

FISCAL YEAR 2026 LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Appropriations Bill: LHHSE

Agency: Department of Education-OPE-OCTAE-OESE

AUTHORIZATION/ TCU PROGRAM	FY 2023 ENACTED	FY 2024 ENACTED	FY 2025 HOUSE SENATE AIHEC	FY 2026 AIHEC REQUEST <small>(Inflation adjustment of +2.1%)</small>
Higher Education Act [20 USC 1059c] (OPE)				
TCU Strengthening Institutions (HEA Title III-Part A)	\$51,080,000 (Part A)	\$51,807,000 (Part A)	H - \$55,807,000 S - \$52,569,000 A - \$72,800,000	\$74,328,800 (Part A)
TCU Native Language Program (HEA Title III-Part A)	--	--	--	\$40,000,000
TCU Graduate Opportunities (HEA Title III-Part A)	--	--	--	\$10,000,000
Carl Perkins Technical and Career Education Act [20 USC 2327] (OPE)				
Tribal Postsecondary Career & Technical Institutions	\$11,953,000	\$11,953,000	H - \$15,953,000 S - \$11,953,000 A - \$17,680,000	\$18,051,280
Indian Education: Special Programs for Indian Children [20 USC 7442]				
Indian Education Professional Development	Unknown of \$72,000,000	Unknown of \$72,000,000	H - Unknown of \$72,000,000 S - Unknown of \$72,000,000 A - \$20,800,000 of \$78,000,000	\$21,236,800 of \$79,638,000
<p>TCU HEA-Title III: TCUs provide high-quality, culturally appropriate higher education opportunities to some of the most rural, isolated, impoverished, and historically underserved areas of the country. The TCU Strengthening Institutions program (HEA Title III) provides essential formula-based aid to TCUs. The funding allows TCUs to help Tribes and rural communities build a skilled Native workforce in key fields, provide comprehensive student support services, develop new programs, modernize fiscal management systems, and build safer 21st-century campuses.</p> <p>Tribally Controlled Career and Technical Institutions: Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act provides specific program support for Tribally chartered and controlled career and technical institutions, which provide vitally needed workforce development, job creation education, and training programs to American Indians and Alaska Natives from Tribes and communities with some of the highest unemployment rates in the nation.</p> <p>Indian Education Professional Development Program (Report Language Request): To accompany the FY 2026 LHHSE appropriations bill, report language is needed designating \$20.8 million of the funds appropriated for the Special Programs for Indian Children, specifically for the Indian Education Professional Development Program to help TCUs and other institutions more systemically address the growing need for American Indian and Alaska Native teachers and administrators.</p>				



Appropriations Bill: LHHSE

Agency: Health and Human Services-ACF-Head Start

AUTHORIZATION/ TCU PROGRAM	FY 2023 ENACTED	FY 2024 ENACTED	FY 2025 HOUSE SENATE AIHEC	FY 2026 AIHEC REQUEST <small>(Inflation adjustment of +2.1%)</small>
Head Start Act: Technical Assistance and Training [20 USC 9843]				
TCU Head Start Partnership Program	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000	H - \$12,000,000 S - \$ 6,000,000 A - \$12,480,000	\$12,742,080
TCU-Head Start Partnership Program: Head Start programs operated by American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes (Region XI) face challenges in hiring credentialed teachers. While 72.47 percent of teachers in non-American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start programs are properly credentialed, only 42.1 percent of all teachers in American Indian and Alaska Native programs are credentialed (National Native American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start Collaboration Office, 2017). TCUs are ideal catalysts for filling this gap, as demonstrated by the TCU-Head Start Program from 2000-2007, which provided scholarships and stipends for AI/AN Head Start teachers and teacher's aides to enroll in TCU early childhood education programs. Before the program ended in 2007, TCUs had trained more than 400 Head Start workers and teachers, many of whom have since left for higher-paying jobs in elementary schools. In FY 2020, this program was reestablished at \$4 million, which funded six TCU programs. We urge Congress to continue building this vital initiative -- the youngest American Indian and Alaska Native students deserve qualified teachers.				