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2025-26 Tribally Controlled Colleges Assistance Grant Report Prepared for Legislative Council

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Purpose

In accordance with N.D.C.C. § 15-70-05, upon receipt of a completed Tribally Controlled Colleges Assistance Grant (TCCAG) application, colleges receiving a grant under this chapter are to submit a report to ND Legislative Council. The North Dakota University System (NDUS) prepares and submits this report each year on behalf of tribal institutions.

Background Information and Appropriations

The TCCAG funds are awarded based on full-time equivalency (FTE) enrollment data for non-beneficiary, ND resident students. One FTE is equal to 24 credits. For purposes of this grant, a non-beneficiary student is defined as a student who is a resident of ND, but who is not an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe or the child of an enrolled member. Residency is determined by the institution.

The funds awarded per FTE student cannot exceed the reimbursement rate provided through federal appropriations in accordance with the Tribally Controlled Colleges & Universities Act of 1978 [25 U.S.C. 20] to tribal colleges for Native American students. The 2025-26 federal student payment (ISC) amount is a maximum of $7,981.41. No more than fifty percent of the biennial appropriation of $1.6 million may be disbursed each year.

Award Information & Enrollments

The NDUS received applications from the five ND tribal colleges:

- Cankdeska Cikana Community College (CCCC)
- Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College (NHSC)
- Sitting Bull College (SBC)
- Turtle Mountain College (TMC)
- United Tribes Technical College (UTTC)

The total non-beneficiary FTE for the 2025-26 application period totaled 93.7. The appropriation available for the current award cycle is $800,000. Based on the ISC federal payment rate of $7,981.41 and 93.7 FTE, the 2025-26 base award is $747,858.12. An additional prorated amount of $52,141.88 will be issued to fully disburse the $800,000 in available funds. Award amounts are in accordance with N.D.C.C. 15-70-04. The following details each tribal college's 2026 payment.

Tribally Controlled Colleges Assistance Grant

Award Distribution Formula

2025-26

TOTAL funds available for award period (50% of the biennial appropriation)	**$800,000.00**		**Tribal College Payment Amount**					
Award per FTE based on ISC payment of $7,981.41, in accordance with the Tribally Controlled Colleges & Universities Act of 1978 [25 U.S.C. 20]. A prorated amount is calculated if the total awards, based on ISC payment, is over $800,000.	**$7,981.41**		**CCCC**	**NHSC**	**SBC**	**TMC**	**UTTC**	**Total Award based on FTE**
Total non-beneficiary FTE (Sum of non-beneficiary credit hours reported ÷ 24)	**93.7**	**FTE**	25.8	17.5	7.3	15.2	27.9	**93.7**
Max award amt based on actual ISC payment = Total non-beneficiary FTE * $7,981.41	**$747,858.12**	**Institutional Award**	$205,920.38	$139,674.68	$58,264.29	$121,317.43	$222,681.34	**$747,858.12**
Additional prorated amount	**$52,141.88**	**Institutional Award**	$14,357.12	$9,738.34	$4,062.25	$8,458.44	$15,525.73	**$52,141.88**
TOTAL 2025-26 Institutional Awards			**$220,277.50**	**$149,413.02**	**$62,326.54**	**$129,775.87**	**$238,207.07**	**$800,000.00**

The five ND tribal colleges served 133 headcount non-beneficiary, ND resident students from summer 2025 through spring 2026. The ND residency and non-beneficiary status of each student was documented in each institution's application. The students enrolled in a total of 2,249 credit hours. Table 1 details the non-beneficiary enrollments by institution.

Table 1 AY 2025-26 Non-Beneficiary Enrollment			
Institution	**Headcount of Non-Beneficiary Students**	**FTE Non-Beneficiary Students**	**# Non-Beneficiary Credit Hours Taken**
CCCC	34	25.8	620
NHSC	27	17.5	419
SBC	11	7.3	176
TMC	26	15.2	364
UTTC	35	27.9	670
TOTAL	**133**	**93.7**	**2,249**

Expenditure Report
As part of the application process, tribal colleges report on the expenditure of the prior year's award amounts. A total of 7.05 FTE positions were funded by the grant. In addition to salaries and benefits, grants were used for a variety of expenses, including operating expenses, capital expenditures, and other indirect costs. The following summarizes the grant usage at each college and Table 2 details expenses by category.

Cankdeska Cikana Community College:
- Student services positions covered under the funding include the Registrar, Financial Aid, Wellness Center Associate, Bookstore Manager, all at 100% (4 FTE positions).

Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College:
- Salary for the Interim VP of Student Services who was also serving as the Guidance and Disabilities Counselor (1 FTE position).
- Unspent funds of $17,072.05 are earmarked for student services salaries.

Sitting Bull College:
- Salary for Financial Aid Director, a student services support position (.30 FTE positions).

Turtle Mountain College:
- Faculty salary/fringe of 30%, Student Services staff salary/fringe 30% (1.5 FTE positions).
- Operations – 30%.
- Classroom supplies – 10%

United Tribes Technical College:
- Salaries for wellness, student health, and counseling employees for services provided to non-native students (.25 FTE positions).
- Graduation activities.
- Campus maintenance and classroom improvements.
- Non-native scholarships.

- Unspent funds of $188,932.57 are earmarked for ongoing support of non-native wellness, student health, and counseling services, support of graduation and graduation activities, college-based student activities, and student events. Additionally, the funds will continue to support scholarships, campus maintenance, and classroom improvements.

Table 2
Institutional Expenditures by Expense Category for TCCAG Award

Institution	Prior Year Unspent Balance Carried Forward	2024-25 TCCAG Award Amount	Salaries & Wages	Operating Expenses	Equip.	Capital Exp.	Other Direct or Indirect Costs	Balance Remaining
CCCC	$0.00	$239,568.35	$239,568.35	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
NHSC	$0.00	$78,417.27	$61,345.22	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$17,072.05
SBC	$0.00	$69,784.17	$69,784.17	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
TMC	$0.00	$141,007.19	$84,604.32	$0.00	$42,302.15	$0.00	$14,100.72	$0.00
UTTC	$214,467.55	$171,223.02	$25,193.00	$65,487.00	$0.00	$85,578.00	$20,500.00	$188,932.57
TOTALS	**$214,467.55**	**$700,000.00**	**$480,495.06**	**$65,487.00**	**$42,302.15**	**$85,578.00**	**$34,600.72**	**$206,004.62**

Graduation Rate

Of the 129 non-beneficiary students reviewed, 54 graduated within a normal completion time. This reflects a 41.9% graduation rate for non-beneficiary students at ND tribal colleges. The national IPEDS-reported graduation rate for all tribal institutions was 23.1% for both beneficiary and non-beneficiary students, as of August 31, 2024. The IPEDS rate is based on 150% of normal completion time required to graduate.

The information in Table 3 reflects a graduation rate estimate for non-beneficiary students who have graduated within 150% of their expected cohort graduation time. This rate is not an official graduation rate for the stated institutions, but rather, an estimate of the non-beneficiary's graduation rate based on available data. All the tribal institutions in the state officially report a 6-year graduation rate in IPEDS except for Cankdeska Cikana Community College, which reports a 3-year graduation rate.

Table 3
Estimated Graduation Rates - Non-Beneficiary Students

Institution	Cohort Size	# - Non-Beneficiary Students Graduating Within 150% of Normal Completion Time	% - Non-Beneficiary Students Graduating Within 150% of Normal Completion Time
CCCC	31	16	51.6%
NHSC	23	8	34.8%
SBC	13	5	38.5%
TMC	24	6	25%
UTTC	38	19	50%
TOTAL	**129**	**54**	**41.9%**

Financial Ratio

Tribal colleges applying for the grant report the ratio of funding received under this program compared to expenditures. IPEDS-reported 2023-24 “core expenditures” are used in calculating the financial ratio in relation to the grant funds received in 2024. Core expenses include expenses for instruction, research, public service, academic support, institutional support, student services, and other core expenses. The grant continues to cover a small fraction of overall core expenses. The ratios are reflected in Table 4.

Table 4	Financial Ratio TCCAG Award to IPEDS Core Expenses		
Institution	**2023-24 TCCAG Award Amount**	**2024 IPEDS Core Expenses**	**Funding Ratio**
CCCC	$251,885.83	$10,413,512.00	2.4%
NHSC	$102,752.29	$12,724,392.00	0.8%
SBC	$88,481.15	$14,381,654.00	0.6%
TMC	$109,887.87	$27,137,906.00	0.4%
UTTC	$146,992.86	$30,469,285.00	0.5%

Audit Reports

N.D.C.C. 15-70-05 requires applicants to submit their most recent audited financial statement. As of the time of this report, the following audited financial statements were submitted.

- Cankdeska Cikana Community College: September 30, 2025 and 2024
- Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College: June 20, 2025
- Sitting Bull College: June 30, 2025
- Turtle Mountain College: June 30, 2025
- United Tribes Technical College: June 30, 2025