

Title VII: The Indian Education Program-Fact Sheet



What is the Indian Education Program described by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act?

According to the Department of Education, "the Indian Education program supports the efforts of school districts, Indian tribes and organizations, postsecondary institutions (like colleges and universities), and other entities to meet the unique educational and culturally related academic needs of American Indian and Alaska Native students so that they can meet the same challenging state student academic achievement standards as all other students."

How do California schools get funding under Title VII?

Under Title VII, schools in California are eligible for formula grants. Each local district receives at least \$3,000. School district applications for these grants must include academic content and student academic achievement goals, as well as benchmarks for attaining such goals, that are based on the challenging state academic content and achievement standards for all children adopted under Title I. Based on 2007 statistics (the latest available), the state is allotted an average of \$194 per Native Student.

Grant funds supplement the regular school program. *Projects* help Indian children sharpen their academic skills, assisting students in becoming proficient in the core content areas, and provide students an opportunity to participate in enrichment programs that would otherwise be unavailable. *Funds* support such activities as after-school programs, early childhood education, tutoring, and dropout prevention.

What can Title VII funding be used for?

According to the Department of Education, acceptable activities under this program include:

- Culturally related activities that support the application for funding
- Early childhood and family programs
- Enrichment programs that directly support the attainment of challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standard
- Integrated educational services
- Career preparation activities
- Activities concerning substance abuse and to prevent substance abuse
- Activities that incorporate American Indian- and Alaska Native-specific curriculum content, consistent with state standards, into the curriculum
- Family literacy services

The Department of Education includes a list of specific services and activities that fit within the above categories.

Permissible services include the following:

- Attendance—strategies
- Dropout prevention strategies
- Language Arts and/or Writing
- Literacy—Family
- Math, Intervention
- Math—Accelerated
- Native American Studies
- Native Language Instruction
- Pre-Advanced Placement (AP) Preparation
- Reading—Accelerated
- Reading—Enhancement and Writing
- Reading—Family Literacy
- Reading—Intervention
- Reading Recovery Program
- Reading—Success for All
- School Readiness
- Science
- Social Studies
- State or End of Course Exam Preparation
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Technology, Use and Proficiency
- Tribal History

Permissible activities include the following:

- ACT or SAT Preparation and Testing
- AP Coursework and Testing
- Career and/or College Guidance
- Civic Projects
- Counseling
- Creative Writing
- Credit Recovery or Completion
- Experiential Learning
- Libraries, Cultural Lending of Materials
- Multicultural Affairs or Events
- Storytelling
- Study Skills Development
- Student Clubs with Academic Emphasis
- Tutoring: Skill Development Individually
- Tutoring: Skill Development in Small Groups
- Tutoring: Homework Assistance Individually
- Tutoring: Homework Assistance in Small Groups
- Youth Leadership, Groups or

Programs, services, and activities that do not fit within any of the above categories are **not** eligible to be funded by Title VII's Indian Education formula grants.

The Title VII Parent Committee (PAC) serves as an advisory board for the Title VII Program. The Title VII PAC approves, in writing, the Title VII grant application, proposed budget, and any subsequent formal application amendments. The Parent Committee must assist in development and approve the annual grant proposal in order for our district to receive federal funding.

The Parent Advisory Committee must be composed of;

1. Parents/Guardians of students enrolled in the district, who meet the federal requirements for eligibility and with a valid ED506 form on file.
2. One or more district teachers not paid by Title VII funding.
3. One of more students enrolled in the district.
4. Parents/Guardians of students enrolled in the district, who meet the federal requirements for eligibility must constitute the majority.

In order to apply for a formula grant under the Indian Education Program, the school must determine the number of Indian children enrolled. Any child who meets the definition below may be counted for this purpose. Parents are not required to complete or submit an eligibility form to the district. However, if they choose not to submit a form, the school cannot count their child for funding under the program. The eligibility form will become part of a child's school record and will not need to be completed every year. The form is to be maintained at the school and information on the form will not be released without Parental written approval.

DEFINITION: Indian means any individual who is (1) a member (as defined by the Indian tribe or band) of an Indian tribe or band, including those Indian tribe or bands terminated since 1940, and those recognized by the State in which the tribe or band reside; or (2) a descendent in the first or second degree (parent or grandparent) as described in (1); or (3) considered by the Secretary of the Interior to be an Indian for any purpose; or (4) an Eskimo or Aleut or other Alaska Native; or (5) a member of an organized Indian group that received a grant under the Indian Education Act of 1988 as it was in effect October 19, 1994.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/indianformula/index.html>

Sources:

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, *No Child Left Behind: A Desktop Reference*, Washington, D.C., 2002.

"Indian Education Formula Grants." *U.S. Department of Education*. Web. 31 Mar. 2010.

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/indianformula/index.html>