

U.S. Department of the Interior **Bureau of Indian Education**

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: EXECUTIVE ORDER ON EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM AND OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILIES

Tribes/Public Session: July 14, 2025, 12:00-2:00 pm (ET)

Tribes/Public Session: July 14, 2025, 2:30-4:30 pm (ET)



BEFORE WE BEGIN...



As a courtesy, please mute your phones/microphones.



Upon signing in, please enter your name in the chat box.



If you have verbal comments, please raise your hand using the Zoom reaction feature. Comments may also be typed in the chat box.

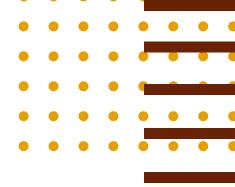


This session will be recorded.

AGENDA

- Opening Prayer
- Consultation Overview
- Introductions of Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Presenters
- Purpose of Consultation
- Comments
- Wrap-up

PRAYER



Mrs. Colleen Clark, Education Program Specialist, Division of Performance and Accountability



CONSULTATION COMMENTS OVERVIEW

- DOI Tribal Consultations are closed to the public and the press.
- This session is recorded and transcribed.
- For tribal leaders, elected representatives, and education stakeholders prior to making a comment, please state:
 - Your Name
 - Your Title
 - Your Tribal Affiliation

INTRODUCTIONS OF BIE REPRESENTATIVES

- Tony Dearman, Director, Bureau of Indian Education
 U.S. Department of the Interior
- Margo Delaune, Associate Deputy Director
 Division of Performance and Accountability, BIE
- Carmelia Becenti, Chief Academic Officer, BIE

Mission

In partnership with Indigenous Nations, the BIE promotes a culturally based, holistic education that prepares and empowers students to be healthy and successful.

Vision

Excellence in Student-Centered, Indigenous Education.



PURPOSE OF CONSULTATION

On January 23, 2025, President Trump issued an Executive Order (EO) to Expand Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families.

The EO Section 7 directs the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) within 90 days to review any available mechanisms under which families of students eligible to attend Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools may use their Federal funding for educational options of their choice, including private, faith-based, or public charter schools.

EO Section 7 also directs the Secretary to submit a plan to the President describing such mechanisms and the steps necessary to implement them for the 2025-26 school year.

Seeking Input from Tribes/Stakeholders

Consultation is being conducted to seek meaningful and timely input from Tribes and stakeholders on the EO and related topics including:

- 1) Reserving nearly \$1.3 million of BIE's Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) allocation pursuant to ESEA Section 1003A to allow schools to offer a range of direct student service options. These options will allow parents to exercise a meaningful choice in their child's education. Such options may include access to advanced courses, dual enrollment, academic tutoring, career and technical education, personalized learning, and out-of-school activities;
- 2) Determining the interests of Tribes exercising authority to assume control of BIE-operated schools under the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 and directing ongoing technical assistance to interested parties;
- 3) Increasing the number of Tribal Education Department (TED) grants ahead of the 2025-26 school year to increase local control of education by Tribes and their TEDs; and
- 4) Hosting additional stakeholder input before the 2025-26 school year to strengthen postsecondary pathway development for students.

Soliciting Feedback Regarding Available Mechanisms

Given the Executive Order (EO) to Expand Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families,

Using the \$1.3 million of BIE's Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) allocation pursuant to ESEA Section 1003A to allow schools to offer a range of direct student service options, what eligibility criteria should be in place for a BIE school to apply for such funds to allow students to access to advanced courses, dual enrollment, academic tutoring, career and technical education, personalized learning, and out-of-school activities?

Soliciting Feedback Regarding Eligibility Criteria

Given the Executive Order (EO) to Expand Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families,

What criteria should be in place for Tribes exercising authority to assume control of BIEoperated schools under the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 and directing the ongoing technical assistance to interested parties?

Soliciting Feedback Regarding Educational Options

Given the Executive Order (EO) to Expand Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families,

How should BIE increase the number of Tribal Education Department (TED) grants ahead of the 2025-26 school year to increase local control of education by Tribes and their TEDs?

Soliciting Feedback Regarding Educational Options

Given the Executive Order (EO) to Expand Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families,

How should BIE strengthen postsecondary pathway development for students?

QUESTIONS AND FEEDBACK

To accommodate all feedback and to stay focused on the questions BIE is needing feedback on, please limit your comments to three (3) minutes.

Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes to accommodate feedback from other participants and stay focused on the Expanding Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families Executive Order.

Each BIE logo represents one (1) minute. Another text box will show when time is complete.



WE NEED YOUR INPUT

- Click on the link to access the Executive Order on <u>Expanding Educational</u> <u>Freedom and Opportunity for Families - The White House</u>
- Send comments by email to consultationcomments@bie.edu with "Executive Order to Expand Educational Freedom and Opportunities for Families" in the email subject line or to Juanita Mendoza, 1849 C Street, NW, MS 3609, Washington, DC 20240.
- For Information Contact:
 - Juanita Mendoza, Special Assistant to the Director
 - Phone: (202) 208-3559
 - Email: <u>Juanita.Mendoza@bie.edu</u>

NEXT STEPS

Please submit comments by Friday July 25, 2025, II:59pm Pacific Time

Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes to accommodate feedback from other participants and stay focused on the Expanding Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families Executive Order.

Each BIE logo represents one (1) minute. Another text box will show when time is complete.



