



**Cultural Integrity Commitment Act
Assurances Checklist
Indian Language Immersion Program**

AN ACT STRENGTHENING MONTANA'S COMMITMENT IN ITS EDUCATIONAL GOALS TO THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL INTEGRITY AS STATED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION; ENCOURAGING SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO CREATE INDIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS; PROVIDING FUNDING; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; INCLUDING AMERICAN INDIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE SPECIALISTS IN THE QUALITY EDUCATOR PAYMENT; AMENDING SECTION 20-9-327, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE.

This assurances checklist is how OPI verifies eligibility for Indian Language Immersion Program funding as outlined in the Cultural Integrity Commitment Act (CICA) of 2015 and authorized by the 2019 Legislature via House Bill 33.

Please note that the CICA requires that eligible immersion programs provide instruction in a Montana tribal language at least 50% of the day and such instruction must be done under the purview of a language instructor who is proficient in the tribal language and holds a current Class 7 licensure. It is also important to note that the program teachers listed on this form are listed as instructors for the grade levels served by the immersion program in the AIMS database.

Thorough and accurate completion of the checklist will result in timely notification of eligibility and allow OPI to provide maximum funding in accordance with your eligibility.

Thank you for your attention to these details and please don't hesitate to contact Matt Bell at (406) 544-2868 or by email: matthew.bell@mt.gov should you have questions regarding completion of this checklist.

LE Code: _____ School Year of Proposed Program: _____

School District Applying: _____

School(s) Offering Immersion Program: _____

Part 1: (Required Section) Please complete the check boxes (☑) agreeing to the mandatory assurances and complete the narrative sections below.

Definitions:

1. *“Eligible districts”* means a school district encompassing or adjacent to an Indian reservation or a school district that includes one or more schools with an Indian population of 10% or greater.
2. *“Immersion program”* means a program of an eligible district in which
 - a. All participating students receive content area instruction in a tribal language at least 50% of the day.
 - b. Teachers are fully proficient in the languages they use for instruction;
 - c. The goal of the program is perpetuating cultural integrity and promoting bilingualism and biliteracy.

Please describe how your program will provide students tribal language instruction for at least 50% of the day in accordance with the immersion program definition listed above. Be sure to include a thorough explanation of your program, the grade levels served, and any other information that might help OPI fully understand your program. (Attach an additional sheet if needed)

Please describe how your program will specifically address the goal of perpetuating cultural integrity and promoting bilingualism and biliteracy (Attach additional sheet if needed)

Please complete the table below.

							Instructional Time (hours/minutes)	
Classroom Teacher	SEID	Est # of Students	Class 7 Teacher associated w/classroom teacher	SEID	FTE per grade	Grade Level	in Tribal Language	in English

Part 2: (Optional Section) Completion of the sections below is optional; however, it will be very beneficial when determining collaboration support.

Please describe how your program will use these supports. (Attach additional sheet if needed)

1. School districts are encouraged to create Tribal Language immersion programs and in doing so,
 - a. Collaborate with other school districts such as the Montana Digital Academy, tribal education departments, and tribal colleges;
 - b. Utilize materials produced in the Montana Indian Language Preservation pilot program.

c. Utilize tribal Language and culture specialists as teachers of language and culture;

d. Look to existing Native language schools in Montana and around the world for guidance and best practices.

District Superintendent Name: _____ Date: _____

District Superintendent Signature: _____

School Board Chair Name: _____ Date: _____

School Board Chair Signature: _____

If approved, we will contact you to obtain enrolled student information for funding purposes.
Please submit the completed form to the Office of Public Instruction.

Contact info:

Matthew Bell

Office: (406) 544-2868

Email: matthew.bell@mt.gov

Contact info:

Donnie Wetzel, Jr.

Office: (406) 444-4527

Email: dwetzel2@mt.gov

Mailing Address

Office of Public Instruction

P.O. Box 2002501

Helena, MT 59620

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To be completed by OPI authorized personnel.

☐ Approved by Director of Tribal Relations and Resilience

Date: _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

☐ Processed by OPI Finance Division

Date: _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

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☐ Not Approved

Date: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Reason: _____
