

Winter Edition, 2022

New Mexico Indian Education Newsletter

Cradle-to-Career



NEW MEXICO
Early Childhood
Education & Care Department



NEW MEXICO
Public Education Department



NEW MEXICO
HIGHER EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT

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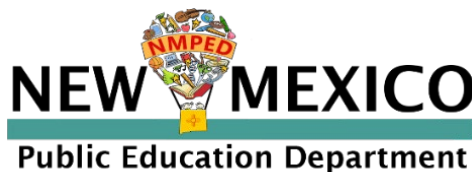
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February 3, 2022

Dear Honorable Tribal Leader,

As we begin a new year, it provides us with the opportunity to renew relationships and commitments and establish new partnerships. It also provides us with an opportunity to reflect.

In nearly three years, we have rebuilt relationships and trust and continue to make significant progress on building a robust cradle-to-career education system. Under the leadership of Governor Lujan Grisham, we have established the first in the nation Assistant Secretary for Native American Early Education and Care - Jovanna Archuleta, filled a long-standing vacancy of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Education at the Public Education Department – Lashawna Tso, appointed Nathan Moquino as the Division Director of Indian Education at the Higher Education Department; and provided over \$ 30.7 million in tribal educational investments.

The three education agencies are committed to deepening relationships with Tribal Leadership and Tribal Education Departments (TEDs) and continue to collaborate with the Indian Affairs Department. As part of this commitment, we are sharing with you the winter edition of our Cradle-to-Career Newsletter. The newsletter will come out in four editions: Winter 2022, Spring 2022, Summer 2022, and Fall 2022.

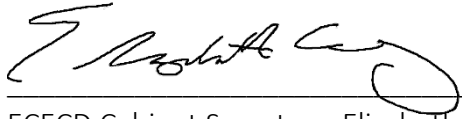
This newsletter provides new Leadership with an introduction to the respective education agencies as well as providing all Tribal Leadership with updates while highlighting the collaboration amongst the three agencies and alignment between the State and Tribes on education efforts. In this edition we highlight significant education legislation in the 2022 legislative session, information on each agency's fiscal year 2022 operating budget, and agency programs.

In addition to this newsletter, we also included a separate document highlighting Governor Lujan Grisham's executive recommendation of \$56.5 million that supports Indian education investments for fiscal year 2023. These investments align with the Cradle-to-Career model and support many of the ideas, initiatives, and solutions that we have heard from Tribal Leadership, Tribal education experts and Tribal communities.

While we have made significant progress, we know there is much more to be done. We stand ready to work in partnership—hand-in-hand—honoring the Government-to-Government relationship between the state and the 23 sovereign nations.

In closing, for Tribal Leadership who are returning to office thank you for your continued sacrifice and service to your people and communities. For Tribal Leadership who are in your first year of office, we welcome you and look forward to working with you and your administration.

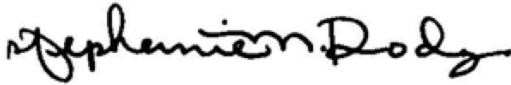
In Partnership,



ECECD Cabinet Secretary, Elizabeth Groginsky



PED Cabinet Secretary, Kurt Steinhaus



HED Cabinet Secretary, Stephanie M. Rodriguez



IAD Cabinet Secretary, Lynn Trujillo

FY23 Indian Education Budget Requests

Cradle-to-Career



Under the leadership of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, the three educational agencies and the Department of Cultural Affairs have requested a total

\$56.48 million to support the education of Native American children and strengthen a pathway for Native Americans to become teachers.

"Every dollar of these investments will build upon our progress, toward building a cradle-to-career educational system. This is how we build a better future for our children and the generations to come. New Mexico is proud of its multicultural heritage, and we are committed to making sure that every single New Mexican is uplifted by our work."

- Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham



Early Childhood Education and Care Department (NMECED): **\$1.5 million**

- **\$1.475 million** will build on the partnership between ECECD and the state's 23 sovereign nations and ensure support for Tribal leadership in expanding culturally and linguistically relevant early childhood programs in their communities.
- **\$100,000** to fund one FTE that will support sovereign nations in applying for early childhood grants.

