



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF LEGISLATION AND CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Reference Grant Award Number: #S415B180024  
NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS has been selected to receive funding under the NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE (NAL@ED) PROGRAM (84.415B). This grant will be in the amount of \$249,438.00 for the first budget period (10/01/2018 through 09/30/2019). It is anticipated that the grant will be for a total of 3 year(s). Please see the attached abstract for a brief description of the activities that will be funded under this grant.

The contact at the ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS is:

DAISY THOMPSON  
ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
P.O. BOX 25704  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87125-0704  
(505) 884-6392

### **Purpose of the Program NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE (NAL@ED)**

The purposes of the Native American Language (NAL@ED) Program are to: (1) Support schools that use Native American and Alaska Native languages as the primary language of instruction; (2) Maintain, protect, and promote the rights and freedom of Native Americans and Alaska Natives to use, practice, maintain, and revitalize their languages, as envisioned in the Native American Languages Act of 1990 (25 U.S.C. 2901 et seq.); and (3) Support the Nation's First Peoples' efforts to maintain and revitalize their languages and cultures, and to improve educational opportunities and student outcomes within Native American and Alaska Native communities.

## **Albuquerque Public Schools Indian Education Department**

### ***Diné Bizaad & A:shiwi Language Program***

#### **Abstract**

The Albuquerque Public Schools Indian Education Department seeks funding from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education through the 2017 Native American Language Program (NAL@ED) competition. Albuquerque Public Schools is eligible to apply for this funding as a Local Education Authority under State law. The ***Diné Bizaad & A:shiwi Language Program***, if funded, will support the instruction of both the Navajo (Diné) and Zuni languages. Albuquerque Public Schools is not applying as a part of a consortium.

As an LEA, the Albuquerque Public Schools Indian Education Department is applying under **Absolute Priority 1** and will support Native American or Alaska Native language education and development, as well as provide professional development for teachers and, as appropriate, staff and administrators, to strengthen the overall language and academic goals of the schools that will be served by the project. The Albuquerque Public Schools Indian Education Department is also applying under **Competitive Preference Priority 1**. In this application, Albuquerque Public Schools has included an assurance that the Indian Education Department will use 25% of its title VI formula grant, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, and that parent committee input and approval of this action will be obtained as necessary.

The goal of the ***Diné Bizaad & A:shiwi Language Program*** is to establish and sustain Native language classes in both Zuni and Navajo (Diné) at the elementary and middle school levels in order to revitalize Native languages through quality language instruction provided by well-prepared instructors. Albuquerque Public Schools believes that, when students receive culturally relevant instruction that supports, recognizes and honors their background, academic achievement and student outcomes will improve. Project outcomes include developing a tracking and reporting system for Native language fluency, ensuring at least 80% of project participants make progress towards fluency, increasing the number of students who demonstrate Native language fluency by earning the Native American Bilingual Seal, increasing project participants' reading proficiency, increasing project participants' average daily attendance and increasing the number of students enrolled in Native language immersion programs. In order to achieve these goals, the Indian Education Department will hire qualified Native language teachers, administer Native language proficiency assessments, provide professional development in Native language immersion models, recruit American Indian/Alaskan Native students and families to participate in the program and evaluate the success of the program in meeting its goal and outcomes.

The ***Diné Bizaad & A:shiwi Language Program*** plans to offer Navajo (Diné) language immersion at Painted Sky Elementary School (K-5, 116 Navajo students), Jimmy Carter Middle School (6-8, 62 Navajo students), McKinley Middle School (6-8, 51 Navajo students) and Cleveland Middle School (6-8, 54 Navajo students). Zuni language immersion will be offered at Hodgin Elementary School (K-5, 8 Zuni students), John Adams Middle School (6-8, 7 Zuni students), Grant Middle School (6-8, 8 Zuni

students), Wilson Middle School (6-8, 8 Zuni students) and Kennedy Middle School (6-8, 7 Zuni students). In total, the APS Indian Education Department anticipates serving at least 100 Navajo students and 20 Zuni students annually.

The Project Director for the *Diné Bizaad & A:shiwi Language Program* will be Daisy Thompson, Director of the Indian Education Department. For questions about this proposal, she can be reached at (505) 884-6392 or via email at [thompson\\_dai@aps.edu](mailto:thompson_dai@aps.edu).