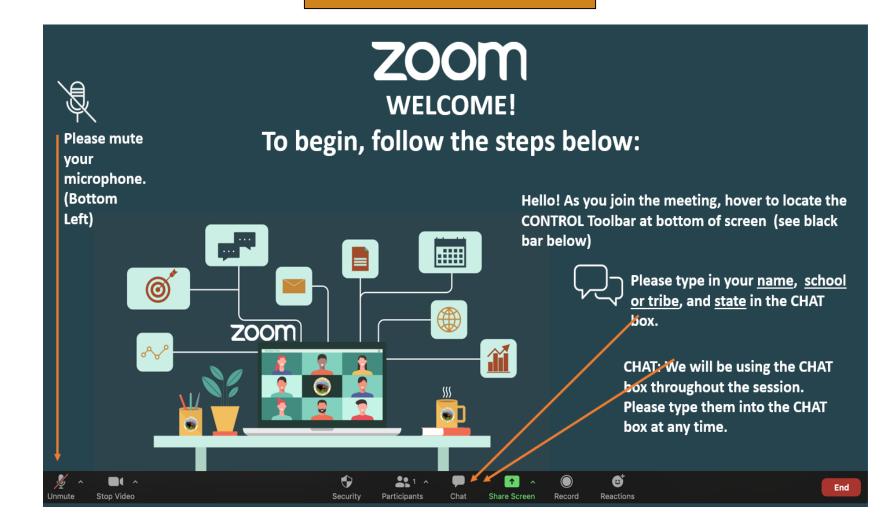
#### Welcome

BIE



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

#### Tribal Consultation on the BIE Flexibility Options regarding Assessments

Chief Academic Office Tamarah Pfeiffer, Ph.D. - Chief Academic Officer Maureen Lesky, Ph.D. - Program Analyst





Welcome from BIE Director Tony Dearman







#### Purpose of Consultation:

Should the Bureau of Indian Education submit an Assessment waiver on behalf of Bureau-funded schools?

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# **Framing Questions**

1. Given the negative impact of Covid-19 on student instruction, social, and behavioral health, should the BIE pursue the option to administer Spring 2021 assessments this Fall 2021 for schools that did not test in Spring 2021?

2. Should the BIE request a system-wide waiver (rather than a delay) of assessments for SY 2020-2021?

3. What should be the outcome for BIE-funded schools that do not assess if their Tribal community issues a "Stay At Home" order for the remainder of the school year?

> Bureau of Indian Education Tribal Consultation May 4-5, 2021

# **ESEA** Overview

- The ESEA requires that the BIE implement requirements for standards, assessments, and an accountability system pursuant to regulation.
- BIE's Standards Assessments and Accountability Final Rule, 25 CFR PART 30, March 2020.

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-03-26/pdf/2020-06148.pdf

- BIE's Agency Plan was approved by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) in January 2021.
- The BIE implemented the Unified System for the first time in School Year 2020-2021, pursuant to ESEA Section 1111(k), and will follow state requirements for standards and assessments.

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# **Flexibility Options**

ED in a February 22, 2021 letter emphasized the importance of flexibility in the administration of statewide assessments. A state should consider:

- Administering a shortened version of its statewide assessment
- Offering remote administration, where feasible; and or
- Extending the testing window to the greatest extent practical.

The intent of the flexibilities is to focus on assessments that provide information about student performance and to help target resources and supports.

#### For that reason, ED is not inviting blanket waivers of assessments.

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# **BIE's Flexibility Options and Supports**

- Extended testing windows into Summer per flexibility options
- Exploring interim assessment for ELA/Math
- Accountability Waiver to the ED (already submitted)
- Worked closely with schools to ensure as they plan and prepare, they have received test administration training for test coordinators
- As Associate Deputy Directors are notified of a school's change in status to hybrid or in-person, Chief Academic Office is in communication with schools to provide assistance
- Bi-weekly newsletter from Chief Academic Office to school leaders and test coordinators regarding updates on assessments
- Ensuring schools have technical assistance to assess appropriate student populations

Bureau of Indian Education Tribal Consultation May 4-5, 2021

# Question #1

Given the negative impact of Covid-19 on student instruction, social, and behavioral health, should the BIE pursue the option to administer Spring 2021 assessments this Fall 2021 at schools that did not test in Spring 2021?

#### What impact would this have on a Bureau-funded school?

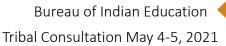
- Students would be assessed twice in a given year
- In School Year 2021-2022, 4<sup>th</sup> grade students would take the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade assessment in the fall and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade assessment in the spring
- Fall 2021 Assessment (~1,920 mins.) + Spring 2022 Assessment (~1,920 mins.) = ~64 hrs. (~3,840 mins); Assessments are usually given for approximately 3-4 hours a day, depending on grade level
- Additional Training for School Test Coordinators (TC) and School Test Administrators (TA); Training Time = ~61 hrs. of training offered
- Consideration of TC's time to Register Students

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# Question #2

Should the BIE request a system-wide waiver (rather than delay) of assessments for SY 2020-2021?

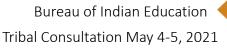
- The BIE has received numerous letters from Tribes and/or School Boards acknowledging their inability to assess under the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The BIE has received numerous "Stay at Home" orders provided by the Tribes.



# Question #3

What should be the outcome for BIE-funded schools that do not assess if their Tribal community issues a "Stay At Home" order for the remainder of the school year?

 Currently, there are an estimated 35 Tribes that have provided "Stay at Home" orders or COVID-19 pandemic concerns and will not be assessing for SY 2020-2021.



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#### Presenters' Contact Information

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Written comments must be sent to

Consultation@bia.gov

and

Tamarah.Pfeiffer@bie.edu.

Comments must be received by

May 14, 2021

on or before 11:59 pm ET.



Bureau of Indian Education Tribal Consultation May 4-5, 2021

# Mvto HiyHiy e LemLmts DaWaEh e Pilawech Miigwech Pinagigi Wimblahaho Pilamiya Taikuu Pinagigi e Pilamiya Taikuu Nya:Weh Aho Tansi

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