



# CALIE.org

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## California Indian Education, Inc.

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Ernie C. Salgado, Jr., CEO

***CALIE.org Is The Number One American Indian Web Site In The World!***

September 7, 2021

Honorable Assemble-Member James Ramos  
Capitol Office: State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0040

Assemble-Member, James Ramos,

On March 29, 2021 CALIE.org sent you a request for your assistance regarding unexpended funds allocated for the 20 California American Indian Education Center's (AIEC) 2019-20 FY. Due to the States' Covid-19 shut down, many of the CIEC's were unable to spend or encumber all their allotted funds resulting in a little under \$400,000 of unexpended funds for the 2019-20 FY, (*October 1 2019-September 30, 2020*).

Because of your intervention the California Department of Education (CDE) reinstated the funds and notified the California American Indian Education Centers (AIEC) that the funds would be reinstated.

However, of Friday, September 4, 2021 the Centers were notified by e mail that the funds would not be forthcoming. The following is a copy of the e mail:

*I hope your Friday is progressing gently. I wanted to update you on the FY 18 and FY 19 reauthorization of AIEC funds. The 2021 State Budget Act did include carryover of AIEC FY18 and FY19 funds. While it looked like these funds would be available to the AIECs, the final 2021 State Budget Act Section SB 129, made these funds available to the following programs/activities  
To allocate to the Oakland School District*

- *Invoice costs associated with administrating the English language proficiency assessment during the 2019-2020 school year*
- *Contract costs associated with administering the English language proficiency assessment*
- *Contract costs associated with conducting and alignment study for the Summative English language proficiency assessment.*
- *California Community Schools Partnership Program*

*We do apologize that the FY 18 and FY 19 carryover funds are not allowed to roll over to the AIECs for the 21-22 school year. When Judy told you about these funds we all believed that they would be made available to the AIECs. We are all deeply sorry that we misspoke and apologize for any confusion this may have caused you or your Center. We can talk about this during the next AIEC Technical Assistance Meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 2p.m. We will continue to investigate possible ways to make future reverted AIEC funding available to the AIECs.*

*As always, thank you for so much for the work you do as you are making a difference in the lives of our American Indian students and their families*

*Thank you, **Mindi Parsons, Ed.D., Administrator CDE.***

It appears that the CDE is invoking a statues of limitation clause to rescind the authorization for the redistribution of the carry over funds to the AIEC. The CDE caused the delay in the redistribution of the funds in the first place by withholding the funds. Still another issue is, how can one educational activity be approved and all others not be approved? Cultural, math or art in way of example. Again, it appears that that the CDE is making unsubstantiated funding decisions.

The annual funding for the AIEC's is less than \$5,000,000. While California has approximately 20-percent of the Nations American Indian population living with its borders, it is the most underfunded population in the State. And now, the CDE is reducing the funding by almost 10-percent.

We are once again asking for your assistance with the AIEC's retaining what little funding is allocated to them would be of a significant benefit to the California America Indian Communities they serve. Thank for your help.

Respectfully,

*Ernie. C. Salgado, Jr.,*