

Welcome



U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Education

JOHNSON – O'MALLEY (JOM) LISTENING SESSIONS



May 26-27, 2021



Welcome and Introductions

Welcome Spike Bighorn

Supervisory Program Manager Sovereignty in Indian Education Office

Presenters

Spike Bighorn

Supervisory Program Manager Sovereignty in Indian Education Office

Angela Barnett

JOM Program Specialist
Sovereignty in Indian Education Office Undian Education

PROVIDING INPUT DURING TODAY'S SESSION

Please raise your hand using the reaction button at bottom right of your screen.

Once called upon, please state your name and affiliation prior to speaking.





PURPOSE OF CONSULTATION

- The BIE is conducting these listening sessions to provide information and receive input from tribal leaders, tribal education staff, public school officials and other interested stakeholders regarding pertinent issues related to the JOM program and services.
- These listening sessions are intended to ensure BIE is meeting the educational needs of students, schools, and tribal communities in the administration of the JOM program.



Understanding JOM

Under the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Act, the BIE provides assistance, through contracts, for Indian students attending public schools and nonsectarian private schools. The JOM Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act (JOM Modernization Act) requires BIE to clarify the eligibility requirements for Indian students to receive the benefits of a JOM contract, clarify the funding formula and process to ensure full participation of contracting parties, and to otherwise reconcile and modernize the regulations to comport with the activities of contracting parties under the JOM Modernization Act.

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- Implementation of a distribution methodology based on the annual student count.
- Discussion of the JOM student count form.
- JOM Annual Report update.
- Clarification of JOM student eligibility criteria in 25 CFR 273.112.
- Discussion of allowable costs/expenditures of JOM funding in 25 CFR 273.113.
- Documents needed for annual award of funds (budget, student count report, etc.).



Implementation of distribution methodology based on annual student count report

- BIE is recommending the 2023-2024 school year as the target date for implementation to ensure contractor preparation during this interim period.
- The Modernization Act states in part, "A contracting party that fails to submit a report ...shall receive no amounts under this Act for the fiscal year following the academic year for which the report should have been submitted." This would mean the 2022-2023 school year student count report would be the basis for the 2023-2024 distribution.
- Since BIE receives only 65-70 percent of the annual student count reports, this timeline should provide the opportunity for contractors to adjust to the mandate.
- Discussion of student count dates and submission deadlines.



Clarification of JOM student eligibility criteria in 25 CFR 273.112

An Indian student is eligible for benefits provided by a JOM contract if the student is:

- (a) From age three (3) years through grade(s) twelve (12);
- (b) Not enrolled in a Bureau-funded school or sectarian school (except the student is eligible if enrolled in a previously private school controlled by an Indian Tribe or Tribal organization); and
- (c) Is either:
 - ➤ (1) At least one-fourth (1/4) degree Indian blood descendant of a member of an Indian Tribe as defined in § 273.106 (Key terms); or
 - \triangleright (2) A member of an Indian Tribe as defined in 273.106.

Discussion of allowable costs/expenditures of JOM funding in 25 CFR 273.113

An eligible entity may use the funds available under the contract to provide educational benefits to eligible Indian students to:

- (a) Establish, carry out programs or expand programs in existence before the contract period that provide:
 - (1) Remedial instruction, career, academic, and college-readiness counseling, and cultural programs;
 - (2) Selected courses related to the academic and professional disciplines; or
 - (3) Important needs, such as school supplies and items that enable recipients to participate in curricular and extra-curricular programs; and
- (b) Purchase equipment to facilitate training for professional trade skills and intensified college preparation programs.

Documents needed for annual award of JOM funds

- Contractors are required to submit to their JOM Program Specialist the annual student count report form. Since BIE is recommending the 2022-2023 school year submission be utilized to determine the 2023-2024 distribution, this submission will be IMPERATIVE!
- In addition, contractors will be required to submit documents to their Awarding Official (AO) or Grants Management Specialist to ensure their contract/grant funding is awarded each year.
- The process for new/initial contracts, is outlined in 25 CFR 900.8
- The process for the renewal of an expiring contract is outlined in 25 CFR 900.12.



JOM Annual Report update

- Report is going through the final Department approval and should be available to the general public this summer
- The BIE will utilize the most recent U.S. Department of Education-National Center for Education Statistics, five (5)year (2012-2016) estimated data of 570,825 students as an initial determination of students eligible or potentially eligible to receive JOM services.
- The 570,825 figure is based on actual reported numbers from public schools across the nation during this reporting period and includes an estimate for each grade level, preschool to Grade twelve (12), of the number of enrolled American Indian and Alaska Native students (three (3) years and over) for the entire United States geographic area.

DISCUSSION OF JOM STUDENT COUNT REPORT FORM

 BIE requests contractors to include in their annual report the number of students who are JOM eligible, but not currently receiving services, in addition to the report of the number of eligible students actually receiving services.



BIE JOM PROGRAM SPECIALISTS ASSIGNED REGIONS

- Angela Barnett angela.barnett@bie.edu
 Alaska
- Carmen VanderVenter <u>carmenr.vanderventer@bie.edu</u>
 Midwest, Great Plains, Rocky Mountain and Northwest (Washington and Idaho)
- Kemberlee Beckwith <u>kemberlee.beckwith@bie.edu</u>
 Navajo, Western, Pacific and Northwest (Oregon)
- Kelly Moore <u>kelly.moore@bie.edu</u>
 Eastern, Eastern Oklahoma, Southern Plains and Southwest



Submission of Written comments

 Written comments may be submitted until 4:30 p.m. Eastern time on Friday, July 2, 2021, to Mr. Spike Bighorn, Program Manager for BIE's Office of Sovereignty in Indian Education (SIE), at spike.bighorn@bie.edu



Bureau of Indian Education

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