

IMPACT & OUTLOOK 2018 - 2019

AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT SERVICES

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Who We Are

American Indian Student Services (AISS) offers a wide range of support services and programmatic initiatives designed to provide academic and cultural support that promote success for UNM Native students. AISS supports the empowerment of tribal citizens and aspires to enhance the quality of life in Indigenous communities by producing quality academic and student support services, meaningful cultural programming, and distinctive constituent relationships. AISS' commitment to further the UNM2020 Strategic Plan that connects, aligns, and activates the University's mission, vision, values, and strategies is deliberate and intentional. AISS places particular priority in the perspective of students, namely contributing to the effort to Prepare Lobos for Lifelong Success. The Sidekicks Program, AISS Ambassador Program, Program Success Leader Program, High School Junior & Senior Visitation Recruitment/Outreach programming, American Indian Heritage Month events, and Nizhoni Week activities sustain and demonstrate the department's commitment to bolstering the graduation rate above 25% and contribute to improving 3rd semester retention. Most every programming effort is connected to areas where the University has seen achievement, including the retention and graduation of UNM's American Indian students. In addition to, and like the University's strategic achievement, the American Indian Summer Bridge (AISB) Program is the primary example of the department's focus on better preparing American Indian first-year students and positively impacting retention.

Mission

AISS provides concentrated services, support, and opportunities to recruit and retain American Indian students to ensure their academic achievement and assist in their educational, personal, professional, cultural, and social success.



2019 American Indian Summer Bridge Cohort



2019 American Indian Convocation

3.87

The collective Grade Point Average (GPA) of the 2016-2019 American Indian Summer Bridge cohorts at time of program completion.

72.53%

UNM-Main Campus 3rd-Semester American Indian Retention Rate - an All-Time High!

Impact on Students

A range of programming initiatives intended to contribute to Native student academic success, acclimation and/or transition to UNM-Main campus, retention, leadership development, and graduation rates comprise the core focus of American Indian Student Services. The department utilizes a network of campus partners to not only enhance the quality of its efforts, but to reach out to the American Indian population at large. Programs including, but not limited to: the **American Indian Summer Bridge Program** (academic success, retention), the **Sidekicks Program** (transition, retention), **Academic and Financial Aid Advisement and Workshops** (academic success, retention), the **AISS Ambassador Program** (transition, leadership development), and **partnerships with Academic Affairs Advisement Centers** (retention, graduation) are created to offer a collection of services designed to meet the needs of students at any point in their collegiate journey.



2018-2019 AISS Ambassadors



Sidekicks - Indigenous Craft Wednesdays



AISS Community Service @ the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center

Programs, Services, Sub-units and Initiatives

PROGRAMS, SERVICES, & INITIATIVES	Academic Affairs Engagement	UNM 5
<p>AISS Ambassador Program – Participants are actively involved in AISS outreach, volunteerism, and a variety of UNM programming initiatives. AISS Ambassadors participate in social justice, diversity & leadership training, build presentation & teamwork skills, and expand their knowledge about AISS & UNM history. Ambassadors are able to develop campus-wide networks – with Staff & Faculty, prospective students, current students, and campus resources – along with establishing local & tribal constituency partnerships. A cohort of 5-10 participants is selected annually.</p>	Extensive	Professionalism Communication Critical Thinking
<p>AISS Welcome Back Social – This networking opportunity has become a staple program at the start of each academic year and includes 300+ participants annually. New and returning students are able meet representatives of student organizations, interact with Native staff & faculty, and connect with UNM administration. This engagement effort allows new-to-UNM individuals the opportunity to establish a network in an informal setting.</p>	Extensive	Communication Professionalism
<p>American Indian Convocation – The conclusion of each academic year is an opportunity to highlight, honor, and recognize American Indian students receiving undergraduate, graduate & professional degrees. Graduating students, Faculty & Staff, University Administration, friends, and families participate in the celebration resulting in 800+ attendees annually.</p>	Extensive	Professionalism
<p>American Indian General Scholarships – AISS oversees and administers thirty (30) endowment scholarship funds earmarked specifically for American Indian students. The number of endowments continues to increase, expanding cost-of-attendance funding opportunities for American Indian students at UNM.</p>	Minimal	Professionalism
<p>American Indian Junior Day – One of two AISS premier recruitment initiatives designed to prepare American Indian high school juniors for their senior year and eventual matriculation into a collegiate environment. This half-day program highlights the importance of pre-college standardized testing, academic scholarship processes, and remaining academically competitive student throughout high school for 350+ attendees annually.</p>	Moderate	Communication Collaboration
<p>American Indian Senior Day – The second of two AISS premier recruitment initiatives. This half-day annual program brings 350+ American Indian high school seniors to UNM-Main Campus and provides a thorough breakdown of admissions, financial aid and summer opportunities, and campus student life. The program content is intended to assist students in navigating & executing their transition from high school to college.</p>	Moderate	Communication Collaboration
<p>American Indian Summer Bridge (AISB) Program – To date, 398 students representing 50 tribal nations - have participated in & completed the AISB Program. Incoming first-year students reside on campus for 5-weeks and enroll & complete 8-credit hours. In addition to the academic component, participants establish a close-knit peer network and participate in diversity & social justice training; while creating a campus network consisting of UNM staff, faculty and student support resources. Financial aid preparation and scholarship advisement is a key component of the annual cohort experience.</p>	Extensive	Professionalism Critical Thinking
<p>FAFSA-FOR-U – A series of annual workshops scheduled after the opening of the national Free Application for Federal Student Aid process and before the UNM FAFSA Priority Date provide personalized assistance to students & families to ensure they are able to complete the FAFSA. The UNM Financial Aid Office remains a longstanding partner in this programming effort.</p>	Moderate	Communication Collaboration
<p>Miss Indian UNM Program & Pageant – Miss Indian UNM serves as an ambassador for the University of New Mexico and the UNM American Indian community. As a role model and mentor to community youth and her UNM peers, Miss Indian UNM promotes a positive focus on spiritual, mental, social & physical aspects; and demonstrates leadership, ethical behavior, and academic success.</p>	Minimal	Communication Collaboration
<p>Sidekicks Program – This initiative encourages the growth and development of UNM American Indian Students and ensures their progress toward successfully completing educational goals and securing a smooth career transition. Sidekicks is a peer-to-peer mentorship model designed to build a community of support to help students manage transition, foster campus connection, encourage community service, promote academic achievement, and reach degree attainment. Student participation exceeds 100+ students annually.</p>	Moderate	Professionalism Communication
<p>UNM-Tribal Memorandum of Understanding and associated scholarships – AISS oversees the management oversight and awarding of the UNM-MOU Undergraduate Tuition Scholarship & Graduate Stipend initially created in 1994 by the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding between twenty-two (22) New Mexico Tribes and The University of New Mexico.</p>	Minimal	Communication Collaboration

