educational opportunities for tribal students in public, charter or Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools
- Establish Tribal/Pueblo memorandum of agreement(s)/understanding(s). To also include urban settings that involve multiple American Indian cultural groups must partner with primary tribal/pueblo community
- Have the ability to foster parental engagement(s) with resources and guidelines
- Promote family support programs that assist families in the role of creating academic success for their child

6. Policy Development

- Develop or revise tribal educational policies and procedures to ensure equitable educational opportunities for students, adults and community members for each school district
- Include the support of Indian Education Committees within school districts

4. Student Centered

- Establish a school improvement plan that offers equitable learning environments and opportunities
- Supporting programs and interventions for tribal students
 - Community based activities
 - Mentoring and counseling
 - College and career readiness initiatives may include transition programs, early interventions, afterschool credit recovery, etc.
 - Student leadership programs-student led

5. School Innovation

- Pilot programs that impact the community and students by develop and implement education programs to improve school, student, and teacher performance, including professional development activities and class-size reduction programs to meet the education needs of at-risk students.
 - instructional and educational materials
 - school improvement plan, school and education reform

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

The Indian Education Division will adhere to the following schedule:

<u>Action:</u>	<u>Date:</u>
Issuance of Application	April 06, 2016
Pre-Application Conference(s)	April 13 and April 19, 2016
Application Due Date	May 09, 2016
Application Evaluation	May 10 through June 1, 2016
Award Notifications	May 20, 2016
Begin IGA Process	May 23, 2016

APPLICATION DUE DATE

The original application and email copy must be submitted to the address indicated on Page 5 no later than **5:00 P.M. on May 09, 2016. Facsimile copies are no longer accepted. Requests for an extension of submission of this date will no longer be granted after Close of Business May 09, 2016.**

Additional copies of this Request for Application are available online: <http://www.ped.state.nm.us>

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The Indian Education Division will conduct a pre-application conference. The pre-application conference is scheduled as follows:

- April 13, 2016 – 2016 Spring Indian Education Summit. Please refer to the summit agenda for further details and room location; to be held in Dulce, NM
- April 19, 2016– 9:00 PM – 12:00 PM at Mabry Hall, NMPED 300 Don Gaspar Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501

The pre-application conference is required for all prospective applicants and/or designated staff from the Tribal governments. There will be discussion regarding different procedural methods for next year involving intergovernmental agreements between tribes/pueblos and NMPED.

The contact person for this Request for Application is De Alva Calabaza, Program Manager for the Indian Education Division. The original application with signatures and email copies should be mailed to the following address:

Mailing Address:

De Alva Calabaza, Program Manager
NMPED Indian Education Division
Jerry Apodaca Education Building, Room 303
300 Don Gaspar Avenue Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
Telephone: (505) 827-6464
Email: dealva.calabaza@state.nm.us

REQUIRED FORMAT

1. Applications must be typed utilizing provided templates (see Appendix A thru C). Original application must have the original signature of the authorizing School signatory.
2. Applicants shall deliver the original application and email identical copies of their application before the closing date and time for receipt of applications.
3. All applications shall use word processing on standard 8½" x 11" paper, double spaced, 1" margins and use Arial 12 Font.
4. Attachments will be accepted for letters of endorsement and commitment only. **Attachments do not need to be copied.**

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Evaluation Criteria	Possible Points
Program Summary: The summary is clear and details current status of program or department with supporting qualitative and quantitative data.	10 Points
Work Plan: The work plan aligns with the focus area(s) and provides a detailed description of the plan of operation with project objectives or activities; e.g. specific strategies, timelines, and responsible staff. Address how the work plan will support the focus area(s). Note: Funds made available under this grant shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, any other federal, state, or local education funds.	40 Points
Results Expected: The results expected are detailed and the deliverables align with the specific focus area(s).	20 Points
Evaluation: The evaluation provides a clear process on how the project has achieved its stated objectives and the extent to which the accomplishment of objectives can be attributed to the project.	20 Points
Budget Justification: Applicant must provide a summary for fiscal justification and detailed budget line items which align with the project activities.	10 Points
Total Points:	100 Points