

Closing the Achievement Gap for American Indian/Alaskan Native Students Grant

581-018-0520

Definitions

The following definitions apply to OAR 581-018-0520 to 581-018-0535:

- (1) “Achievement gap” means the research-based gap in opportunity that often exists between students who are economically disadvantaged, students learning English as a second language and students who are African American, Hispanic or Native American and their White peers.
- (2) “American Indian”/ Alaskan Native means persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central American) and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- (3) “Closing the Achievement Gap for American Indian/Alaskan Native Students Grant” means the Grant established in OAR 581-018-0523 to implement ORS 342.950(3)(f).
- (4) “Culturally and/or linguistically diverse” means: students who identify as racial and/or ethnically diverse (Hispanic, African American, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander) or whose native language is not English.
- (5) “Culturally competent” means the ability to successfully teach students who come from a culture or cultures other than our own. It entails developing certain personal and interpersonal awareness and sensitivities, understanding certain bodies of cultural knowledge, and mastering a set of skills that, taken together, underlie effective cross-cultural teaching and culturally responsive teaching.
- (6) “Culturally relevant” means pedagogy and practices that propose the following: students must experience academic success, students must develop and/or maintain cultural competence, and students must develop a critical consciousness through which they challenge the status quo of the current social order.
- (7) “Culturally responsive” means the implicit use of the cultural knowledge, prior experiences, frames of reference, and performance styles of diverse students to make learning more appropriate and effective for them.
- (8) “Non-profit organization” means:
 - (a) An organization established as a nonprofit organization under the laws of Oregon; and
 - (b) Qualifies as an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in ORS 314.011.
- (9) “Postsecondary Institution” means a:
 - (a) A community college operated under ORS chapter 341.
 - (b) The following public universities within the Oregon University System:
 - (A) University of Oregon.
 - (B) Oregon State University.
 - (C) Portland State University.
 - (D) Oregon Institute of Technology.
 - (E) Western Oregon University.
 - (F) Southern Oregon University.
 - (G) Eastern Oregon University.
 - (H) Oregon Health and Science University.
 - (I) An Oregon-based, generally accredited, not-for-profit institution of higher education.
- (10) “Systemic Equity” means: the transformed ways in which systems and individuals habitually operate to ensure that every learner--in whatever learning environment that learner is

found--has the greatest opportunity to learn enhanced by the resources and supports necessary to achieve competence, excellence, independence, responsibility, and self-sufficiency for school and for life.

(11) "Title VII Indian Education" means: a federally funded program receiving United State Department of Education Title VII – Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native Education funding.

(12) "Tribe" means:

- (a) The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation.
- (b) The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.
- (c) The Burns-Paiute Tribe.
- (d) The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon.
- (e) The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde.
- (f) The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians.
- (g) The Confederated Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Tribes.
- (h) The Klamath Tribe.
- (i) The Coquille Tribe.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 342.950

Stat. Implemented: ORS 342.950

581-018-0523

Establishment

(1) There is established the Closing the Achievement Gap for American Indian/Alaskan Native Students Grant to support school districts or consortia of school districts in direct partnership with an Oregon Tribe, who are working to design, implement, improve, expand, or otherwise infuse culturally responsive pedagogy by leveraging the knowledge and expertise of Oregon Tribes, Title VII Indian Education programs, native communities, non-profit organizations, and postsecondary institutions.

(2) Subject to available funds, the grants will be awarded for the biennium based on a detailed description of proposed programming or services. This can include but is not limited to:

- (a) Planning phase.
- (b) Implementation phase.
- (c) Program evaluation phase.

(3) The purpose of the grant program is to provide funds to school districts or consortia of school districts in direct partnership with an Oregon Tribe, that understand the unique needs of American Indian/Alaskan Native students, who have the potential to become exemplar programs and who can create collaborative practices around:

- (a) Strengthening relationships between district, local community and tribal governance;
- (b) Engaging and building collaboration with postsecondary institutions to assist with identifying evidence based practices and best practices;
- (c) Enhance the cultural competence of educators;
- (d) Develop, implement, and evaluate best practices for increasing academic outcomes of AI/AN;
- (e) Develop or expand opportunities to include AI/AN language and culture in classrooms; and
- (f) Potential for becoming an exemplar program focused on this work.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 342.950

