



## Fort Peck 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 (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.

### Fort Peck Community College: AT A GLANCE

- Enrollment Trends:** 468 (Spring 2024); 360 (Fall 2024)
- Affordable Tuition:** \$1,125 per semester (12+ credits)
- Student to Faculty Ratio:** 13:1
- Part-time/Full-time:** 177 Full-Time; 183 Part-Time
- Persistence Rate:** 63%
- Highest Level of Degree/Program Available:** Associate Degree
- TRIO Program:** Student Support Services



Fort Peck Community College (FPCC) and Student Support Services TRIO offer a unique, culturally focused one-on-one approach to assist our Native American students on their college journey. FPCC's Student Services department provides free in-person and online tutoring, free printing, tuition assistance, emergency aid, bus passes, and personal help transferring to a four-year institution, including visits to university campuses and cultural events. We have recently recognized the need for holistic student support, such as mental health counseling, cultural engagement, talking circles, social activities, and staff training in trauma-informed care. We have partnered with a service provider called the Native Wellness Institute. Most of our staff and instructors are Tribal members and graduates of Fort Peck Community College. They understand the past and present challenges to help our students succeed in their higher education journeys and in life.



### Fort Peck 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.

FPCC's Truck Driving Certificate offers hands-on training through real-world driving scenarios, featuring comprehensive on-road and simulator training. Students gain from industry expertise, learning from experienced instructors who possess extensive knowledge of the trucking industry and its latest trends. The program highlights the importance of safety, providing rigorous training in defensive driving and adherence to transportation regulations. Career readiness incorporates the essential skills for a successful truck driving career, including both long-haul and regional transportation. FPCC's strong network in the transportation industry helps students secure the right job after graduation, supported by collaborative partnerships with Fort Peck Tribes and Wolf Point Sand Gravel.



AMERICAN INDIAN  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
CONSORTIUM



THE POWER OF  
CONNECTION,  
CULTURE &  
COMMUNITY



## Fort Peck 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.

FPCC fosters economic development for the Fort Peck Assiniboiné & Sioux Tribes by offering classes, workshops, training, and conferences related to economic development initiatives on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. Additionally, many employees at FPCC serve on various boards of directors for Tribal businesses, entities, and manufacturing firms, enhancing the success of these enterprises. These efforts benefit the entire Tribal membership through prosperous business entities, and Tribal members gain from job creation and opportunities. Beneficiaries experience positive impacts through increased educational opportunities.

### 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)



## Fort Peck 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.

FPCC addresses local workforce needs by offering vocational programs in Welding, Truck Driving/CDL, Cybersecurity/Network Technology, Information Technology, and Automotive Technology. Programs that have been created or expanded to enhance workforce development and industry partnerships include the strengthening of the Building Trades, Electrical Line Worker, Construction Technology, and Heavy Equipment programs, as well as the introduction of programs in HVAC, Plumbing, and Electrical disciplines.