



# IAIA<sup>®</sup>

INSTITUTE OF  
AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS

## INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS: PRIORITIES FOR THE 118<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS

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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.





## FACTS

### Enrollment Trends (Spring 2020/Fall 2022)

Spring 2022 FTE (462) enrollment decreased by 1.7% from Spring 2020 (470)

Fall 2022 FTE (540) enrollment increased by 12.5% from Fall 2020 (480)

#### Fall Semester FTE Student Enrollment

	FA2020	FA2021	FA2022
Total	480	517	540

#### Spring Semester FTE Student Enrollment

	SP2020	SP2021	SP2022
Total	470	426	462

#### Affordable Tuition

\$4,926 per year; \$3,694 for online only

#### IAIA Retention Rates of First-time Undergraduate Freshmen and Transfer Students

Cohort	Retention Rates
Fall 2019	52%
Fall 2020	56%
Fall 2021	68%

#### Student-to-Faculty Ratio

9:1

#### IAIA Annual Degree Production

Academic Year	Awards
2018–2019	62
2019–2020	83
2020–2021	85

#### Highest Level of Degree Available

Master of Fine Arts

#### TRIO Programs

No

### Enrollment and Critical Support Services

Full-time student enrollment increased for each of the fall semesters (2020–2022). Additionally, IAIA collaborated with UWILL, a Counseling Agency that serves the students, faculty and staff with virtual counseling. Because of the increase in suicidal ideation, we joined the JED Campus designed to help guide us through a collaborative process of comprehensive systems, program and policy development with customized support to build upon existing student mental health, substance use, and suicide prevention efforts. The IAIA pantry expanded to support students with food gift cards to make off-campus food purchases. We also increased cultural ceremonial services and continued prevention programming for suicide prevention, mental health awareness, healthy relationship awareness, and reducing risk in substance use and training for students and counselors. We support students with emergency aid to help support health care, child care, loss of employment, and housing.

