

INDIAN AFFAIRS MANUAL

Part 78

Other Programs

Chapter 1

Youth Initiative Program

Page 1

- 1.1 Purpose.** The purpose of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Youth Initiative Program is to engage and employ native youth by providing unique internships and job opportunities in the areas of natural resources and other service areas that the BIA provides to tribal communities.
- 1.2 Scope.** This policy applies to all BIA Central and all Regional Offices, Field Offices, and/or any of the BIA-owned or BIA-operated facilities within the geographic jurisdiction of the agencies or field offices
- 1.3 Policy.** The BIA Youth Initiative supports the Secretary of the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Call to Action that focuses on opportunities for young people to Play, Learn, Serve, and Work on our public lands and waters. BIA conducts outreach to native youth through educational opportunities such as internships, which provide hands-on experiences while developing the necessary skills for future employment opportunities.

Through these opportunities in public service, students learn more about the role of the federal government in Indian self-determination, and the government's Trust responsibilities to build strong and stable tribal governments.

1.4 Authority.

A. Statutes and Regulations

- 1) Public Law (P.L) 91-378, Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970, and its amendments
- 2) 16 U.S.C. Chapter 37, Youth Conservation Corps and Public Lands Corps
- 3) Secretarial Order (SO) No. 3332, Engaging the Next Generation, March 20, 2014
- 4) Executive Order 13562, Recruiting and Hiring Students and Recent Graduates, December 27, 2010

1.5 Responsibilities.

- A. Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs** is responsible for complying with SO3332, including engaging the next generation in meaningful connections to nature through opportunities to play, learn, serve, and work on public lands; and ensuring that BIA receives the resources it needs to successfully implement the Youth Program.

INDIAN AFFAIRS MANUAL

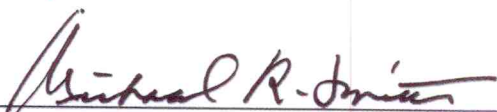
Part 78
Chapter 1

Other Programs
Youth Initiative Program

Page 2

- B. **Director, BIA** is responsible for implementing the BIA Youth Program, including working with Central and Regional BIA offices to provide opportunities for native youth.
- C. **BIA Office Directors, Regional Directors and Agency Superintendents** – are responsible for providing opportunities for native youth to participate in BIA service areas by connecting them to natural resource and conservation projects.
- D. **Director, Youth Initiative Program** is responsible for building relationships with federal organizations, and for establishing partnerships with academia, universities, and tribal organizations to provide internships and conservation projects for native youth. The youth initiatives are designed to promote the cultural traditions that enrich native youth who learn by participating in natural resource projects that encourage protecting and improving the Trust assets of Native Americans, preserving and maintaining natural resources, and promoting the stewardship of the land, water, and earth.

Approval


for Michael Black
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

10/7/2015
Date