



BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

Mission

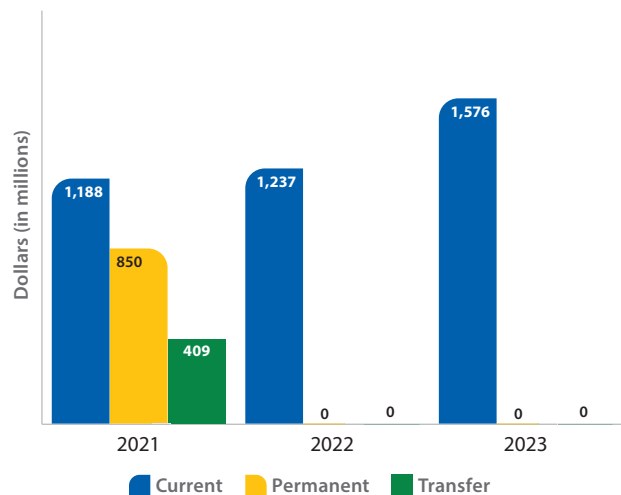
The mission of the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) is to provide students at BIE-funded schools with a culturally relevant, high-quality education that prepares students with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to flourish in the opportunities of tomorrow, become healthy and successful individuals, and lead their communities and sovereign nations to a thriving future that preserves their unique cultural identities.

Budget Overview

The 2023 President’s Budget for BIE is \$1.6 billion in current appropriations. The budget includes key investments to strengthen BIE’s autonomy as a Federal agency and improve local services for tribally controlled and bureau-operated schools while also advancing equity for historically underserved Tribal communities. BIE estimates the budget supports staffing of 3,227 full-time equivalents (FTEs) in 2023.

The United States has a trust and treaty responsibility to provide eligible Indian students with a quality education. BIE serves as a capacity builder and service provider to support Tribes in delivering culturally appropriate education with high academic standards to allow students across Indian Country to achieve success. BIE funding supports classroom instruction, student transportation, Native language development programs, cultural enrichment, gifted and talented programs, facility operations, and maintenance at BIE schools operated by Tribes or directly by BIE. In some schools—mostly in remote sites—funding also supports residential costs. BIE operates two postsecondary institutions, administers grants for

BIE Funding



29 tribally controlled colleges and universities, and funds two Tribal technical colleges.

The 2023 budget supports improved educational opportunities and service delivery for Native American students from their earliest years through college. BIE is implementing ongoing reforms to strengthen itself as an independent bureau and increase accountability and transparency throughout the organization. This multiyear process is transforming BIE into an organization that serves as a capacity builder and service provider to support Tribes in educating their youth and delivering a world-class and culturally appropriate education.

Operation of Indian Education Programs

The 2023 budget for the Operation of Indian Education Programs account is \$1.2 billion. The



- The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) provides education services to 45,000 students, with an average daily membership of 40,000 students in 23 States, 169 elementary and secondary schools, and 14 dormitories.
- Currently, 129—or 70 percent of—BIE-funded elementary schools, secondary schools, and dormitories are tribally controlled and operate under the direction of individual Tribal governments.
- BIE also provides funding to 33 colleges, universities, and postsecondary schools.

core mission of BIE is supporting bureau-operated and tribally controlled schools and administering grants to Tribal institutions of higher education.

Elementary and Secondary Programs

The request includes \$891.5 million for operating the entire BIE elementary and secondary school system—169 elementary and secondary schools and 14 dormitories—by providing educational services to approximately 45,000 students in 23 States. Funds support the basic and supplemental education programs at BIE-funded schools, student transportation, facility operations, and maintenance.

The 2023 request includes targeted funding to improve Indian student academic outcomes, address maintenance needs, support expanded preschool and Native language programs, and provide pay parity for Tribal teachers while fully

funding projected Tribal Grant Support Costs. The budget provides \$507.7 million for Indian School Equalization Program funds to improve opportunities and outcomes in the classroom, provide improved instructional services, and support improved teacher quality, recruitment, and retention. The request level of \$21.5 million for Education Program Enhancements supports professional development for teachers, advances the quality of in-classroom instruction, and incorporates improved Native language and culture programs in classrooms. Early Child and Family Development funding of \$25.3 million enables BIE to expand preschool opportunities at BIE-funded schools.

Facilities Operations and Maintenance is proposed at \$146.4 million; it includes investments to keep pace with operational cost increases and support the timely maintenance and replacement of equipment at BIE schools. The budget also includes \$26.6 million for the Johnson-O’Malley program, which is authorized to support the individualized educational needs of eligible Indian students enrolled in public schools and previously private schools.

