

HOUSE BILL 136

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION; CREATING A STATEWIDE  
COLLEGE READINESS PROGRAM FOR AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENTS; MAKING  
AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** [NEW MATERIAL] AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE  
READINESS PROGRAM CREATED.--

A. The higher education department, in conjunction  
with public post-secondary educational institutions and tribal  
colleges in New Mexico, shall establish an "American Indian  
college readiness program" open to American Indian high school  
sophomores and juniors focused on:

(1) understanding the college admissions  
application process and strategies for selecting the best  
institution of higher education for each student;

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1 (2) issues specific to the transition from  
2 high school to college, including sociocultural challenges that  
3 American Indian students face and strategies to overcome those  
4 challenges;

5 (3) strategies for higher education success,  
6 including academic skills such as study strategies, classroom  
7 note taking, test preparation and time management;

8 (4) introduction to college academic  
9 requirements and expectations, including academic research and  
10 writing requirements; and

11 (5) American Indian student resources at New  
12 Mexico colleges and universities.

13 B. The program shall include summer residential  
14 programs of one to two weeks' duration at one or more New  
15 Mexico higher education campuses.

16 C. The department shall provide by rule for  
17 application and other program requirements as determined by the  
18 department and its higher education partners.

19 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**--Six hundred fifty thousand  
20 dollars (\$650,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the  
21 higher education department for expenditure in fiscal years  
22 2021 and 2022 to establish and implement the American Indian  
23 college readiness program. Any unexpended or unencumbered  
24 balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2022 shall revert  
25 to the general fund.

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