

United Tribes Technical College (UTTC) Bismarck, North Dakota

Land Grant Programs Mission, Vision and Values

The UTTC Land Grant Programs mission is to improve the quality of life through culturally appropriate and scientifically based education that will strengthen Tribal communities, sustain natural resources, and promote healthy lifestyles for citizens of Tribal nations.

Our vision is to establish a premier Land Grant Programs team that provides culturally distinct, innovative education that inspires Tribal citizens to improve all aspects of life.

The foundation of our value and belief system is the Native American Circle of Life, the Medicine Wheel embracing physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being.

In pursuit of our beliefs, we value:

- Cultural diversity
- Respect for all people
- Respect for the land and Mother Earth
- Relevant, research-based knowledge
- Lifelong learning

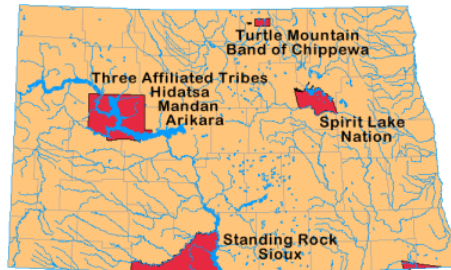


SERVICE AREA

The UTTC Land Grant Programs is committed to providing educational support to Tribal citizens, communities, and colleges. With a focus to the UTTC five owner tribes:

- Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
- Spirit Lake Nation
- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold
- Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa

Location of the Five Tribal Nations



Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

After much hard work by the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), tribal colleges and universities (TCUs) were given Congressional land grant status under the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994. Land grant status provided the 1994s access to federal funding through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). UTTC Land Grant Programs were begun in 1999.

The four major USDA land grant funded programs;

- Tribal Colleges **Education** Equity Grant supports programs that focus on undergraduate and/or graduate studies in the food and agricultural sciences.
- Tribal Colleges **Extension** Grant supports one or more of the following base program areas: agriculture; community resources and economic development; family development and resource management; 4-H and youth development; leadership and volunteer development; natural resources and environmental management; and nutrition, diet and health.
- Tribal Colleges **Research** Grant funds investigative and analytical studies and experimentation in the food and agricultural sciences.
- Tribal College **Endowment** funds support curricula design and instructional materials, faculty development and preparation for teaching, student experiential learning, equipment and instrumentation for teaching, student recruitment and retention, and facilities to support the land grant mission.

UTTC Land Grant Programs Strategic Plan 2013-2018

Land Grant Programs staff, students, advisory board members and participants established this vision for the future and general principles for the strategic direction of our programs and services. It is not a rigid or prescriptive document, but sets forth general principles, so that Land Grant Programs can proceed with multiyear projects in an orderly, effective way.

Goals

1. The **UTTC Land Grant Programs (Extension, Education and Research)** an education resource for Tribal citizens, communities, and colleges.
2. The **Extension** program delivers relevant, research-based food, land and agriculture education that has a positive impact on the health and well-being of all citizens.
3. The **Education (Equity)** program prepares students for a career in Tribal settings and for off reservation employment opportunities.
4. The **Research** programs work with partners to investigate, study, and experiment in the food and agriculture sciences.

Our Strategic Direction

We fulfill the **extension** mission by providing educational opportunities for youth and adults in non-formal settings on the UTTC campus and in tribal communities. Foodservice managers participate in food safety training for national certification, student groups seek food handlers training for their fundraising activities. College students, staff and faculty participate in hands on food and nutrition activities. School children, teachers and volunteers join us in the community garden and the experimental gardens to experience growing your own food and the taste of fresh off the plant produce. Reservation based food distribution programs, diabetes programs, senior meal sites, casinos and other organizations contact us as they develop programs and activities for the individuals and families they serve.

We fulfill the **education** mission with a two year Associate of Arts degree in Nutrition and Foodservice that includes degree plans in Foodservice and Culinary Arts or Nutrition and Wellness. On-campus students in Foodservice and Culinary Arts gain experience in the “state of the art” vocational teaching kitchen, experiment with tools and equipment found in large commercial kitchens, learn culinary basics and practice skills. Nutrition and Wellness students focus heavily on public/community health, medical nutrition therapy and science courses. Articulation agreements with the universities offering dietetics and food science bachelor’s degrees ease the transition to the larger school environment for those seeking a bachelor’s degree.

We accomplish the **research** mission through collaborations and partnerships that analyze the nutrient content of native plants, gather traditional knowledge and connect to contemporary scientific practices. We conduct assessments and evaluations, field based bio-assays, student research on bat health and habitat, squash growing, plant breeding, and seed saving. We maintain close relationships with the Agriculture Research Stations including the Human Nutrition Research Center to enhance student research expertise and further our ability to meet the needs of our students, communities, and respective Nations.