The budget continues to invest in activities that promote educational self-determination for Tribal communities and includes \$97.5 million for Tribal Grant Support Costs for Tribes that choose to operate BIE-funded schools. This level of funding supports 100 percent of the estimated requirement.

Postsecondary Programs

The request includes \$185.2 million for Postsecondary Programs. The 2023 budget continues recognition of the critical role Tribal postsecondary



Grand opening of Laguna Elementary School in Scottsdale, AZ.

BIEPhoto.

institutions have in empowering Indian students and promoting equity for Tribal communities. These institutions are on or near reservations; they directly serve Tribal communities with culturally relevant education and career pathways in a supportive environment. Postsecondary education of Tribal members remains an essential component in the economic development of many Tribes.

The proposed budget will provide \$30.3 million for BIE-operated Haskell Indian Nations University and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, \$86.5 million for grants to 29 Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and \$13.7 million for grants for two Tribal Technical Colleges.

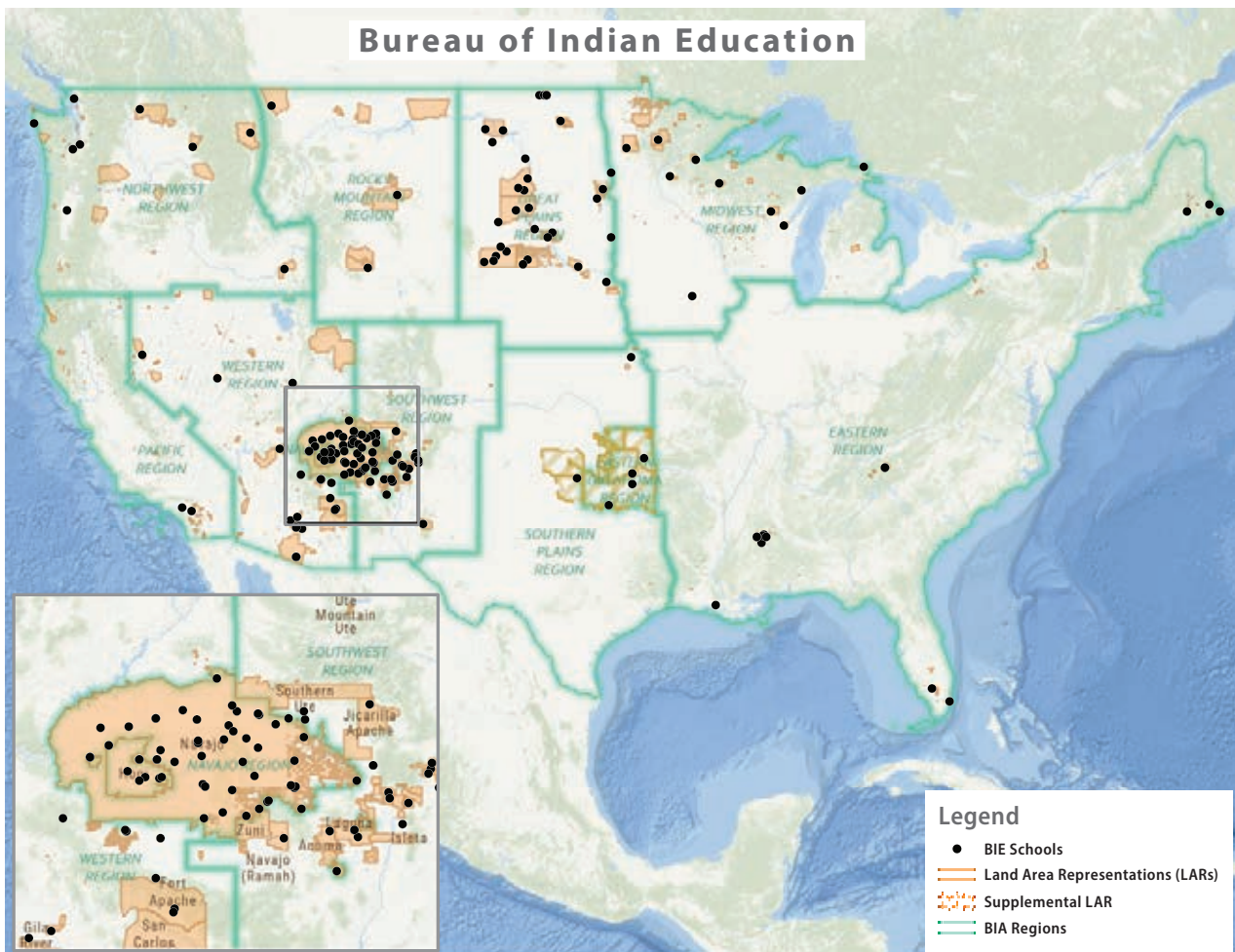
Postsecondary Programs have funds for multiple scholarship programs, including \$45.0 million for the Scholarships and Adult Education program to improve educational opportunities and serve a larger population of qualified Native American

students. The program supports Administration priorities through educational grants to Tribal communities, which have been historically underserved and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality.

