

CARIBOO-CHILCOTIN SCHOOL DISTRICT #27

FIRST NATIONS TARGET FUNDING CRITERIA

Cariboo-Chilcotin School District covers some of the traditional territory of the Northern Shuswap, Chilcotin and Carrier Nations. Therefore the District works in collaboration and in cooperation with the eleven First Nations communities and the Cariboo-Chilcotin Métis Association to set the criteria for the appropriate use of the Aboriginal Targeted funding using the following Ministry of Education Policy as guidelines.

POLICY DOCUMENT: K – 12 FUNDING – ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

MINISTRY POLICY STATEMENT:

The Ministry of Education provides enhanced funding to school aged students of Aboriginal Ancestry. Enhanced funding provides culturally appropriate educational programs and services to support the success of Aboriginal students.

RATIONALE:

This policy is part of a larger policy framework to support the achievement of Aboriginal students. Other components of the policy framework include ENHANCEMENT AGREEMENTS, ACCOUNTABILITY CONTRACTS, SCHOOL PLANS, and DISTRICT REVIEWS.

ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS:

Student of Aboriginal Ancestry, for the purpose of this funding policy, is defined as a school-age student who has self-identified as being of Aboriginal Ancestry (First Nations, status and non-status; Métis; and Inuit) Aboriginal identification must be made on a voluntary basis.

Aboriginal Education Programs and Services are Aboriginal Language and Culture programs, Aboriginal Support Services, or other Ministry approved Aboriginal Programs.

Such programs and services are articulated in Enhancement Agreements, developed collaboratively by the school board and district Aboriginal communities, and the Ministry of Education.

POLICY:

Targeted Aboriginal Education Funding requires the collaboration of school boards and local Aboriginal communities to develop and deliver Aboriginal Education programs and services that integrate academic achievement and Aboriginal culture and/or language.

School age students of Aboriginal Ancestry participating in Aboriginal Education Programs and services offered by public schools are eligible for Aboriginal Education funding. Adult students are not eligible.

Students qualifying for Aboriginal Education funding will be funded at **\$1,160.00** per full-time equivalent.

Funds provided to school boards for Aboriginal Education programs are targeted and must be spent on the provision of these programs and services. The delivery and outcomes of Aboriginal programs and services must be documented, preferably through Enhancement Agreements.

Funded Aboriginal Education programs must be in addition to any other programs and services to which an Aboriginal student is eligible, including provincial base funding, **English Language Learning Program** and Special Education.

The Ministry approves an amount up to 10% of the Aboriginal Education Program target funding for administration.

Targeted Aboriginal Education funding must not be used for the delivery of BC First Nations Studies 12 or other basic classroom instruction.

CRITERIA

- **Local First Nations Language and Culture** programs to help ensure these First Nations students retain and preserve their linguistic and cultural heritage. (Shuswap, Chilcotin & Carrier) Some schools have a need for more than one First Nations language and culture program.
- **First Nations Cultural Programs:** This program should be a substantive culture program intended to foster understanding of the social morals, social practices, kinship relationships, etc of the student's culture. Some schools have a need for more than one First Nations culture program. (not a social studies program or First Nations Studies 12)
- **Culturally Appropriate Protocol** for introducing some aspects of the different First Nations culture (eg. Respect for the Traditional Territory of Carrier, Chilcotin and Shuswap, respect for the uses of the Eagle Feather, who has the authority to make button blankets of the Coastal First Nations; recognizing whose songs are being sung.)
- **First Nations Support Programs:** This is a compensatory or enhancement program which is intended to assist First Nations students to achieve greater success in all school programs by providing personnel who are familiar with and sensitive to, the values, beliefs and needs of the First Nations community from which the student comes. Services such as home-school coordination, elder, peer or community counselling or First Nations tutoring assistance are eligible services. This program should not replace learning assistance, ESL/ESD or any special education program for which the student qualifies or other basic classroom instruction.

CONSIDERATION IN GRANTING APPROVAL:

- Applications for technology purchases will not be considered. Applicants wishing to access funding for technology purchases should contact the Director of Instruction, Education Services for advice and support.
- Use of local presenters, performers, and resources is preferred.
- Evidence that the applicants attempted to access local presenters, performers, and resources.
- Consideration for the geographical areas.
- Availability of local resources in the school community e.g. library, medical staff, RCMP programs, Big Brothers & Sisters, peer tutoring, ReVisions, Restorative Justice
- Access to counselling e.g. academic counselling, alcohol and drugs programs, mental health, peer counselling, anger management programs, bullying programs
- Needs of the community
- School catchment area e.g. Columneetza Secondary & WLSS : Students attending these schools come from different parts of the Cariboo-Chilcotin, from many First Nations communities, from different Nations and many having to room and board away from their community. (eg. Up to 4 hours away from home)
- The need for male and female First Nations role models.
- Consultation with parents or guardians
- Has the applicant/school worked in collaboration and cooperation with the local First Nations
- Has the applicant/school approached other sources for funding (part or full funding)
- The student's need to communicate and get culturally appropriate support, especially those who have had to move away from home to get their education or those who are raised in a more traditional culture.
- Poverty: Does the family have the academics or finances to support student learning.
- **Timeline:**

Completed and signed Proposals must be received by the First Nations Education Department of the School District at least two (2) weeks prior to the next scheduled First Nations Education Committee meeting.