

National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (National PETE)

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Tribal College Environmental Science/Technology and Related Program Technical Assistance Solicitation

A National Science Foundation (NSF ATE) funded project!



Dear Colleague:

On behalf of the Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE) we invite your college to participate in our Technical Assistance Opportunities available through our National Science Foundation ATE Grant entitled "A National Collaboration to Strengthen the Advanced Environmental Technology Education Programs at Tribal Colleges." This project is a joint effort with our strategic partner, the Advanced Technology Environmental and Energy Center (ATEEC, a National Science Foundation ATE Center) and is being guided by the following Steering Committee Members:

- Mari Eggers, Little Big Horn College
- Gary Halvorson, Sitting Bull College
- Gale Harms, Tribal College Consultant
- Zetra Wheeler, Salish Kootenai College
- Steve Chischilly, Navajo Technical College
- Rich Janssen, Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes
- Kirk Laflin, National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (National PETE)
- Ellen Kabat-Lensch, Advanced Technology Environmental and Energy Center (ATEEC)
- Lora Kaisler, Advanced Technology Environmental and Energy Center (ATEEC)
- Sarah Gross, National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (National PETE)
- Dr. Catherine Zeman, University of Northern Iowa (PETE ATE Project External Evaluator)

This three-year NSF grant will allow National PETE to provide possibilities for Tribal Colleges who (1) currently have an Environmental Technology Program including environmental health, safety, energy and/or related areas; or (2) are considering the launch of a program. The following opportunities are available:

- 1. Program Planning and/or Program Improvement Technical Assistance during 2008-2010**
 - Technical Assistance Mini-grants for on-campus support
 - Access to a Best Management Practices Guide on How to Successfully Launch an Environmental Science/Technology or related program
- 2. Electronic Forms of Distance-Delivered Technical Assistance**
 - Committed Project Website
- 3. Faculty Development - Fellows Institutes in 2009 and 2010**
 - Faculty Stipends and Mini-Grants
 - The first Fellows Institute was held August 2-7, 2009 at Sitting Bull College in Fort Yates, ND. "Water Quality" was the 2009 theme; the 2010 Fellows Institute will be held at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo Montana. Theme: to be determined.

We are currently seeking applications for Technical Assistance from Tribal Colleges in one or more of the services listed (see attached description of Technical Assistance). The Technical Assistance Services outlined will be provided to your college *at no cost* and may include a Mini-Grant of up to \$1,500 to offset costs for coordination and/or support for the assistance requested.

In 2008 the following projects were awarded:

Sitting Bull College, ND for "Conducting a Job/Labor Market Assessment"

United Tribes Technical College, ND for "Conducting a Job/Labor Market Assessment"

Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, MI for "Developing or Improving a Plan for Student Recruitment & Retention"

In 2009 the following projects were awarded:

Navajo Technical College, NM for "Developing or Improving a Plan for Student Recruitment, Tracking and Retention"

Leech Lake Technical College, MN for "Conducting Program Assessment for existing or new certificate/degree programs"

Fort Belknap College, MT for "Conducting a Job Market/Labor Market Assessment"

Tohono O'odham Community College, AZ for "Recruitment and Retention Strategic Planning"

Copies of the reports generated from these technical assistance projects can be reviewed on the project website: www.ateec.org/profdev/tribal; in 2009 four schools were chosen, as there was a tie between two Institutions.

The attached National PETE and ATEEC Description of Services Offered further explains the Technical Assistance/Services that will be provided by a team of National PETE and ATEEC experienced staff members along with Tribal College personnel, as needed.

If your college is interested, please complete the enclosed "Application for Participation – Request for Program Planning and/or Improvement Technical Assistance Services Application" and return the completed form **by December 11, 2009**. Unfortunately, we will only be able to select two (2) projects. Members of the Steering Committee will select the top two 2010 candidates based on the submitted applications, geographical distribution and services requested. Please note that the Application will need to be signed-off by a College Administrator (such as a Dean, Vice President, or President) so we can be assured of the College's commitment. Colleges that were previously awarded a Technical Assistance Award in 2008 or 2009 are not eligible for this year's solicitation. If your college submitted a proposal and was not chosen you may resubmit the same proposal and/or submit with a different request.

We hope that you will find the objectives of this project worthwhile and consider applying for Technical Assistance and/or consider participating in our Tribal College Fellows Institute in 2010.

Don't forget to complete the attached Technical Assistance/Services Application Form and return it to the National PETE office by **December 11, 2009**. National PETE will notify you of your acceptance status by **January 8, 2008**.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kirk Laflin, Project Principal Investigator, at (207) 771-9020 or via email klaflin@maine.rr.com.

Sincerely,

Kirk J. Laflin

Principal Investigator
PETE Executive Director

Gary Halvorson

Gary Halvorson, Co-Principal Investigator
Sitting Bull College

Mari Eggers

Mari Eggers, Co-Principal Investigator
Little Big Horn College

Gale Harms

Gale Harms, Co-Principal Investigator
Tribal College Consultant