

**Education Innovation and Research Program (EIR)
Project Abstract**

Applicant Name: Chugachmiut

Project Title: Chugach Identity Project

Type of Grant Requested: (select one) Early-Phase Mid-Phase Expansion

Absolute Priorities the Project Addresses: (select all that apply)

- Absolute Priority 1-- Demonstrate a Rationale (Early), Moderate (Mid), Strong (Expansion)
- Absolute Priority 2-- Field-Initiated Innovations—General
- Absolute Priority 3-- Promoting STEM Education
- Absolute Priority 4-- Meeting Student Social, Emotional, and Academic Needs
- Absolute Priority 5-- Educator Recruitment and Retention

Competitive Preference Priorities the Project Addresses: (select all that apply)

- Competitive Preference Priority 1— Promoting Equity in Student Access to Educational Resources and Opportunities: Implementers and Partners
- Competitive Preference Priority 2— Addressing the Impact of COVID–19 on Students, Educators, and Faculty

Total number of students to be served by the project: 75

Grade level(s) to be served by the project: 9th grade through 12th grade

Definition of high-need students: Alaska Native/American Indian/Indigenous, Attending Rural or Remote Schools

Brief description of project activities: The Chugach Identity Project will create a social-emotional learning intervention in Chugach Region schools using culturally relevant activities and classes adapted from the Identity Project curriculum and tailored for Sugpiaq and Eyak youth.

Summary of project objectives and expected outcomes: Project objectives are tailored to the development, implementation, and evaluation of the Chugach Identity Project intervention in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. Expected outcomes include completed Chugach Identity Project curriculum materials, improved social-emotional learning factors for students and educators, and innovative and compelling research supporting this approach.

Summary of how the project is innovative: This project is innovative because it focuses on the social-emotional learning factors of Alaska Native students, who are largely unrepresented in extant Education research.

Other studies related to the proposed project: Identity Project in Santa Fe, New Mexico

Proposed implementation sites: Native Village of Nanwalek, Seward, AK.

Organizations partnering with this project: The Identity Project, Kenai Peninsula Borough School District