Public Education Department (NMPED): **\$21.25 million**

- **\$9.75 million** of the Indian Education Act Funds for recurring and non-competitive grants will be used to improve academic and cultural achievement opportunities; to develop and implement educational blueprints and governance structures; collaborate with school districts to plan and deliver community-based education programs and social supports services for Native American students; fund Indian Education Division operations; and fund Native American teacher pathways.
- **\$10.25 million** in recurring funding for Native American Education will support students, tribal education departments, and higher education institutes to provide strategic solutions and support tribal education sovereignty; support community-based education in tribal communities; deliver a culturally linguistically relevant education that serves Native youth holistically to ensure success in life, college, and career.
- **\$1.25 million** will ensure pay parity for 520 certificate educators who teach tribal languages and culture to Native American students. 520 certificate holders will be paid as Level I or Level II Teachers depending on years of experience. This will provide school districts and charter schools much-needed resources to recruit and retain Native language teachers.

Higher Education Department (NMHED): **\$13.46 million**

- The Executive recommends **\$250,000** to support the American Indian Education Institute at the University of New Mexico, which would support professional development on culturally relevant pedagogy and a Native American Teacher Residency Program as part of our efforts to address the disproportionately low number of licensed Native American K-12 teachers in New Mexico. A total of **\$13.46 million** will be allocated to Tribal colleges and initiatives impacting Native American students, faculty, and programs at public colleges and universities across the state.

Department of Cultural Affairs (NMDCA): **\$20.271 million**

- **\$20 million** in a special appropriation to the Tribal Libraries Endowment will support the operational needs of tribal libraries, including expanded programs and services offered after school, on weekends, and in the summer. Tribal libraries provide access to the Internet, culturally and linguistically appropriate educational programs, and critical information resources.

New Mexico State Library (NMSL)

Annually, New Mexico State Library (NMSL) provides **\$175,000** for State Grants in Aid to Tribal Libraries and **\$96,000** in Tribal Library Program grants to supplement local funding. NMSL also provides robust broadband support by helping tribal libraries to leverage federal E-Rate funding through the Broadband for Libraries Program. This program ensures access to high-speed networks for learners and job seekers.

Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD)

Vision: All New Mexican families and young children are thriving.

Mission: Optimize the health, development, education, and well-being of babies, toddlers, and preschoolers through a family driven, equitable, community-based system of high quality prenatal and early childhood programs and services.



Overview

The Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) values the rich heritage, history, cultures, and languages of New Mexico's Pueblo, Apache and Navajo people, and is committed to working in a spirit of respect, collaboration, and partnership with communities to support the cultural ways of learning. ECECD is currently laying the groundwork for these ongoing relationships by arranging government-to-government consultations with leaders and representatives from the 23 sovereign Pueblos, Tribes, and Nations to seek guidance on how we can best support the educational, cultural, and linguistic needs of their youngest learners.

In 2019, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and the New Mexico Legislature created the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD), which officially launched on July 1, 2020. New Mexico lawmakers have long supported the building of strong prenatal to age five programs to improve the long-term educational, health, and developmental outcomes for the state's children. One of only four cabinet-level early learning departments in the country, ECECD's aim is to create an early childhood system in New Mexico that is more cohesive, equitable, and effective. ECECD coordinates a continuum of programs from prenatal to age five and ensures that families in

communities across the state can access the services they need. This continuum of early childhood programs includes: Home Visiting, Families First, Family Infant Toddler (FIT) Program, New Mexico



In January 2020, the New Mexico State Legislature confirmed Elizabeth Groginsky as the first Secretary for the new department. Senate Bill 22, the enabling act that established ECECD, mandated the appointment of the nation's first ever Assistant Secretary for Native American Early Childhood Education and Care. Jovanna Archuleta of the Pueblo of Nambé accepted the Governor's appointment to this role in February 2020, and on July 1, 2020 ECECD became an operating cabinet-level department in the State

PreK and Early PreK, and the Head Start Collaboration Office. The department also oversees Child Care Services and Family Nutrition programs that serve older children and families. ECECD also provides professional development and technical assistance to these programs to improve quality of practice and outcomes. ECECD was created from programs that were formerly housed at the Children, Youth, and Families

Department, the Department of Health, and the Public Education Department.

Legislation

Authorization Bill SB38

For the 55th Legislature, The Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) introduced an Authorization Bill that ensures ECECD has full and clear authority to conduct the Department's essential functions and responsibilities as mandated by federal law and the state Early Childhood Education and Care Act of 2019, which consolidated all early childhood programs and services in New Mexico under a single cabinet-level department.

