



# Advancing Artificial Intelligence in Tribal Education:

*Policy, Sovereignty, and the Future of Native Learning*

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# Condition of Artificial Intelligence in Education

- AI is already rapidly shaping education
- Omnipresence in classrooms and administration
- Contains opportunities and risks for Tribal education
- Need for Tribal leadership





## Purpose of TEDNA Recommendations

- Center Tribal educator feedback
- Support for Tribal Education Departments (TEDs)
- Strengthen sovereignty and cultural integrity
- Guide policy and investment



# Tribal Educator Feedback

## Educators identified:

- Need for clear AI policies
- Training and literacy gaps
- Data and cultural concerns
- Workforce preparation needs

## Tribal Educator- Informed AI Policy Recommendations for Education

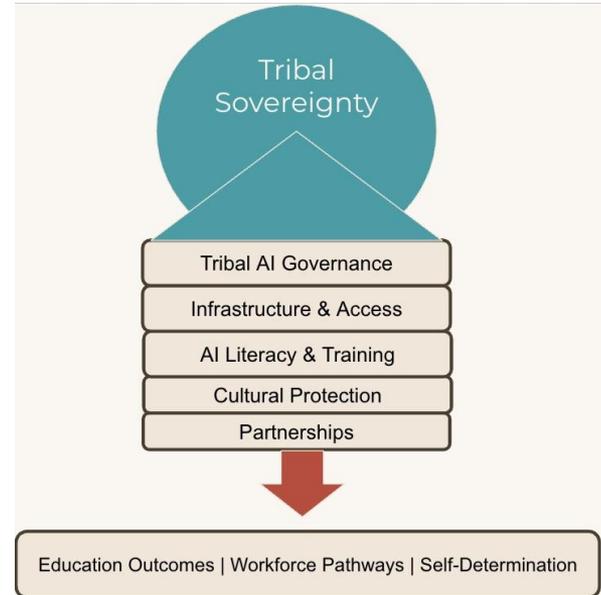
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# AI and Tribal Sovereignty

- Education sovereignty
- Indigenous data governance
- Cultural protection
- Tribal decision-making authority





# AI and Native Student Achievement Opportunity

- Personalized learning potential
- Language revitalization
- Workforce pathways
- Technology Equity





# Policy Framework Overview

- Tribal AI policies
- Infrastructure & Access
- AI literacy & Training
- Culturally relevant AI
- State & Federal Collaboration





## Recommendation #1: Grounded in Sovereignty

- Tribally-led governance
- Defined educational uses
- Data and cultural protections
- Transparency and Oversight

Policy  
Development



Training



Implementation



Evaluation



Impact



## Recommendation #2: Infrastructure & Dividers

- Broadband access
- Devices and secure systems
- Technical support
- Closing the digital divide



## Recommendation #3: Literacy and Training

- Professional Development
- Student AI literacy
- Ethical use training
- Bias awareness



## Recommendation #4: Cultural Relevance

- Tribal oversight tools
- Cultural accuracy review
- Educator decision-making
- Support teaching, **not replace it.**



## Recommendation #5: State & Federal Collaboration

- Dedicated funding
- Tribal Consultation
- Flexible implementation
- Partnership across systems



## How Does Implementation Look?

- Tribal AI policies
- Training programs
- Infrastructure investments
- Workforce pathways



## Long Term Impacts?

- Strengthen Tribal Sovereignty
- Improved educational outcomes
- Cultural protection
- Native technology workforce



## Key Takeaways

- **AI is already here.**
- **Tribal leadership** is essential.
- Policy must be **sovereignty-centered**.
- **Investment** must follow.



## Question & Answer Opportunity

- How are your communities approaching AI now?
- What challenges do you anticipate?
- What support do Tribal Education Departments need?