#### **CSKT STUDENT INCENTIVES**

Any CSKT enrolled student attending an accredited school on or adjacent to the Flathead Reservation in grades 7th-12th may be eligible for ATTENDANCE and GPA incentives.

**ATTENDANCE** (awarded at end of year)

- Missing 5 days or less will receive \$50.00
- Missing more than 5 but less than 9 days -will receive \$25.00

(school sponsored activities and Tribal/Cultural activities when approved and signed off by the respective culture committee are considered exempt/excused absences that will not count towards days missed)

GPA (awarded at end of year)

- 3.0 to 3.49 will receive \$50.00 incentive
- 3.5 to 4.0 will receive \$75.00 incentive

Any CSKT enrolled student graduating from an accredited high school, on or off the reservation, will receive our GRADUATION incentive of \$200.00. A copy of your diploma or official transcript and a W-9 form will need to be submitted to the Tribal Education Department.





# CSKT Tribal Education Department

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The mission of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes' Education Department is to positively serve the people of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Nation by facilitating leadership, empowerment, opportunity, and development through the cornerstones of formal education and cultural learning.

#### INDIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE (IEC)

- The Indian Education Committee (IEC) consists
  of parents who have children in the school
  district, who are Johnson O'Malley (JOM)
  eligible\*.
- This committee of parents holds the voting rights on how the monies for JOM are spent, guided by the needs assessment survey priorities, given to all JOM parents.
- JOM programs offered to American Indian and Alaska Native students vary and may include such programs as culture, language, academics and dropout prevention.
- Meetings often occur once a month throughout the school year, but please reference each IEC's by-laws, as some vary.
- Any parent or interested person can attend these meetings.

\*JOM eligible students are age 3 through grade 12 and are either (1) an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe, or (2) have a combined Indian blood degree from federally recognized tribes of ¼ or more, or (3) are a descendent of a least one parent or grandparent (living or deceased) who is a member of a federally recognized tribe.

### How do you get involved?

If you are interested in serving o the IEC, please contact the Tribal Education Department. All members will need to complete a Background Investigation Packet with the Tribe.

## What is a TEA?

The Tribal Education Advocate (TEA) works as an advocate for tribal families and students as educational concerns arise within a student's school. A TEA is a liaison between the school and parent/child, covering grades K-12. Though they work for CSKT, the TEAs spend time in their assigned schools. Our goal at CSKT Education Department is to support students towards academic success!

The TEA is also responsible for support, accountability, and providing guidance to each Indian Education Committee (IEC) on the Flathead Reservation. –see page 1

# What are some concerns a TEA can help with?

The TEA can attend any meetings for the student at the school with parental request. These meetings can include:

- IEP's (Individualized Education Plans)
- 504 Plans -see page 3
- Behavior Plans
- Updates/check-ins
- Suspensions
- Expulsion Hearings

They are also available for help in attendance, grades, mediation, bullying, guidance, and resourcing.



#### **IEP and 504 Information**

IEP (Individualized Education Plan) is a plan or program developed to ensure that a child who has a disability identified under the law and is attending an elementary or secondary educational institution receives specialized instruction and related services. This may include "special education" or other alternative classroom experiences that help the individual learn the way they need to. This is controlled by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Section 504 is an important civil rights law that can provide educational benefits to kids with learning disabilities and/or ADHD in public schools. This is a federal statute, which means schools cannot "opt out" or claim "does not provide these services in this district." Section 504 basically asks for equal access to public education and services.

Both IEPS and 504 Plans should be updated annually. Most of our reservation public schools begin the year with reviewing the students' progress from last year. This first meeting analyzes if the student needs changed or require more focus. At the end of the year, typically, the school will meet with you and your child again to see what the progress has been for that academic year.

It's important to remember that students have the option to attend these meetings and parents are definitely invited. If you think you may need further help or guidance, please call!

Additional Internet Resources:

https://opi.mt.gov/ www.wrightslaw.com mtempowermentcenter.org disabilityrightsmt.org