




STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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HANNA SKANDERA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

April 11, 2017

To: Superintendents, Indian Education Directors, and Charter School Administrators

From: De Alva Calabaza, General Manager
Indian Education Division 

Through: Latifah Phillips
Assistant Secretary for Indian Education

Subject: NEW MEXICO INDIAN EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT AND
CULTURAL INCLUSION INITIATIVE

The PED-Indian Education Division is issuing a Request for Application (RFA) made available to the New Mexico public school districts, namely the twenty-three (23) school districts, and/or district-chartered or state-chartered schools who enroll a significant number of American Indian students. The purpose of the Indian Education School District Initiative is to provide a grant for a one year period to New Mexico public school districts, namely the twenty-three (23) school districts, and district-chartered or state-chartered schools that enroll a significant number of American Indian students for the purpose of improving academic and cultural achievement opportunities in alignment with the requirements of the Indian Education Act.

The PED-IED is administering this RFA in order to select LEAs that will receive state funding for implementing quality programs in the following priority areas:

- 1) Increasing attendance and reducing truancy;
- 2) Improving educational opportunities for American Indian students to keep them engaged in school and on a pathway to college and/or career success (i.e. Academic enrichment programs, after-school/Saturday/summer programs, project based learning opportunities geared specifically toward American Indian students, etc.);
- 3) Improve student outcomes by strengthening culturally responsive learning environments (i.e. culturally and linguistically responsive teaching, diversity and cultural sensitivity training etc.)



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- 4) Supporting the maintenance of Native language (Note: Applicants must demonstrate how this grant will be used in conjunction with other language funding streams available for supporting Native language programs in public schools.);
- 5) Addressing challenges that exist across schools and school systems (i.e. transition-planning, reduction in student mobility, addressing academic gaps, etc.).

The Indian Education Division will conduct a pre-application webinar. The pre-application webinar is scheduled as follows:

- **April 20, 2017** – Go To Meeting Webinar (1:30pm -3:30pm):
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/318483413>

The pre-application conference is required for all prospective applicants and/or designated staff from the Tribal governments. There will be discussion regarding different procedural methods for next year involving intergovernmental agreements between tribes/pueblos and NMPED.

The RFA is provided as an attachment to this memo and will be posted on the PED website at www.ped.state.nm.us. If you should have any questions, you may contact De Alva Calabaza at (505) 827-6679 or email at dealva.calabaza@state.nm.us.

Attachment