

Bay Mills Community College: Priorities for the 119th Congress (February 2025)

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) provide rigorous postsecondary education and research opportunities for American Indians and Alaska Natives (AlaNs) and other rural community residents. TCUs offer higher education that is uniquely Tribal, founded on Native languages, culture, and philosophy with strong student support systems and community engagement. Through these educational opportunities, research, and industry partnerships for high-demand careers, TCUs are laying the foundation for sustainable economic development within Tribal Nations and beyond. Together, we build *Strong Sovereign Nations through Excellence in TRIBAL higher education*, empowering individuals and strengthening communities.

BAY MILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE: AT A GLANCE

- Enrollment Trends: SP 2024: 605 | FA 2024: 698
- Affordable Tuition: \$95.00 for 100-200 level courses and \$285.00 for 300-400 level courses.
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 7:1
- Part-time/Full-time: PT 456 | FT 242
- Persistence Rate: 72.41%
- Highest Level of Degree/Program Available: Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science
- TRIO Program: Yes
- Fun Fact: Bay Mills Community College held classes in a fish processing plant in its early years.



Bay Mills Community College (BMCC) prioritizes the well-being and academic success of its students. BMCC provides a comprehensive range of services to help students concentrate on their studies. These services include emergency assistance, a food pantry, free lunches, and mental health counseling. BMCC's holistic approach, supported by its Student Affairs and Academic Departments, ensures that students remain at the center of the institution's efforts.

BAY MILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE: Strengthening Our Workforce

TCUs prepare professionals in high-demand fields, including agriculture and natural resources management, health, information technology, and building trades. By teaching the job skills most in demand within our communities, TCUs are laying a strong foundation for Tribal and regional economic growth.

BMCC equips professionals with the essential skills needed in the high-demand field of construction technology, focusing on the job competencies most valued within the communities.

As part of their training, students recently visited a local construction company on a field trip to observe real-world applications of their studies. These experiences and their education lay a solid foundation for both tribal and regional economic growth.



BAY MILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE: Driving Economic Development

In 2015, AIHEC conducted an economic impact study to analyze the importance of TCUs in the regional and national economy. TCUs act as a catalyst for economic growth locally and regionally by enhancing educational opportunities, research, and leadership skills for Tribal and other rural students.

BMCC offers programs that directly address the needs of the Tribal Nations from which its students come. These programs span various fields, including emergency medical technology, early childhood education, business administration, computer information systems, and construction trades.

The primary goal of these programs is to develop a skilled workforce within Native Communities. Furthermore, fostering an educated workforce enables students to assume leadership roles and contribute to the ongoing growth and prosperity of Tribal Nations.

TOTAL ALUMNI IMPACT	
\$2.3 BILLION	ADDED INCOME
28,778	JOBS

Job equivalents indicate jobs created by TCUs, both full- and part-time. They are based on industry-specific jobs to sales ratios. The \$2.3 billion alumni impact supports 28,778 jobs nationwide. (EMSI & AIHEC, 2015)



BAY MILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE: Building Our Futures

TCUs are resilient, resourceful, and proud to lead the nation in many areas, including preparing an American Indian and Alaska Native workforce of engineers, nurses, land managers, technicians, and teachers. Always looking to the future, TCUs are focused on building new partnerships, advancing educational excellence, and creating economic opportunities for Tribal and regional communities.

BMCC is dedicated to serving regional and Tribal communities by addressing the critical healthcare workforce gap. In response to the urgent needs expressed by local hospitals and healthcare facilities for skilled providers at every level, BMCC has expanded its healthcare education programs. These initiatives include Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) courses, Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) training, and Licensed Paramedic education.

By collaborating closely with nearby colleges and universities, BMCC has established clear pathways for students to enter the healthcare workforce in various levels and fields, including registered nursing, surgical technology, and dental assisting. Our latest initiative is focused on launching a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program, which will serve as a vital bridge between BMCC and future registered nurse (RN) programming.

By offering accessible education and career opportunities, BMCC empowers students and bolsters the healthcare workforce in Tribal and nearby communities.