



2015 BILL

1 **AN ACT to amend** 20.285 (1) (a); and **to create** 36.31 (4) of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** state funding for tribal colleges and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Board of Regents (board) of the University of Wisconsin System (UW System) to make annual payments to tribal colleges, from the UW System's appropriation for general program operations. Tribal colleges are defined as the College of Menominee Nation and the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College. The amount of the payments is calculated by multiplying the amount of per student funding received by the tribal college from the federal Bureau of Indian Education for qualifying Indian students (as defined by federal law) by the number of students enrolled at the tribal college who 1) are not Indian students; 2) reside in this state and within 45 miles of the tribal college; and 3) are enrolled full-time and are working toward an associate or bachelor's degree. A tribal college that desires to receive payments must report certain information to the board.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 20.285 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1 20.285 (1) (a) *General program operations; payments to tribal colleges.* The
2 amounts in the schedule for the purpose of educational programs and related
3 programs and for the payments under s. 36.31 (4) to tribal colleges. The board of
4 regents may not encumber amounts appropriated under this paragraph for
5 groundwater research without the approval of the secretary of administration.

6 **SECTION 2.** 36.31 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

7 36.31 (4) (a) In this subsection:

8 1. “Eligible student” means a student to whom all of the following apply:

9 a. The student is enrolled full-time in a tribal college and is working toward
10 an associate or bachelor’s degree.

11 b. The student is a resident of this state and resides within 45 miles of the tribal
12 college at which the student is enrolled.

13 c. The student is not an Indian student.

14 2. “Indian student” has the meaning given in 25 USC 1801 (a) (7).

15 3. “Indian student count” has the meaning given in 25 USC 1801 (a) (8).

16 4. “Tribal college” has the meaning given in s. 45.205 (1) (a).

17 (b) From the appropriation under s. 20.285 (1) (a), the Board of Regents shall
18 make payments to the governing bodies of tribal colleges, as provided in par. (d).

19 (c) Not later than October 15 of each year, the governing body of any tribal
20 college that desires to receive payments under par. (b) shall report to the Board of
21 Regents all of the following:

22 1. The number of eligible students enrolled at the tribal college for the previous
23 academic year.

24 2. The Indian student count for the previous academic year.