FY22 Budget

ECECD's FY22 operating budget totals nearly \$684.3 million with more than half of the agency budget invested to direct services. Additionally, ECECD received nearly \$440 million in federal relief dollars specific to support the child care and home visiting industry. Under the Administration of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham the Early Childhood Trust Fund was created, contributing approximately \$30 million annually to ECECD programs and services- establishing an operating budget in the first year of nearly \$700 million. ECECD remains a committed partner in increasing quality and access of early childhood services prenatal to five to the infants, toddlers, and families in New Mexico. **Since the 2021 Government-to-Government Summit, the department has worked to ensure authentic collaboration by providing:**

- Tribal Bi-Weekly Communications
- On-Going Professional Development Opportunities
- Dedicated tribal programing and funding requested for FY23 (\$1.5 million)
- Eleven Tribal Liaisons within the department
- Investment into Local Indigenous Knowledge Systems
- ECECD internal staff professional development of New Mexico Tribes
- Pueblo cohort with the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)

- ECECD Sowing Seeds: Growing Curricular Capacity in Early Childhood Education

ECECD will work closely with Tribal leadership in government-to-government consultations to seek guidance and consultation on:

- Governance and financing strategies
- Establishing an early childhood Tribal Advisory Coalition by March 2022
- MOU's for Early Intervention providers to conduct services on Tribal lands
- Improving the integration of health and early childhood programs
- Supporting the social and emotional well-being of children
- Supporting family leadership and engagement
- Advancing the early childhood workforce
- Expanding and enhancing early care and education learning environments

Programming

For FY23, ECECD requested \$1.5 million dollars for a Tribal Investment Strategy Fund from the Early Childhood Trust Fund- to strengthen early childhood programs and services:

\$1,475,000 will build on the partnership between ECECD and the state's 23 sovereign nations and ensure support for Tribal leadership in expanding culturally and linguistically relevant prenatal to five early childhood programs in their communities. Funding will be determined through government-to-government consultation and Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA's).

\$100,000 will support one full time employee that will support sovereign nations in applying for early childhood grants and build capacity around grants management and development



Public Education Department (PED)

The Indian Education Division

Vision: All American Indian students will become proficient in academic, cultural, and leadership standards to become productive and contributing members of their pueblo/tribe/nation and state.

Mission: To increase American Indian student academic and cultural achievement through culturally relevant pedagogy, native language, and collaborative partnerships.

Overview

The Public Education Department collaborates with educators, communities, and families to ensure that ALL students are healthy, secure in their identity, and holistically prepared for college, career, and life.

New Mexico was one of the first states in the Nation to establish an Indian Education Act (2003) that specifically addresses the needs of Indian students as guided by legislators, tribes, communities, and educators. The Act creates a fund that provides for grants that support the work of school districts, tribes, and charter schools to serve significant populations of Native American students.

School districts and charter schools receive State Equalization Guarantee (SEG) funding to serve Native American students and to implement the district/school's core academic programs and outcomes. IEA Funding is supplemental and categorical (assigned to a specific program) only.

Legislation

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's ongoing priority is to improve the educational outcomes for Native American students, particularly those that have been historically underrepresented. Since she has

taken office, we have seen a significant increase in funding to support Native American students. Historically, the legislature has appropriated \$1.8 million to Indian Education Act and in 2019 was funded at \$5.25 million, which is an increase of approximately 200%. The fund has supported grants to tribal departments of education, school districts and charter schools, programming and professional learning that align with the Indian Education Act. In HB2, the executive budget is seeking an additional increase in the Indian Education Act from \$9.75 million to \$20 million in recurring funds. The fund is intended to fund tribal departments of education, school district, charter schools, and various programming to protect and preserve Native Languages, establish a Native American Educator Pathway, and other areas outlined within the act.

FY22 Budget

INDIAN EDUCATION ACT FUNDS \$5.25M

Recurring non-competitive grants to improve academic and cultural achievement opportunities; to develop and implement educational blueprints and governance structures; collaborate with school districts to plan and deliver community-based education programs and social support services for Native American students; Indian Education Division operations; and fund Native American teacher pathways.

SENATE BILL 377 \$6.1M

\$4.5 M for FY21-23 was administered to tribal departments of education to develop and implement education blueprints and governance structures. The intent is to assist New Mexico's tribes, nations, and pueblos to launch a plan to improve collaborations with school districts and deliver community-based education programs and social support services.

