

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE

OUR MISSION: “BE STRONG AND EDUCATE MY CHILDREN”

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL 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.

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE: AT A GLANCE

- Enrollment Trends: Spring 2024: 209 | Fall 2024: 224
- Affordable Tuition: We currently provide free tuition to all students.
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 9:1
- Part-time/Full-time: Fall 2024: PT 67% | FT 33%
- Persistence Rate: 74%
- Highest Level of Degree/Program Available: Associate programs
- TRIO Program: No
- Fun Fact: The College has had its highest number of graduates in 26-year college history



LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE (LPTC) provides various critical support services to meet student needs.

- Snack carts are available for students near all classrooms and in the Student Services lounge.
- Free mental health counseling is offered.
- Free tutoring services are available, and we encourage their use.
- Emergency aid for food or bills is provided to students facing financial difficulties.
- Struggling students can develop Student Success Plans with their advisors and our Retention Specialist.
- We are exploring a partnership with the Winnebago Tribe to adjust the Tribe's bus service to accommodate student needs better.

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL 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.

LPTC's early childhood education program equips graduates for careers in the childcare industry. Many of these graduates find employment at Educare Winnebago, the Tribe's daycare program. LPTC's associate degree in business is the most popular program we offer. The College's graduates in the diversified agriculture program have become part of the Tribe's farming initiative.

LPTC's first Career & Technical Education (CTE) program has received approval. Starting in Fall 2025, we will offer a carpentry diploma. Funding for a new building for this program is provided by the USDA and BIE, in addition to support from local foundations and the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. A Department of Labor grant will fund operations for the first five years. LPTC selected carpentry as the initial trade program because graduates are nearly guaranteed jobs in the service area, given the shortage of workers with carpentry skills. LPTC is partnering with Winnebago's Tribal-owned construction company and other regional builders.



LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL 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.

LPTC associate degree programs have been an entry point for many professionals working in Tribal offices and the Tribe's economic development corporation. LPTC graduates have filled numerous management positions within the Tribe and often go on to pursue bachelor's and master's degrees at local colleges.

LPTC's business program is the most popular offering, and the College is on track to launch its first bachelor's program in business within the next two years. LPTC's degree in early childhood education has produced graduates working in the Tribe's childcare program. The certified nursing assistant (CNA) program is equipping graduates with much-needed jobs at our Tribal hospital and serves as a stepping stone for students looking to pursue a nursing career. LPTC has established articulation agreements with a local university to ensure a smooth transition for health science graduates to complete their nursing degrees. The College's carpentry CTE program will start in Fall 2025 and provide skilled workers for the Tribal construction company and other local organizations.

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)

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL 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.



LPTC is dedicated to increasing job opportunities for residents of the Winnebago Indian Reservation and neighboring communities in northeast Nebraska and northwest Iowa.

A three-story Science Building, primarily funded by ARPA dollars from the DOE and BIE, is expected to be completed in March 2025, boosting our STEM initiative. An outdated laboratory in one of our oldest buildings will be replaced with state-of-the-art labs for our chemistry and biology programs, backed by the National Science Foundation.

Additional trade programs are urgently needed to support the region's underserved young male population. To facilitate these programs, a larger building must be constructed on the undeveloped campus annex provided by the Winnebago Tribe. We are seeking funding to begin development of the annex. The first building constructed will house additional trade programs.