



Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

5600 Fishers Lane • Rockville, MD 20857

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March 15, 2023

Dear Tribal Leaders:

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in coordination with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will hold a virtual tribal educator listening session on **March 27th, 2023**, to gather tribal educator perspectives on **implementing Section 1263 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, better known as the Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act** (see <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr2617/BILLS-117hr2617enr.pdf>).

As HHS/SAMHSA and DEA continue to implement Section 1263 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, SAMHSA and DEA seek views and perspectives from tribal educators on key opioid use disorders (OUDs) and other substance use disorders (SUDs) training elements, particularly as it relates to tribally focused educational needs. This will help inform SAMHSA and DEA guidance and materials related to the implementation of this important provision.

Title: SAMHSA Medication Access and Training Expansion Act Listening Session with Tribal Educators

When: Monday, March 27th

Time: 12:00 PM ET to 2:00 PM ET

You must register in advance for this meeting. Register at:
[Registration Link](#)

Objectives of the listening session:

1. Elicit information concerning stakeholder views and perspectives on key OUD and other SUD training elements, particularly as they pertain to tribally focused educational needs.
2. Learn about existing OUD and other SUD-related educational and other training activities happening in Indian country, including by Tribal educational institutions.

Planned discussion questions:

1. Section 1263 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (aka “the MATE Act”) mentions broad categories of SUD curricula for physician and non-physician practitioners, including treating and managing opioid and other SUDs with treatments that include the appropriate clinical use of all FDA-approved medications for SUD or the safe pharmacological management of dental pain and screening, brief intervention, and

referral for treatment for those individuals identified to have or be at risk for developing opioid and other SUDs.

- a. Are there particular aspects of these elements that are important to Tribal communities that SAMHSA and DEA should consider as these agencies and partners implement these requirements?
2. SAMHSA understands that these areas may not capture all the salient elements learners need to know and be able to apply when it comes to addressing SUD among Native people.
 - a. What, if any, additional elements, or topics should SAMHSA and DEA consider in providing guidance or materials to training entities?
 3. What curricula for SUD are currently being used by Tribal educational institutions?
 4. What other OUD and other SUD-related educational and training activities are tribal educators engaging in with healthcare professionals and/or students?

If you have any questions, please contact SAMHSA's Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy at OTAP@SAMHSA.HHS.GOV.

Sincerely,

_____/signed/_____
Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D.
Assistant Secretary for Mental
Health and Substance Use