



Haskell Indian Nations University: Priorities for the 118th 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. Unfortunately, federal education completion metrics fail to consider the unique nature of TCUs and our students. Federal completion rates focus on first-time, full-time students. But success at TCUs is defined holistically and most students attend part-time or are transfer students. Our shared vision: Strong Sovereign Nations Through Excellence in TRIBAL Higher Education.

HASKELL FACTS:

- Enrollment Trends (Fall 2023/Fall 2024): 10% increase
- Affordable Tuition: Tuition Free / On-Campus Fees are \$715; Off-Campus Fees are \$240
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 24:1
- Part-time/Full-time: 71 / 907
- Persistence/Retention/Completion Rate: 88% / 65% / 43%
- Highest Level of Degree Available: Baccalaureate
- TRIO Programs: Student Support Services
- Haskell is the only Tribal University in the world with an entirely Indigenous student population.



More than 140 Tribes, Nations, Pueblos, Alaska Villages, and Rancherias are represented at Haskell Indian Nations University (Haskell), offering our students a culturally unique experience not found at any other university. National Science Foundation (NSF) grants, our partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and ongoing relationships with the University of Kansas, to name a few examples, provides students with research opportunities as soon as they enroll at Haskell. Students at Haskell appreciate our strong connection with the University of Kansas and its numerous partnerships and agreements. Our commitment to students extends to their future goals after Haskell, as demonstrated by our Career Services Office and Bridge Programs. This contributes to what we fondly call “the Haskell Experience.”



Haskell Indian Nations University: Construction, Maintenance, Rehabilitation:

Haskell is located in Lawrence, KS, and is situated on 320 acres. We have 44 campus buildings, 12 of which are U.S. National Historic Landmarks. Funding has not kept up with the needs of our facilities; this includes our historic buildings and infrastructure, such as underground water and sewage lines. This directly impacts student success initiatives. Below are items that need to be addressed.

- Most buildings on campus require either heavy repair or replacement. Haskell has not had a new classroom building constructed in several decades.
- Due to the age of the campus, we are not in overall compliance with ADA requirements.
- Hiawatha Hall, a historic landmark, has sat vacant since 2001 due to its hazardous internal conditions. This multi-use building faces our central quad, so it's public facing to both our students and the surrounding public.
- Curtis Hall, our dining services building, has outdated infrastructure and currently cannot accommodate the increasing weather changes associated with climate change.
- Residential housing remains a challenge, and Haskell is working hard to retrofit new technologies, such as HVAC, into buildings that were not originally designed for them. New housing is needed to accommodate the growing enrollment.

Haskell

HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY • Lawrence KS

Strengthening Our Workforce

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

Haskell embraces the mission of TCUs and its place among TCUs. Future programming at Haskell is aimed at addressing the ever-changing workforce and needs of 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)

Haskell: Driving Economic Development

- Through an Economic Impact Study, conducted by AIHEC
- contractors, Haskell aims to analyze its importance in the Lawrence, KS area and beyond. TCUs act as a catalyst for economic growth locally, regionally, and nationally by enhancing educational opportunities, research, and leadership skills.
- Haskell welcomes over 900 students to the Lawrence, KS area every semester.
- Haskell employs just under 180 full-time employees, many of which live in the Lawrence, Kansas, area.
- Ongoing construction and renovation projects contribute millions to the local economy each year.
- Graduates from Haskell leave with skillsets and knowledge to immediately contribute to their local and national economies.



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, business leaders, 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.

In recognition of the changing workforce needs of the future, Haskell leadership has encouraged academic professionals at the University to focus on programming that will be valuable to our students and communities for generations to come.