



Nebraska Indian Community College

NICC Campus

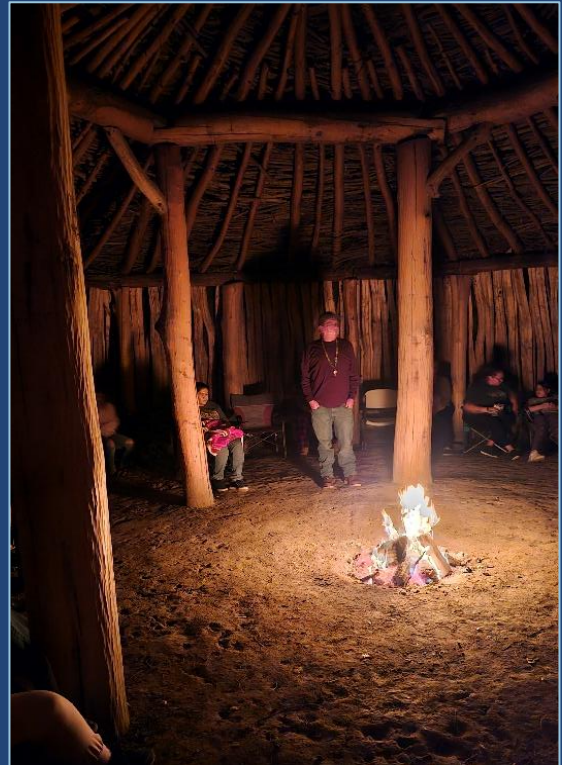
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NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE: Priorities for the 119th Congress (February 2025)

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.

NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE (NICC): AT A GLANCE

- Enrollment Trends (Spring 2024/Fall 2024):
 - 554 total headcount for Spring 2024
 - 620 total headcount for Fall 2024.
 - Trend of Students (unduplicated headcount)
 - All – FA 2023: 624 | FA 2024: 620
 - Degree-Seeking – FA 2023: 353 | FA 2024: 326
 - The largest group increasing is the high school students taking dual-credit or early college courses.
- Affordable Tuition: \$170.00 a credit hour with no fees or book charges. NICC offers tuition waivers for \$169.00 per credit hour for the 2024-25 Academic Year. There is a graduation fee of \$200.00.
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 6:1
- Part-time/Full-time: (FA 2024) PT: 482 | FT: 138
- Persistence Rate:
 - Persistence, which includes dual credit, enrichment, and degree-seeking for SP 2024 to FA 2024, is 46%.
 - Degree-seeking from SP24 to FA24 is 54%.
- Highest Level of Degree/Program Available: Bachelors
- TRIO Program: No
- Fun Fact: NICC has a fully functional traditional Earth Lodge on our Macy Campus.



NICC Macy Campus Earth Lodge – Faculty, students, and community members share historical scary stories for the Halloween season on October 24, 2024.

Nebraska Indian 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.

NICC has been working to meet the needs of communities on a small scale by offering classes in specific areas and expanding to a larger scale with certificates and more advanced degrees. Two of the three campus locations are on the Santee Sioux Nation and Omaha Tribal reservations.

In these rural areas, services may be limited. Key areas that require additional services include childcare, sustainable food, housing, healthcare, and industrial trades. In response, NICC has increased its course offerings and certificates, serving as stackable Associate and Bachelor's degree credentials. Businesses in reservation communities and surrounding rural and urban areas have teamed up with NICC to encourage employees to develop workforce skills and enhance their professional development.



NICC Students attending the AIHEC Conference in March 2024z



USDA Visit to NICC's New Welding Facility in Fall 2024

NICC has recently launched its first Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Tribal Nation Building for the Fall 2023 semester. With a large number of business graduates, these alumni can now pursue their education close to home.

Additionally, NICC plans to introduce another Bachelor's program focused on Indigenous Environmental Health in Fall 2025. NICC is also developing an Associate in Applied Science degree in Industrial Trades to meet the demand from local businesses and address needs within our communities.

All three new programs have been created in response to the needs of the communities, primarily in rural areas.

Nebraska Indian 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.

NICC currently offers 12 certificates and 8 associate degrees. The College will soon offer two bachelor's degrees to the students and communities that NICC serves. The College is committed to preparing Tribal citizens to reach their full potential in an ever-changing and complex Nation. NICC believes in empowering its students by equipping them with the tools they need for Tribal Nation-building. This will allow our communities to achieve greater Tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

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)	



NICC is developing an archive for physical collections (such as genealogical scrolls pictured here), as well as digitizing language and historical records.



NICC Members standing within the greenhouses on campus.



NICC collaborated with the Native Nations Institute out of Arizona State to offer a Tribal Nation Building Two-Day Seminar in South Sioux City.

Nebraska Indian 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.

The Native American Studies Department at Nebraska Indian Community College has seen a surge in students following the launch of the Bachelor of Arts in Tribal Nation Building Program, which began in the Fall of 2023.

In the Spring of 2024, some courses had prerequisites added and course descriptions revised to align them more closely with the Bachelor of Arts in Tribal Nation Building Program.



NICC Faculty at the May 2024 Commencement Ceremony

PRIORITIES

How can the 119th Congress support Tribal Colleges and Universities like Nebraska Indian Community College?

FEDERAL FUNDING

1. Restore USDA Community Facilities
2. Support TCU Construction line in Interior- BIE (not funded since 1978)
3. Sign onto TCU Dear Colleague Letter
4. Support TCUs in our workforce areas
 - a. WIOA, PELL, FEHB, FERS
5. Eliminate the 100% match on NBTS