

Supporting Native American Education

REENTRY GUIDANCE



In alignment with the Indian Education Act, the following is guidance for districts and charter schools during remote or hybrid situations:

- 1. Ensure equitable and culturally relevant learning environments, educational opportunities, and culturally relevant instructional materials for Native American students enrolled in public schools.**
 - a.** Any form of educational services that are provided to students should include an equity lens for Native American students. These educational services can include virtual/online, instructional calls, face-to-face, books, textbooks, workbooks, worksheets, email, television, laptops, or phones.
 - b.** Parent engagement via technology will be of utmost importance, along with support for access to the internet.
 - c.** Ensure that Tribes are notified of all curricula development for their approval and support.
- 2. Ensure maintenance of Indigenous languages.**
 - a.** The integration of language- and culture-based instructional strategies, methods, and practices helps to support the learning of Native American students along with their Indigenous language for the educational success of these students.
 - b.** Native American Language and Culture (NALC-520 Certificate) Certified Staff shall continue to be utilized.

- 3. Continue Tribal consultation.**
 - a.** Actively solicit input and participation from Tribes.
 - b.** Encourage cooperation in reaching an agreement with Tribal representatives on the best possible decision for those involved, and particularly Native American students.
 - c.** Allow for an open, timely, and free exchange of information among the parties to lead to a mutual understanding and comprehension.
 - d.** Whether or not consensus is reached, consider others' perspectives and concerns and honor a Tribe's sovereignty.
 - e.** Develop an understanding of the true educational concerns of the Tribal communities.
 - f.** Most importantly, conclude consultations with documentation and shared agreements that seek and find solutions and alternatives as applicable.
 - g.** Prepare protocols for when Tribal communities are closed.
 - h.** Collaborate with Tribes to prioritize Native American students for in-person instruction based on individual needs.

The Indian Education Act grants are made available to tribal departments of education, districts, and charter schools serving significant numbers of Native American students for purposes that align with New Mexico's Indian Education Act (NMSA 1978 Section 22-23A-1 through 22-23A-8). Tribes, Nations, Pueblos, districts and charter schools may be able to use this funding to meet the needs of Native American Students in light of the current Health Orders. Please contact the Indian Education Division at Indian.Education@state.nm.us.



Reentry Support Guidance **Public Education Department**

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