Education

Access to quality education is even more important in today's challenging economic climate, it is an essential strategy for creating jobs and securing the nation's future prosperity – particularly in tribal communities. An educated citizenry serves as a catalyst to boost tribal economic productivity and growth through a more highly-skilled competitive workforce, which can attract new businesses, reduce rampant high unemployment, stimulate reservation economies through direct spending, and foster a greater entrepreneurial spirit for all tribal members to become more self-sufficient. Education provides personal progression and wellness, which in turn increases social welfare and energizes tribal communities that are essential to protecting and advancing tribal sovereignty.

To give Indian tribes the necessary foundation for economic success and prosperity, the federal government must live up to its trust responsibility by providing adequate support for Native education. The requests below detail the minimum funding needed to sustain a system that is currently struggling and underfunded. NCAI has provided these FY 2018 Budget requests to illustrate the budgetary need for effectively serving Native students and strengthening tribal self-determination in education.

Agency	Appropriations Bill	Program	NCAI FY 2018 Request
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title I, Part A (Local Education Agency Grants)	\$20,000,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	State-Tribal Education Partnership (STEP) Program	\$5,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title VII funding, ESSA (Impact Aid Funding)	\$2,000,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title VI funding, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) (culturally-based education)	\$198,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Alaska Native Education Equity Assistance Program, Title VI, Part C	\$31,400,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Native Hawaiian Education Program, Title VI, Part B	\$32,400,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Indian Education Language Immersion Grants, Title VI, Part D	\$5,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Special Projects for Native Student, Including Native Youth Community Projects	\$37,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title III-A grants under the Higher Education Act for Tribal Colleges and Universities (Discretionary)	\$30,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Title III-A grants under the Higher Education Act for Tribal Colleges and Universities (Mandatory)	\$30,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Tribal Colleges and Universities: Adult/Basic Education	\$8,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Tribally Controlled Post-Secondary Career and Technical Institutions	\$10,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Native American-Serving, non-Tribal Institutions (Higher Education Act, Title III-F)	\$10,000,000
ED	Labor-HHS-Education	Tribal Education Departments (Dept. of Ed)	\$5,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Tribal Education Departments (DOI)	\$5,000,000

Commented [MdF1]: I've spoken with Ahniwake and education advocates with the Committee for Education Funding. We want to be strong in advocating for what should be provided, but \$25 billion will make Native advocates look bad in this environment. Education advocates are asking to cover changes to local grants due to a new set aside under ESSA that will decrease grants by \$200 million. The total they are asking for is \$450 million above \$14.9 billion. Further, ESSA lowers the authorizations to only \$16 billion in 2020 (\$15.01 billion in 2017.) Both would make our ask more than bold in the current environment. We recommend \$20 billion and not \$25 billion.

10D	Interior, Environment	Construction/Repair of Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Schools	\$263,400,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Johnson O'Malley	\$45,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Student Transportation	\$73,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Tribal Grant Support Costs (Administrative Cost Grants)	\$78,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Facilities Operations (BIE)	\$109,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Facilities Maintenance (BIE)	\$76,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Indian School Equalization Formula	\$431,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Education Management: Education IT	\$41,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	BIE Immersion Demonstration Grants	\$5,000,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Juvenile Detention Education	\$620,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Tribal Colleges and Universities' Institutional Operations, Titles I, II, and III of the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act	\$89,220,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Institute of American Indian Arts and Center for Lifelong Education & Museum (AIANNH Culture and Art Development Act)	\$11,948,000
DOI	Interior, Environment	Haskell Indian Nations University & Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (Snyder Act)	\$22,900,000
USDA	Agriculture	1994 Institutions Extension Program (NIFA)	\$15,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	1994 Institutions Research Program	\$7,500,000
USDA	Agriculture	1994 Institutions Educational Equity Grants	\$7,500,000
USDA	Agriculture	Native American Endowment Account (Corpus Payment)	\$136,000,000
USDA	Agriculture	Tribal Colleges and Universities Essential Community Facilities Program	\$10,000,000
HUD	Transportation, Housing and Urban Development	HUD-University Partnership Program for Tribal Colleges and Universities	\$5,500,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Indian Head Start	Provide full funding.
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	TCU Head Start Partnership Program	\$8,000,000
DHHS	Labor-HHS-Education	Native Languages Preservation, with Esther Martinez Program (EMP)	\$12,000,000 for NLP, with \$5,000,000 for EMP.
NSF	Commerce, Justice, and Science	Education and Human Resources Funding for Tribal Colleges and Universities	\$15,000,000