



Driving Futures: Empowering Tribal Communities through CDL Training Hub and Infrastructure Sustainability

CTIPS-038 – UTC Project Information

Recipient/Grant Number:	North Dakota State University, United Tribes Technical College Grant No. 69A3552348308
Center Name:	Center for Transformative Infrastructure Preservation and Sustainability
Research Priority:	Preserving the Existing Transportation System
Principal Investigator(s):	Matthew Mastel Shelby Martell
Project Partners:	USDOT, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology – \$100,000 United Tribes Technical College – \$105,542
Total Project Cost:	\$205,542
Project Start and End Date:	10/17/2024 to 10/16/2026

Project Description

This project outlines the benefits of establishing a testing hub for certifications such as Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDL). The creation of a centralized testing hub offers increased convenience and efficiency for candidates, streamlining administrative processes and providing standardized evaluations. Moreover, it ensures quality assurance and integrity in assessments, serving as a focal point for educational resources and training opportunities. By facilitating collaboration among stakeholders and stimulating economic growth, testing hubs contribute to enhanced safety standards within industries. The project aims to establish a testing hub at United Tribes Technical College (UTTC), benefiting students and professionals from Tribal Schools in North Dakota. Areas affected by the project include transportation education, workforce development, and safety standards in the region. Overall, the testing hub provides a centralized, efficient, and standardized approach to certification, benefiting both candidates and the industry at large.

USDOT Priorities

This project aligns with the USDOT strategic goal of Economic Strength and Global Competitiveness by enhancing workforce development in the transportation sector. Additionally, it promotes equity by providing opportunities for students from Tribal communities to access high-quality education and employment opportunities.

Outputs

UTTC will be working with the other Tribal Schools around the state of North Dakota to develop a uniform Curriculum. Along with the Curriculum, UTTC will become a central testing facility for students to take their driver's test. This will help people enter the workforce sooner than having to wait for the North Dakota DOT, which will help the shortage of truck and bus drivers. UTTC also involves professional development for instructors to meet with industry leaders to see if any changes need to be made for our students to become successful.

Outcomes/Impacts

The project will result in strengthened educational and workforce development programs, providing students with valuable skills and opportunities for professional growth. Long-term impacts include improved infrastructure sustainability and enhanced community engagement.

Final Report

Upon completion, the final report link will be added to the [project page on the CTIPS website](#).