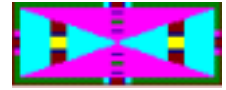


Little Big Horn College



Little Big Horn College: 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.

LITTLE BIG HORN COLLEGE: AT A GLANCE

- **Enrollment Trends:** Fall 2024 had a 55% decrease in enrollment from Spring 2023.
 - Spring 2024 enrollment had 283 students.
 - Fall 2024 enrollment had 261 students.
- **Affordable Tuition:** \$1600.00 per semester and \$3200.00 a year.
- **Student to Faculty Ratio:** 12:1
- **Highest Level of Degree/Program Available:** Associate's degrees.
- **TRIO Program:** No



Enrollment at Little Big Horn College (LBHC) has declined because students now have to pay for tuition and books, whereas previously, Covid funds covered tuition, fees, and books. LBHC partners with a program that provides student clothing and free school supplies and backpacks. In addition, LBHC occasionally provides food to families and has resources available to help with living expenses for students and their families. LBHC also collaborates closely with Achieving the Dream, which offers students gas vouchers, internships, and stipends.

LITTLE BIG HORN COLLEGE: 1994 Land-Grant Programs



1994 Land-grant Institutions: The Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act created the "1994 Land-grants" more than 25 years ago. Since then, funding for the 1994 Land-grant programs and resources have remained inadequate to address the growing agricultural needs and opportunities in Indian Country.

LBHC offers high-quality degrees, certificates, and programs. We prepare our students for the professional workforce, as well as for personal development that promotes prosperity and leadership in Crow Country. LBHC aims to preserve, protect, and perpetuate the Apsaalooké language, history, and culture.

LBHC was chartered by the Crow Tribe of Indians in January 1980, after establishing its foundation through extensive adult and higher educational programming provided by the Crow Central Education Commission. Its association with units of the Montana University System demonstrated the Crow Tribe's ability to design and teach college-level coursework. The college began offering higher education and vocational training in 1981, along with programs in business, nursing, and general studies.



REQUEST: 2+2 Partnership with Montana State University (MSU)-Billings Bachelor of Science in Administration Degree Program

An articulation agreement was executed with MSU-Billings for graduates from LBHC's Associate of Arts in Business Program to transfer to MSU-B's Bachelor of Science Degree Program seamlessly.

LITTLE BIG HORN COLLEGE: Certified Nursing Assistant Program Partnership

- Partnership with Billings Job Service, the Crow Tribe TERO, Montana Health Network, Awe Kualawaache Care Center, Crow Tribe Education Department, Montana Department of Labor 'Accelerate Montana'.
- All coursework, materials, and expenses are paid for LBHC students through partnering agencies.
- Students who complete the program enter the workforce on or near the Crow Reservation.



LITTLE BIG HORN COLLEGE: Construction, Maintenance, Rehabilitation

LBHC is situated in the Crow Agency, a rural community in southeastern Montana. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, LBHC lacked student housing. Most LBHC students travel over 60 miles to attend classes on campus. The nearest grocery store is located 12 miles from the campus. Weather conditions can be severe during the winter and rainy months, resulting in annual building repair costs. The community also has limited BIA law enforcement, which delays officer response times in the event of an incident. With funding, LBHC would address several deficiencies and challenges facing the campus and students, including, but not limited to:

- Roof repairs at the Health and Wellness Center
- Installed security cameras across the campus and outdoor building speaker announcements system.
- Employ two full-time security personnel with alternating nighttime shifts.
- Assist students with weekly gas vouchers and transit bus passes.

**REQUEST: \$3.2 billion TCU Construction Fund
DOI – Bureau of Indian Education**

A July 2021 AIHEC survey of TCUs revealed many chronic unmet facilities and infrastructure needs, including lack of student and faculty housing, inadequate classroom space, insufficient libraries, and outdated laboratories.

- TCU deferred maintenance/rehabilitation: \$400 million (total)
- TCU completion of master plans: \$2.7 billion (total)
- TCU operation and maintenance: \$20 million (annual, recurring need)

AIHEC strongly urges Congress to fund dedicated TCU facilities programs through DOI-BIE to modernize current facilities and build safer 21st century campuses.