



MEMO

To: Committee reviewing state aid formula
From: Tracy Cook, Lead Consulting Librarian
Subject: Update formula to include possible payments to tribal college libraries
Date: December 13, 2023

Administrative Rule 10.102.4003 defines how state aid per capita per square mile is distributed to eligible libraries. This formula has been reviewed multiple times by previous task forces. Although complicated it has revealed itself to be a fair way of calculating population in places where there are multiple independent libraries.

MSL staff are seeking input on how to calculate the numbers for accredited tribal college libraries that choose to meet the public library standards. Should we use student population? Should we use reservation population since they serve the public as well as students? Should we use school district populations? Should we use tribal enrollment numbers and subtract those numbers before applying state aid calculations to the other public libraries? Or should we use a different metric and what would that be?

We calculated what the funding amounts and service populations would be for the examples above and are sharing the impacts of using reservation population, school population, tribal enrollment, and school district population for the tribal college libraries and the other libraries. Do any of these options seem like one we should recommend to the State Library Commission? Are there other ways of dividing up the census population that you would like MSL staff to explore?