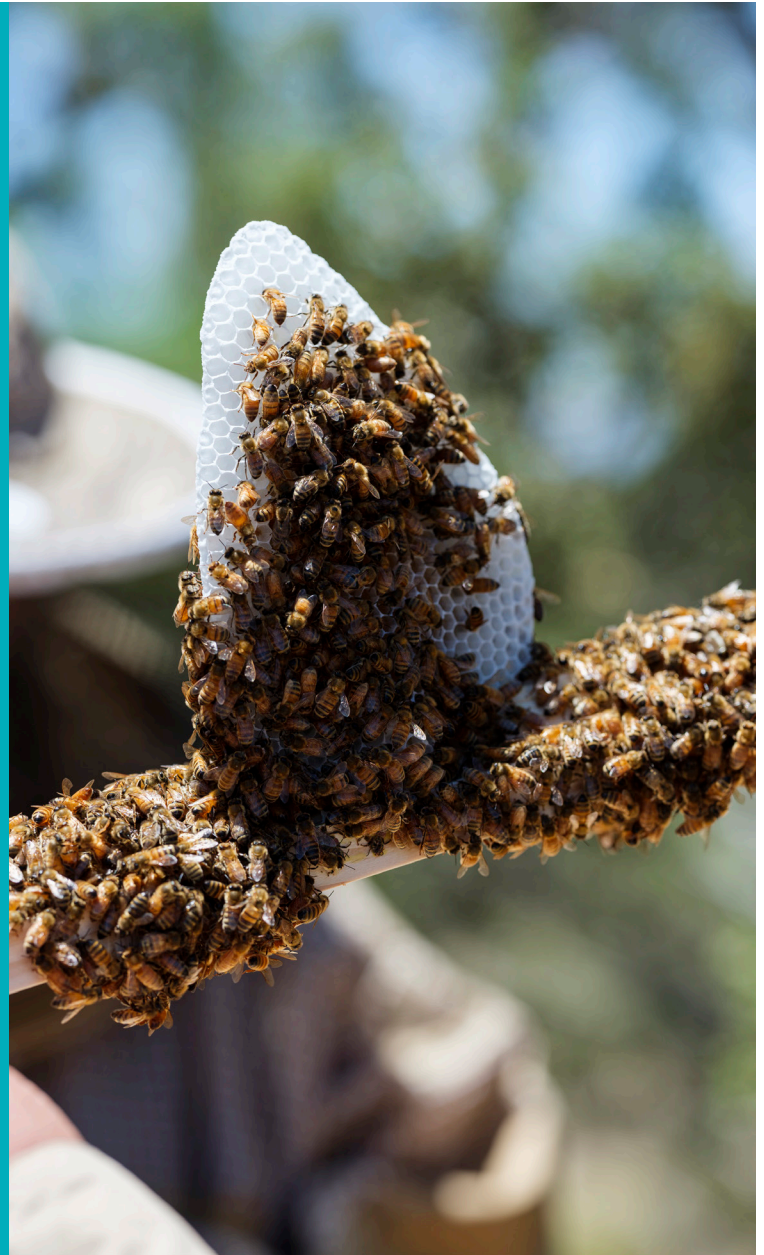


## **INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS: 1994 LAND-GRANT PROGRAMS**

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.

The Institute of American Indian Arts Land-Grant Extension program has introduced beekeeping, hives, and apiary management to Tribal communities in New Mexico and Oklahoma. By providing our hive hosts with hives, equipment, and the appropriate apiary management training, bees are available within the communities to support their agricultural efforts. The communities are also encouraged to follow organic farming practices to provide healthy forage for the bees. Gardening videos from our Extension program are available on our website to give the communities additional information to support and promote sustainable and organic agricultural practices while increasing local and traditional food production.

Youth are also directly impacted by our programs. Our Junior Master Gardener online program is open to youth in Tribal Communities across the country. The program teaches the basics of agriculture, botany, and entomology in relation to their culture while learning healthy eating habits.



## **REQUEST: \$40 MILLION TCU IT SERVICE FUND USDA—RURAL UTILITY SERVICE**

The ongoing pandemic has exacerbated the digital divide and underscored the lack of broadband access across Indian Country. To address these deficiencies that could leave Indian Country—and AIAN students—behind the rest of the US for generations, Congress must act to establish a permanent TCU IT Service Fund within the USDA-Rural Utilities Service Program. An annual \$40 million set aside for TCUs, which are 1994 land-grant institutions served by USDA, would help cover rapidly increasing network, connectivity, and equipment costs, maintenance, infrastructure expansion, and IT staffing.

## **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 twenty-first century campuses.



## **INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS: BROADBAND AND IT CHALLENGES**

- To improve network performance and enhance productivity, the college's internet bandwidth speed will be increased, from 1Gbps to 2Gbps during the spring 2023 semester.
- A project was undertaken to replace outdated fiber in six of the oldest buildings on campus. As a result, all facilities on campus are now served by Cat6 fiber, greatly improving network performance.
- To improve exterior network access and increase opportunities for outdoor teaching, ten new wireless access points were installed across campus, in some of the most popular outside gathering spaces.
- The college is committed to protecting its data and ensuring business continuity in the IT area. As a result, all local servers are backed up by a co-location facility. This service is essential but costs more than \$20,000/yr.
- To safeguard the college against losses that result from cyber liability, comprehensive insurance coverage is maintained. However, in recent years, the cost of this coverage has increased exponentially. This has posed a significant challenge to the college's IT budget.

## **INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS: CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, REHABILITATION**

During the past fiscal year, IAIA has undertaken the following projects to improve the learning environment for our students, enhance the campus, and continue work on the college's commitment to sustainability.

- 208 solar panels were installed on the roof of IAIA's sculpture and foundry building, producing over 155,000kWh per year.
- Large, rooftop HVAC units were replaced or repaired on several of IAIA's most student-centric buildings, including the library, dorms, student union, and Center for Lifelong Education. These improvements not only improve the air quality of these buildings but also ensure that their useful lives are extended for many years into the future.
- Work has begun on the new home of the IAIA Research Center for Contemporary Native Arts. Once completed, the location will serve as an extraordinary resource for scholars that wish to study works of contemporary Native art and the IAIA's extensive archives.
- A new 17,000 sq. ft. mixed-use family housing facility is in its design phase, with construction anticipated to start in fall 2023.