1. Educational Blueprints and Governance Structures – detailed plan of action from pre- kindergarten to post-secondary that ensures all aspects of curriculum and educational domains are covered.
2. Engage in collaborations with school districts – highly collaborative practices in schools are associated with strong student outcomes.
3. Plan and deliver community-based education programs – has a positive impact in the classroom in terms of both teacher effectiveness, student learning, and social development. This includes local institutions, history, literature, cultural heritage, and natural environments.
4. Social support services for Native American students – cultural, social and academic services that can be offered to Native American Students (ex: cultural gatherings, leadership development, academic support, student organizations, native student organizations).

\$1.6 M was administered to Tribal departments of education through a two-year grant for tribes to develop and deliver instruction in their tribal language and develop curriculum materials and assessment instruments that are culturally and linguistically appropriate for students, teachers, and programing. In addition, the funding's intent is to recruit, train and certify language teachers. Lastly, to engage and collaborate with school districts to ensure they are provided with culturally and linguistically appropriate instructional material and program evaluation.

IED has worked to sustain investments, provide technical assistance and create accountability measures for key areas that will support priorities under the Indian Education Act:

1. Indigenous Language Teacher Pipeline/Native Languages Ecosystem – To build a systemic teacher pipeline for Indigenous Language Instructors statewide.
2. Indigenous Education Initiative – To support the transformation of schools from current practice to models of Indigenous Education through a community led school design process to improve outcomes for Native American youth.
3. Tribal Consultation and Community Engagement – To conduct two semi-annual government-to-government (G2G) meetings with tribes, Pueblos, and Nations to ensure all tribal affirmation protocols are completed for qualifying districts and assure that qualifying districts follow new IEA requirements.
4. Tribal Consultation and Accountability for Indian Education Act – To provide support for Tribal Consultation and implementation of Every Student Succeeds Act for school districts and charter schools and technical assistance to Tribal Department of Education and Bureau of Indian Education collaboration.
5. Indian Education Act School District, Charter Schools and Tribal Department of Education Grant Initiatives – To support the implementation of key programs and capacity building for the implementation of the IEA to improve outcomes for Native American students.



New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED)



Overview

The New Mexico Higher Education Department's mission is to provide financial, academic, and policy oversight and support to New Mexico's public higher education institutions and our community partners for the purpose of promoting efficiency, accountability, and most importantly, student success.

The agency provides programmatic support and technical assistance to Tribal Colleges, higher education institutions, and adult education programs across New Mexico. By developing strategic educational partnerships to lead and guide higher education institutions in achieving full engagement with every Tribe in New Mexico, the NMHED seeks to broaden, deepen, and strengthen pathways and opportunities for Native American students. Building stronger partnerships between Tribes and higher education expands access to colleges, universities, and adult education programs and promotes social and economic transformation within Tribal communities and for their citizens.

Currently, over 11,000 Native American students are enrolled in New Mexico's higher education system. There are four Tribal colleges in the State of New

Mexico: Diné College, the Institute of American Indian Arts, Navajo Technical University, and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute. The purpose of these colleges and universities is to serve and prepare Native American students through the incorporation of language, culture, and traditions within higher education curricula. Including the four Tribal colleges and universities, New Mexico is also home to 29 Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) in which Native American students are enrolled.

Programming

NMHED is home to nine public-facing divisions, each of which play an integral role in agency operations and higher education institution data collection, financial aid awards, and student support. The divisions are:

- Academic Affairs & Policy
- Adult Education
- Capital Outlay & Projects
- Financial Aid
- GEAR UP New Mexico
- Indian Education
- Information Technology
- Planning & Research
- Private Post-Secondary Schools

Native American students are supported by each of these divisions through direct services or impacted by student support policy. Direct services are provided through Financial Aid, GEAR UP New Mexico, Adult Education, Private Post-Secondary Schools and Indian Education divisions.

Executive Budget Recommendation

The New Mexico Higher Education Department offers 27 different financial aid programs for students. In FY21, a total of \$4,389,014 state financial aid dollars were awarded to Native American students enrolled at public and Tribal colleges in New Mexico. Additionally, Federal Pell Grants are also a key resource for higher education funding for Native American students, and in FY21, a total of \$23,125,853 in Pell Grants were awarded to Native American students at public and Tribal colleges in New Mexico.

The Department strives to remove barriers to higher education by working to make sure students and their families know about state and federal financial aid. The financial aid team is available to assist with technical support and any questions pertaining to state financial aid programs.

