



Sinte Gleska University

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.

Sinte Gleska University: AT A GLANCE

- Enrollment Trends (Spring 2024/Fall 2024): 627 Students, 529 of that number were Native American
- Affordable Tuition: \$175 per credit hour (100-400 Level Courses), \$200 per credit hour (500-600 Level Courses)
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 1:8
- Part-time/Full-time: 395 Part-time/232 Full-time, Native Students 317 Part-time/212 Full-time
- Persistence Rate: 49%
- Highest Level of Degree/Program Available: Master of Arts (MA), Master of Education (M.Ed.)
- TRIO Program: No



Sinte Gleska University (SGU) provides essential support services to students, including transportation to and from campus; free, nutritious lunches; high-quality daycare through SGU Daycare Center; emergency aid through the Ascendium grant; and a free computer for first-time students to help enhance their chances of success.



Sinte Gleska University: 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 SGU welding program got off to an outstanding start. SGU held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new welding building in December 2024. So far, students have trained in Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) using short circuit and pulsed spray metal transfer techniques. Additionally, students have practiced on mild steel of varying thicknesses, including 14-gauge, 1/8 inch, 3/16 inch, 1/4 inch, and 3/8 inch. Students utilized C-10 and C-25 gases while conducting training welds. During this course, students gain knowledge in shop safety and the safe operation and maintenance protocols of welding and cutting equipment. Through a partnership with Mitchell Technical Institute, SGU instructors and students can learn about welding procedures and qualifications.



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Sinte Gleska University: 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.

Lakota Pathway to the Stars!

SGU has an exciting new program, the Lakota Pathway to the Stars! In collaboration with NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, the University is working to prepare a model habitat for living on the planet Mars.

This project is driven by curriculum, workforce training, and research. Additive Manufacturing, commonly known as 3D printing, will be a key focus of SGU's program, teaching students how to 3D print large cement structures like houses and community centers.

Students will also explore local materials that can be used for 3D-printed buildings. Through this program, graduates will be able to contribute to the local workforce by assisting Tribal housing authorities. Due to the housing shortage in the region (Oceti Sakowin territories), this program has piqued Tribal interest in building 3D-printed homes.

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)



Sinte Gleska University: 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.

Sinte Gleska University offers an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S) degree in Licensed Practical Nursing. Through this program, students can earn certificate degrees in Certified Nursing Assistants or Medication Aides. As of February 2024, SGU's Nursing Program is fully approved by the South Dakota Board of Nursing. The University is committed to improving the educational experience and expanding opportunities for current and future students.