

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Tribal Leaders of Students Living on Indian Lands:

We are providing you this copy of the Indian Policies and Procedures for the 2021 School Year below to consult you and seek your comments, concerns, and recommendations on any area of these procedures you believe we can improve. It is our aim to ensure that all Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services, and activities offered to other Sequoia Choice Arizona Distance Learning School students and that they receive the education necessary to fulfill their personal hopes and aspirations.

You are not required to respond to this invitation. However, if you have any comments, concerns, or recommendations now or at any time during the year, we invite you to share them with us by any of the following means:

1. Send an email to jerrylewis@edkey.org
2. Send a note with your student to one of our centers, or by fax or mail to AZDL at the number or address below
3. Call or visit our office at the number or address below.

Thank you.

Indian Policies and Procedures
2020-2021 School Year

It is the intent of the LEA, Sequoia Choice Arizona Distance Learning, (AZDL) that all Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services and activities offered to other AZDL students. To this end, AZDL will consult with local Tribes and parents of Indian children (Stakeholders) in the planning and development of Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs), general education programs, and activities as needed or requested. These policies and procedures will be reviewed annually or as needed, and revisions will be made within 90 days of the determination that requirements are not being adequately met.

ATTESTATIONS

AZDL attests that it has established Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs) as required in section 7004 of the Impact Aid law for any children claimed who reside on eligible Indian lands. The IPPs are available to the Stakeholders residing on eligible Indian lands. A copy of the current policies and procedures will be attached to the FY 2021 Impact Aid application.

AZDL attests that it provides a copy of written responses to comments, concerns and recommendations received from tribal leaders and parents of Indian children when and if they arise through the Indian policies and procedures consultation process and disseminates these responses to tribal leaders and parents of Indian children prior to the submission of their Impact Aid applications.

Indian Policies and Procedures

The following IPPs become effective upon school board approval.

POLICY 1: AZDL will disseminate relevant applications, evaluations, program plans and information related to the LEA's education program and activities with sufficient advance notice to allow Stakeholders the opportunity to review and make recommendations. [34CFR222.94(a)(1)]

Procedure 1: AZDL will disseminate all relevant applications, evaluations, program plans and information related to the LEA's education program and activities to Stakeholders needing or requesting them.

1.1 The application, evaluations, program plans and other information will be distributed to Stakeholders via emails, website posts, mail, or flyers.

1.2 Materials will be provided at least a week in advance of any meeting on these topics. This will allow Stakeholders the time to review and provide comments on all documents and information.

POLICY 2: AZDL will provide an opportunity for any Stakeholder to provide their views on AZDL's educational program and activities, including recommendations on the needs of each child and how they may help those children realize the benefits of the educational programs and activities. [34CFR222.94(a)(2)] As a part of this requirement, AZDL will:

- (i) Notify Stakeholders of the opportunity to submit comments and recommendations, considering their preference for method of communication, and
- (ii) Modify the method of and time for soliciting Indian views, if necessary, to ensure the maximum participation of Stakeholders.

Procedure 2: Opportunities to provide any views on AZDL's educational program and activities, including recommendations may be accomplished as convenient for each Stakeholder.

2.1 AZDL will be available Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM via phone, text, email, or in-person for Stakeholders to provide input on the educational program and activities.

2.2 AZDL will notify tribe and parents of Indian lands of the opportunities to submit recommendations and comments and invitations to attend meetings via its website, emails, phone calls, texts, or flyers.

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2.3 AZDL will work with Stakeholders to determine a preferred method of communication if any. Once the preferred method of communication has been decided, the Stakeholder's communication method will be used throughout the consultation process. Any changes to the method will happen through additional consultation with Stakeholders. AZDL will, to the greatest extent possible, take the Stakeholder's preferred method of communication into consideration for all correspondence.

2.4 If the consultation participation by Stakeholders is low, AZDL will investigate its consultation process and will take whatever measures necessary to improve or enhance participation.

POLICY 3: AZDL will, at least annually, assess the extent to which Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children in AZDL's education program and activities. 34CFR222.94(a)(3) As part of this requirement, AZDL will:

- (i) Share relevant information related to Indian children's participation in their education program and activities with Stakeholders; and
- (ii) Allow Stakeholders the opportunity and time to review and comment on whether Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children.

Procedure 3: AZDL regularly reviews all students' progress and participation. By law, Arizona online students must be progressing for them to remain in an online program. Accordingly, all students are assessed and evaluated very closely.

3.1 AZDL will evaluate the Indian participation in educational programs and activities as it does all of its students.

3.2 Academic involvement, test scores, benchmark assessments, and class completion will be evaluated.

3.3 If a child falls behind AZDL communicates immediately with the appropriate Stakeholders by email or phone calls.

3.4 AZDL will accept comments, recommendations or feedback on equal participation from Stakeholders any time the need arises.

3.5 If it is determined that there are gaps in Indian participation in the educational program or activities, the AZDL School Board in consultation with the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee), and Stakeholders will modify its education program in such a way as to improve Indian participation.

POLICY 4: AZDL will modify the IPPs if necessary, based upon the results of any assessment or input described in this document. [34CRF222.94(a)(4)]

Procedure 4: The IPP is a fluid document that is subject to whatever changes are necessary to ensure that all Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services, and activities offered to all AZDL students.

4.1 Stakeholders can make recommendations for changes to the IPPs for any reason at any time.

4.2 The principal will evaluate the recommendations.

4.3 The principal and the governing board decide if the IPPs will be revised to accommodate these recommendations.

4.4 Agreed upon changes will be implemented as soon after approval as possible.

4.5 Stakeholders will be made aware of the changes via email, website notification, or flyers.

POLICY 5 : AZDL will respond at least annually in writing to comments and recommendations made by Stakeholders, and disseminate the responses to the Stakeholders prior to the submission of the IPPs by the LEA. [34CRF222.94(a)(5)]

Procedure 5: All comments, and recommendations received via all consultation methods regarding IPPs, educational program, equal participation assessment, etc. will be tracked and responded to each year. Examples of consultation methods include but are not limited to surveys, parent meetings, advisory meetings, board meetings, and in person consultations.

5.1 AZDL will respond to the comments received through the IPP consultation via email, website, or flyers within two weeks of receipt.

5.2 AZDL staff will keep track of and assemble all comments and suggestions received through the various consultation processes and will at least annually respond in writing to comments and recommendations made by Stakeholders, and disseminate the responses to all parties by email, posting on website, or flyers prior to the submission of the IPPs. All questions, comments, recommendations will be sent to all parties.

POLICY 6: AZDL will provide a copy of the IPPs annually to Tribes with its students. [34CR F222.94 (a)(6)]

Procedure 6: AZDL will annually provide a copy of the current Indian Policies and Procedures to each Tribe or Indian Community whose children attend AZDL prior to submitting the Impact Aid Application.

6.1 As part of its annual Impact Aid filing, AZDL will email its IPPs to each Stakeholder Tribe or Indian Community. Additionally, the IPPs will be available on the AZDL website.

Board Approval Date: November 19, 2019