Other funding sources that support Native American students and faculty are Research and Public Service Projects (RPSPs) which are special earmarked projects requested through an annual process at the NMHED. There are several projects which focus on key Native American programs at colleges and universities across the state. In FY23, these RPSPs total \$2,359,500 and are detailed as follows:

- \$216,000 for Navajo Technical University's nursing program;
- \$250,000 for the American Indian Summer Bridge Program at the University of New Mexico;
- \$250,000 for the Institute of American Indian Education at the University of New Mexico;
- \$250,000 to the Native American Studies Program at the University of New Mexico;
- \$185,400 for the Southwest Indian Law Clinic at the University of New Mexico;
- \$240,500 to the Native American Health Center at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center;

- \$88,100 for Native American Suicide Prevention, also known as Honoring Native Life, at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center;
- \$255,700 to the Indian Resources Development at New Mexico State University;
- \$209,900 to the Native American Social Work Institute at New Mexico Highlands University;
- New in FY23, \$150,000 for the Native American Student Center at Northern New Mexico College; and
- \$263,900 to support the Tribal College Dual Credit Program.

The agency has a statutory responsibility to provide an equitable process for reviewing and recommending capital outlay funding for public colleges and universities each year through the Capital Projects Division. The New Mexico Higher Education Department understands the importance of maintaining and supporting the campus infrastructure of all publicly-funded higher education institutions in New Mexico. This includes the Tribal colleges and universities located within the state. Tribal colleges and universities have been appropriated capital projects funding through the agency since the 2015 legislative session, and to date, over \$25 million has been appropriated.

In FY22, \$53.9 million was approved to fund critical infrastructure upgrades at public higher education institutions, Tribal colleges, and special schools statewide. This funding addressed critical health and safety issues, provided for ADA and code compliance upgrades, and supported much needed facility renovations and modernization at our college and university campuses. For FY23, capital funding recommendations to Tribal colleges and universities total \$11,100,000. This recommendation includes:

- \$4,000,000 for the construction of a new interdisciplinary building for expansion of trade facilities at Navajo Technical University;
- 5,000,000 for the construction of a new student services facility at Diné College; and
- \$2,100,000 to plan, design, construct, renovate and improve domestic waterlines and roofing across the campus at Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute.



Legislative Session

For the 55th Legislature, the New Mexico Higher Education Department will focus on a comprehensive free college package, expanding loan repayment programs for teachers and medical professionals, and adequate funding for the state's Dual Credit Program among others. Below is a detailed list of all priorities with the requested appropriations for each.

Amount	Priority	Details
\$85.5 Million	Senate Bill 140 – Opportunity Scholarship Act	Expanding upon the widespread success of the New Mexico Opportunity and Lottery scholarships, Gov. Lujan Grisham's budget invests \$85.5 million for a comprehensive free college package that will help up to 35,000 New Mexicans pursue college degrees and career training certificates.
\$10 Million	Dual Credit Program	Dual credit fulfills high school graduation requirements and allow students to earn both college and high school credits at the same time. Last year, over 16,500 students participated in the program, which is no cost to participants.
\$10 Million	Teacher Loan Repayment Program and Teacher Preparation Affordability Scholarship	These financial aid programs aim to grow the teacher pipeline and support current teachers. The Teacher Loan Repayment Program received a record number of applications with over 600 awards this year, and the program has been a lifeline for veteran teachers who acquired debt. The average debt of current awardees is \$48,000.
\$9 Million	Adult Education	A \$2.5 million increase is requested for the programs that serve over 10,000 New Mexicans across the state each year with instruction, high school equivalency (formerly known as GED), and transition programs into higher education, career training, and the workforce.
\$7.5 Million	New Mexico Longitudinal Data System	The system will integrate databases from the New Mexico Early Childhood Education, Public Education, Higher Education, and Workforce Solutions Departments. The project aims to identify trends and present data-driven recommendations to support the success of New Mexicans from cradle to career.
\$5 Million	Higher Education Endowment Fund	This fund enhances research or establishes endowed chairs at public colleges and universities
\$1 Million	College Food Security Initiative (Part of The Food, Farm, and Hunger Initiative)	Funding is necessary to address food insecurity among college students. Provides healthy grab-and-go meals, low cost or free access to campus dining plans, campus food pantries, and/or innovative food distribution systems to support up to 17,500 food insecure students across the state.

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