Department of Tribal Relations

Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Brief Summary

Information contained in this document is based on the Governor's FY2026 Budget and may not correspond with the final budget adopted by the Legislature.

Source of Funds

Distribution of General Funds



Key Personnel

- David Flute, Secretary
- Fred Osborn, Office of Indian Education Director

Mission of the Department of Tribal Relations

Mission Statement: To develop and foster relationships between the Nine Tribes and the State of South Dakota to advance diplomatic government-to-government partnerships.

Vision Statement: To develop mutually beneficial government-to-government partnerships that meet the challenges and enhance the well-being of our communities.

Department of Tribal Relations Budget Units

Office of Tribal Relations (0710)

Major Items Summary - Department of Tribal Relations (DTR)

	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendation					
	General	Federal	Other	Total	FTE	General	Federal	Other	Total	FTE
FY 2026 Base Budget	\$879,899	\$0	\$196,000	\$1,075,899	7.0	\$879,899	\$0	\$196,000	\$1,075,899	7.0
1. Increase for Indian Education Summit	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
2. Increase for Suicide Prevention Booth	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2026 Total Budget	\$914,899	\$0	\$196,000	\$1,110,899	7.0	\$879,899	\$0	\$196,000	\$1,075,899	7.0
Change from Base Budget	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$35,000	0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
% Change from Base Budget	4.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

1. Increase for Indian Education Summit

	General	Federal	Other	lotai	FIE
Agency Request	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	0.00
Governor's Recommendation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00

The agency requests an increase of \$25,000 in **general funds** for additional expenses associated with putting on the Indian Education Summit.

Since 2007, this summit has been put on for state educators, prospective teachers, and youth with the primary goal of developing academic achievement, along with mental, social, and spiritual growth. The summit also supports creating networks and providing resources for sustaining Indian cultural pedagogy in the state.

The 2024 summit was held in Pierre on November 14, with a Youth Day being held on November 15. The cost for the event was \$100 per adult ticket. Previously, the cost was \$150 per adult ticket, but at that time, the summit was two days long. On average, 147 people have attended the summit each year over the last three years.

There is \$20,000 currently in DTR's ongoing budget for this summit. This request would go toward the contract for event registration, the venue, rooms, speakers' fees, and emcee fees.

The governor does not recommend this request.

2. Increase for Suicide Prevention Booth

	Generai	Federai	Otner	iotai	FIE
Agency Request	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	0.00
Governor's Recommendation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00

The agency requests an increase of \$10,000 in **general funds** for additional expenses associated with the Suicide Prevention Initiative.

The initiative is led by the Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health, taking place each year since 2022. In the last few years, DTR has leaned on the Department of Health (DOH) to purchase items for DTR's suicide prevention booth.

It is uncertain if DOH will be able to continue to purchase these items for DTR; therefore, this request would allow the agency to cover this cost itself. Examples of expected expenses include 9-8-8 promotional items and booth decor, along with travel to and from from different tribal communities, state and tribal events, and schools.

The governor does not recommend this request.

Department of T	ribal Relations	Budget Reques	t				
By Fund Category	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2024 Budget Revised	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Agency Request	FY 2026 Governors Recommended	Change From FY2025
General	\$766,746	\$835,180	\$857,438	\$879,899	\$914,899	\$879,899	\$0
Federal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$68,287	\$196,000	\$196,000	\$196,000	\$196,000	\$196,000	\$0
Total	\$835,033	\$1,031,180	\$1,053,438	\$1,075,899	\$1,110,899	\$1,075,899	\$0
By Program	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2024 Budget Revised	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Agency Request	FY 2026 Governors Recommended	Change From FY2025
Office of Tribal Relations	\$835,033	\$1,031,180	\$1,053,438	\$1,075,899	\$1,110,899	\$1,075,899	\$0
Total	\$835,033	\$1,031,180	\$1,053,438	\$1,075,899	\$1,110,899	\$1,075,899	\$0
By Object Expenditure Personnel Costs	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2024 Budget Revised	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Agency Request	FY 2026 Governors Recommended	Change From FY2025
	\$603,876	\$661,449	\$661,452	\$685,080	\$685,080	\$685,080	\$0
Salaries	\$474,246	\$520,560	\$508,688	\$529,036	\$529,036	\$529,036	\$0
Benefits	\$129,630	\$140,889	\$152,764	\$156,044	\$156,044	\$156,044	\$0
Operating Expenditures	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2024 Budget Revised	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Agency Request	FY 2026 Governors Recommended	Change From FY2025
	\$231,157	\$369,731	\$391,986	\$390,819	\$425,819	\$390,819	\$0
Travel	\$43,945	\$50,088	\$51,083	\$54,037	\$54,037	\$54,037	\$0
Contractual Services	\$103,454	\$197,729	\$239,803	\$235,682	\$235,682	\$235,682	\$0

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	6.62	6.44	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	0.00
Total	\$835,033	\$1,031,180	\$1,053,438	\$1,075,899	\$1,110,899	\$1,075,899	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$2,642	\$427	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Grants	\$57,650	\$67,000	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$0
Supplies	\$23,465	\$54,487	\$13,100	\$13,100	\$48,100	\$13,100	\$0
Operating Expenditures	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2024 Budget Revised	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Agency Request	FY 2026 Governors Recommended	Change From FY2025

Funding Sources (Governor's Recommended)

	General	Federal	Other	General%	Federal%	Other%
TRIBAL RELATIONS OTHER FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$196,000	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$879,899	\$0	\$0	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%