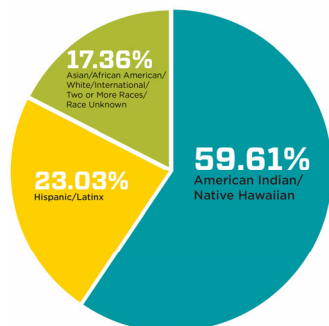
Fiscal Update, Revenues

Source	Amount
Instruction & General (I&G)	\$189,313
Student Fee Review Board (SFRB)	\$89,761
New Mexico Legislative Research and Public Service Project Appropriation (RPSP)	\$332,700

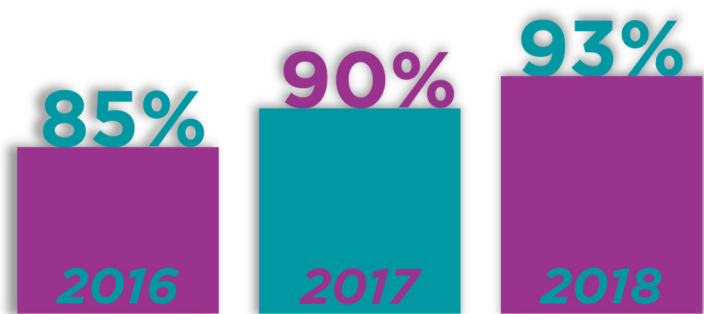
Goals for 2019-20

1. Increase American Indian Summer Bridge (AISB) Program participants by a minimum of 10% from the previous year.
2. Expand the AISS Sidekicks Program & AISS Ambassadors Program to:
 - a. Boost participant rates by 10% from the previous year.
 - b. Expand the number of monthly academic workshops, social/wellness programming, community volunteerism, and tribal service learning projects by 10% from the previous year.
3. Collaborate with education associations & organizations to coordinate opportunities for national or regional American Indian conferences and/or professional development experiences.
4. Reinforce fundraising efforts for the AISB Program and American Indian Student Retention Endowment and expand donor development to establish new scholarship opportunities for UNM American Indian students.
5. Amplify the development & implementation of targeted recruitment & outreach initiatives to maximize American Indian student enrollment.
6. Continue to advance & facilitate effective retention programming for American Indian students.
7. Foster educational, professional, cultural, and social success for American Indian students.

Selected Impacts and Outcomes



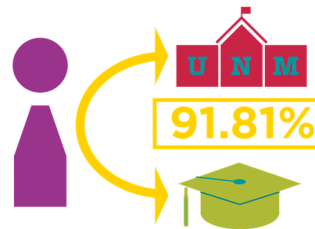
UNM Students Served at AISS



AMERICAN INDIAN SUMMER BRIDGE annual cohort Retention Rate



135 distinct AISS group visits from middle & high schools and Southwest tribal communities.



Percentage of ALL students who utilized AISS during Fall 2018 who either *Returned for OR Graduated Spring 2019*

Quick Facts

- American Indian Student Services currently serves students representing **125** federally recognized tribes.
- 5,433 miles** were driven for recruitment & outreach initiatives for 2018-2019.
- 2018-2019 AISS recruitment & outreach efforts resulted in **7,852** prospective & constituent direct contacts.

American Indian Student Services

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