Stat. Implemented: ORS 342.950

581-018-0526

Eligibility

(1) To be eligible to receive the Closing the Achievement Gap for American Indian/Alaskan Native Students Grant an organization must:

- (a) Be a school district or consortia of school districts
- (b) Maintain a current partnership with one or more of Oregon's Tribes
- (c) Show evidence of American Indian/Alaskan Native student population using Fall 2013 student membership – evidence of enrolling a minimum of 15% American Indian/Alaskan Native students population as compared to total student population and a minimum of 100 American Indian/Alaskan Native students; and
- (d) Be willing to work with a consultant, provided by Oregon Department of Education, to receive guidance and support during all phases of the funding cycle.

(2) A single grant proposal may include more than one eligible applicant and other entities but the lead agency for the proposal must be a school district.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 342.950

Stat. Implemented: ORS 342.950

581-018-0529

Criteria

(1) The Oregon Department of Education shall establish a request for proposal solicitation and approval process to be conducted for the Closing the Achievement Gap for American Indian/Alaskan Native Students Grant funds. All proposals must comply with the requirements of ORS 342.950 and rules adopted to implement that section.

(2) Grants shall be awarded based on the following criteria:

- (a) Whether the grant application identifies how the funds will be used to reach the 40-40-20 goal and improve education outcomes for American Indian/Alaskan Native students as identified by the Oregon Education Investment Board Equity Lens document.
- (b) Whether the grant applicant demonstrates support, commitment and readiness to design or revise programming specifically for AI/NA students.
- (c) Evidence of development, implementation, and evaluation of best practices for increasing academic outcomes of AI/NA students.
- (d) Evidence of development, implementation, and teaching of culturally relevant & accurate AI/NA curriculum.
- (e) Developing or expanding opportunities to include AI/NA language & culture in classrooms.
- (f) Demonstrates the potential for becoming an exemplar program focused on this work.

(3) The Department shall give priority to proposals that meet the minimum criteria and:

(a) Provide a sustainability plan to continue the program for at least two years after the grant funding has ended.

(b) The extent to which the applicant clearly documents its capacity to implement and carry out programming and services for closing the achievement gap for AI/NA student populations, including demonstrated intentions to work in a collaborative way with other school districts, Tribes, Title VII Indian Education programs, and native communities.

(c) Showing evidence which supports strengthening relationships between district, local community and tribal governance.

(d) Engaging & building collaboration with postsecondary institutes to assist with identifying evidence based practices.

(e) Increased community involvement, parent engagement, student participation for improved academic, behavioral, and truancy outcomes.

(f) Use of curriculum and materials identified by the Department of Education as part of the Multicultural Education Act under ORS 336.113 and Oregon Studies under ORS 342.492, as a guide for curriculum development.

(4) The Department of Education shall allocate funds for the grant program based on the evaluation of the grant application and the following considerations:

(a) Geographic location of the district or consortia of districts to insure geographic diversity within the recipients of grant program funds throughout the state;

(b) Districts showing evidence of American Indian/Alaskan Native student population using Fall 2013 student membership - minimum of 15% American Indian/Alaskan Native student population as compared to total student population and a minimum of 100 American Indian/Alaskan Native students; and

(c) Give consideration to districts that have documented success in improving student outcomes and closing achievement gaps for AI/NA students or to entities who have demonstrated a robust plan for how to accomplish this work.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 342.950

Stat. Implemented: ORS 342.950

581-018-0532

Funding

(1) The Department may award up to five grants. Each grantee may receive up to \$90,000 which shall be awarded during the following phases based on a detailed budget narrative and budget template:

(a) Planning phase.

(b) Implementation phase.

(c) Evaluation phase.

(2) Grantees shall use funds received for the planning, implementation, and evaluation phases of the grant for activities outlined in the request for proposal.

(3) Grantees must be able to expend the funds for allowable purposes specified in the request for proposal within the grant timeline according to acceptable accounting procedures.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 342.950

Stat. Implemented: ORS 342.950

581-018-0535

Reporting

The Oregon Department of Education shall provide to grant recipients a template for an interim and final grant report. Grantees are required to submit a final report prior to receiving their final request for funds.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 342.950

Stat. Implemented: ORS 342.950