BIE is investing \$2.0 million in a new initiative that provides research and development (R&D) internships to highly qualified students from economically disadvantaged rural communities. The program will complement the existing Science Post Graduate Scholarship Fund and support R&D investments that provide actionable and accessible information and decision support tools.

Education Management

The request includes \$78.9 million for education management and information technology (IT) to optimize learning opportunities for students of all ages. Education Program Management (EPM) funding supports ongoing improvements



in high-priority functional areas, including acquisition, school safety and repairs, performance tracking, and technical support to the field. Other management activities include data collection, analysis, and reporting; financial and accounting functions; oversight and coordination of major facility repairs; and management of grant applications. BIE IT includes the Native American Student Information System, wide area network infrastructure, and general support systems used by BIE-funded schools.



Students and staff at Nenahnezad Community School in Fruitland, NM.

BIE Photo.

EPM initiatives in 2023 include the startup of a School Operations Office of Self-Determination to develop Tribal capacity and promote maximum Indian participation in educational programs and services, the Justice40 initiative aligned with Administration priorities, and BIE's Social Emotional Learning project to develop a national curriculum to support behavioral health and wellness programs at BIE-funded schools. In addition, the 2023 request funds a BIE Pathways Program Coordinator to strengthen outreach and recruitment of highly qualified Native American students for internships and careers in education.

The budget proposes \$38.5 million for Education IT to support the ongoing costs of distance learning and enhanced classroom technology. BIE continues to collaborate with Tribes and communities to alleviate strains imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic on BIE students and their families, teachers, administrators, and other staff members in K–12 schools and at TCUs. The 2023 budget request will enable BIE to leverage ongoing infrastructure investments in new technology and operational capabilities at BIE-funded schools, including the new Education Learning Management System, by supporting comprehensive online delivery of educational courses to students and professional development opportunities for

teachers. Education IT resources will continue the annual learning software subscriptions and licenses, support contract extensions needed to maintain this investment, and support educational IT personnel costs for remote learning and additional broadband capabilities.

The Payments for Tribal Leases are accounted for in the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) budget and used to administer BIA and BIE section 105(l) leases of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. The President's Budget reflects the Administration's support for the principles of Tribal self-determination and strengthening Tribal communities across Indian Country by proposing to reclassify 105(l) leases as current mandatory spending in 2023. This funding will provide Tribes with certainty in meeting these ongoing needs through dedicated funding sources.

Tribal Priority Allocations

Tribal Priority Allocations (TPAs) give Tribes the opportunity to further Indian self-determination by establishing their priorities and reallocating Federal funds among programs in this budget category. The 2023 budget includes TPA funding of \$72.8 million.

Education Construction

The 2023 budget includes \$420.1 million in annual funding for Education Construction to replace and repair school facilities and address deferred maintenance needs at campuses in the BIE school system. This funding includes substantial investments to address the climate crisis with more sustainable BIE infrastructure. Whenever feasible, BIE facilities projects incorporate techniques to reduce energy and water consumption, as well as greenhouse gas emissions, and prepare the facilities for the predicted effects of climate change. The Indian Affairs (IA) Office of Facilities, Property and Safety Management—in close coordination with BIE—manages the Site Assessment and Capital Investment (SACI) Program, a comprehensive approach to assess the conditions of bureau-funded schools and prioritize requirements for campus improvements. The SACI Program follows formalized procedures that respect Tribal sovereignty and self-determination and result in consensus agreements with schools, Tribes, and IA for major renovations and new construction projects. The SACI Program will result in a long-term facilities plan that is continuously updated and adjusts to changes in education construction funding and evaluation or selection criteria.

Replacing or repairing BIE-funded schools is a high priority that has produced tangible results,

with four new campuses opened to students in 2021 and another three schools to be completed in 2022. In addition, one facility replacement project is under construction, and eight schools are in various stages of planning and design.

