

California Indian Nations College: Priorities for the 119th Congress

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) provide rigorous postsecondary education and research opportunities for American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIANs) 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.

CALIFORNIA INDIAN NATIONS COLLEGE AT A GLANCE

- Enrollment Trends (Spring 2024/Fall 2024): From spring to fall, enrollment increased by 6%.
- Affordable Tuition: All students are fully funded.
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 6:1 (Fall 2024)
- Part-time/Full-time: 141 part-time and 20 full-time (Fall 2024)
- Persistence Rate: 72% (Fall 2023 to Fall 2024)
- Highest Level of Degree/Program Available: Associate degree
- TRIO Program: No
- Fun Fact: California Indian Nations College is the only Tribal college in California offering degrees.



California Indian Nations College (CINC) offers a variety of traditional and general student support services that address academic, non-academic, personal, wellness, and basic needs. Students can participate in talking circles, traditional counseling, and culturally focused therapy. Through our Textbook & Technology Access Program, all students can obtain textbooks, laptops, and internet support. CINC provides culturally responsive curricula, transfer guidance, and career development resources. Even before classes start, students receive personalized advising to set educational and career goals, improve academic readiness, and build the confidence needed for success. CINC is committed to providing ongoing mentorship after students graduate and transition to a four-year university. This comprehensive support network has significantly boosted the university transfer rate over the past two academic years.

California Indian Nations 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.

CINC offers multiple pathways to strengthen the Tribal and regional workforce:

- The Associate of Science in General Business degree prepares students to enter the workforce directly.
- Internship opportunities through the Native American Land Conservancy prepare students for careers in conservation.
- Partnerships with Southern California Edison and the Department of Energy prepare students for careers in energy.
- Field experience in biological and social sciences is offered through the Living Desert for the Native American Conservation Workforce Development Program.



California Indian Nations 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.

California is home to 1.4 million American Indians and Alaska Natives, as well as one-fifth of all federally recognized tribes. CINC drives economic development in Southern California Tribal communities by offering relevant degrees and training, providing student and alumni employment opportunities, and preparing our forthcoming certificate programs.

As a newly accredited and the only Tribal college offering degrees in the state, CINC is developing numerous healthcare, hospitality management, and energy programs to enhance and sustain Tribal economies and their potential for growth. A significant number of CINC students assert that their goal is to return for careers within their Tribal communities.

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)	

California Indian Nations 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 health practitioners, engineers, nurses, land managers, business owners, and educators. Always looking to the future, TCUs are focused on building new partnerships, advancing educational excellence, and creating economic opportunities for Tribal and regional communities.

CINC is developing numerous programs to serve Tribal and regional workforce needs.

- Certificate programs in health services, such as Natural Helpers, Traditional Healers, and Medical Assistants.
- Partnerships with local universities provide pathways into medical fields.
- Energy and engineering programs, including a Tribal Energy Liaison certification.
- Native-based agricultural and culinary programs. Drone training certification.
- Casino and hospitality management programs.
- Tribal leadership, governance, and advocacy initiatives.