The proposed \$255.5 million for Replacement School Construction and \$23.9 million for Replacement Facility Construction is critical to ensuring that all Native students can develop in an environment conducive to quality educational achievement. With the Replacement School Construction, Replacement Facility Construction, and Great American Outdoors Act (Public Law 116-152) funding anticipated through 2022, BIE expects to fully fund the replacement of all 10 schools on the 2016 replacement list and 2 schools from the SACI Program. The 2023 budget will support planning, design, and construction work at an additional six BIE schools; final allocations are pending completion of the design phase and refined cost estimates for each school. An additional \$140.7 million is included for other housing and facilities repair programs, including \$15.0 million for Tribal Colleges Facilities Improvement and Repair.

Fixed Costs

Fixed costs of \$18.3 million are fully funded.



New facility at Beatrice Rafferty School in Perry, ME.

BIE Photo.

SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS

(dollar amounts in thousands)

Comparison of 2023 Request with 2022 CR

	2022 CR		2023 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Current						
Operation of Indian Education Programs	2,346	973,092	2,682	1,155,634	+336	+182,542
Education Construction	11	264,277	14	420,102	+3	+155,825
Subtotal, Current	2,357	1,237,369	2,696	1,575,736	+339	+338,367
Reimbursable	526	0	531	0	+5	0
TOTAL, BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION	2,883	1,237,369	3,227	1,575,736	+344	+338,367

HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

APPROPRIATION: Operation of Indian Education Programs

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Elementary and Secondary (<i>forward funded</i>)				
ISEP Formula Funds	426,838	426,838	500,636	+73,798
ISEP Program Adjustments	5,585	5,585	7,039	+1,454
Education Program Enhancements	14,451	14,451	21,525	+7,074
Tribal Education Departments	5,000	5,000	5,007	+7
Student Transportation	58,143	58,143	61,007	+2,864
Early Childhood and Family Development	21,000	21,000	25,267	+4,267
Tribal Grant Support Costs	86,884	86,884	97,453	+10,569
Subtotal, Elementary and Secondary (<i>forward funded</i>)	617,901	617,901	717,934	+100,033
Elementary and Secondary Programs				
Facilities Operations	69,785	69,785	76,888	+7,103
Facilities Maintenance	61,999	61,999	69,544	+7,545
Juvenile Detention Center Education	553	553	555	+2
Johnson-O'Malley Assistance Grants (<i>TPA</i>)	21,140	21,140	26,570	+5,430
Subtotal, Elementary and Secondary Programs	153,477	153,477	173,557	+20,080
Postsecondary Programs (<i>forward funded</i>)				
Haskell and SIPI	26,258	26,258	30,325	+4,067
Tribal Colleges and Universities	76,510	76,510	86,510	+10,000
Tribal Technical Colleges	8,151	8,151	13,656	+5,505
Subtotal, Postsecondary Programs (<i>forward funded</i>)	110,919	110,919	130,491	+19,572
Postsecondary Programs				
Tribal Colleges and Universities Supplements (<i>TPA</i>)	1,220	1,220	1,220	0
Scholarships and Adult Education (<i>TPA</i>)	34,833	34,833	45,049	+10,216

APPROPRIATION: Operation of Indian Education Programs *(continued)*

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Special Higher Education Scholarships	3,492	3,492	3,492	0
Science Postgraduate Scholarship Fund	2,950	2,950	4,950	+2,000
Subtotal, Postsecondary Programs	42,495	42,495	54,711	+12,216
Education Management				
Education Program Management	32,956	32,956	40,441	+7,485
Education IT	15,344	15,344	38,500	+23,156
Subtotal, Education Management	48,300	48,300	78,941	+30,641
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(w/o transfers)</i>	973,092	973,092	1,155,634	+182,542
Transfers ^{1/}	+359,759	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(w/ transfers)</i>	1,332,851	973,092	1,155,634	+182,542

^{1/} The 2021 Actual net amount includes a transfer of \$409.4 million from the Education Stabilization Fund. More Information can be found in Appendix A.

APPROPRIATION: Education Construction

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Replacement School Construction	115,504	115,504	255,504	+140,000
Replacement Facility Construction	23,935	23,935	23,935	0
Replacement/New Employee Housing	1,000	1,000	4,000	+3,000
Employee Housing Repair	13,581	13,581	13,595	+14
Facilities Improvement and Repair	95,257	95,257	108,068	+12,811
Tribal Colleges Facilities Improvement and Repair	15,000	15,000	15,000	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	264,277	264,277	420,102	+155,825

