



NICWA

National Indian Child Welfare Association

Frequently Asked Questions about NICWA ICW Training Institutes

When do NICWA's ICW training institutes take place?

The dates for ICW training institutes vary from year to year, but generally they are held between June and December of each year.

Where are NICWA's ICW training institutes held?

NICWA's training institutes are primarily held in Portland, but participants can expect to see more locations added each season. NICWA's training institutes are always held in the host hotel indicated. Participants should be prepared to ask front desk staff for information on where in the hotel their meeting rooms are located.

How long are NICWA training institutes?

NICWA training institutes are 2.5 days. Days 1 and 2 are 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and Day 3 is 8:00 a.m.–noon to allow people time to travel in the afternoon.

Does NICWA provide transportation to/from the airport?

The majority of hotels that NICWA contracts with for the training institutes do not provide transportation to or from the airport, so participants will need to account for that expense when figuring out the budget for their travel needs. Where feasible, NICWA will put information on our website regarding the most economic means of transportation.

Does NICWA provide meals during the training institute?

For Portland-based trainings, NICWA provides lunch on Day 1, and a beverage station is available throughout all three days (i.e., coffee in the morning and soda in the afternoon). For trainings outside of Portland, NICWA provides coffee and some light snacks to attendees throughout the training institutes but does not provide meals.

What materials will be provided? Is there anything that I should bring?

NICWA provides curriculum materials as dictated by the instructor. This can range from a small packet of handouts to a large training notebook with multiple sections. The hotel generally provides pens and small notepads for participant convenience, however, for those interested in taking more extensive notes, we recommend bringing your own notebook.

Are there any scholarships available to training institute participants?

Not currently. The registration fees from the training institutes go to cover the costs of the trainer's time and travel, the materials, the refreshments and meals (if applicable), and the cost of the facility.

Will I earn continuing education units (CEUs) for attending this course?

Yes, attendees earn 1.5 CEUs from the Northwest Indian College when they attend training institutes; however, they are required to fill out a form in order to earn those CEUs. This form can be found on the NICWA website, and additional copies are brought to the training by NICWA staff. For other types of certification or licensure (e.g. legal, medical, teaching), the participant will have to check with their licensing agency to see if CEUs are applicable units.

What happens to my registration if I am unable to attend the training institute?

NICWA's cancellation policy is included on each of our training institute registration forms and states that the transference of registration from one individual to another can be performed at any time. Refunds can be issued if they are requested prior to the early bird deadline (generally this falls three weeks before the date of the training) minus a \$75 administrative fee.

Your courses sound great, but I have more than five people that I want to send and between their registration and travel costs, I could break my bank! Do I have any other options?

Yes. All of NICWA's training institutes are potential on-site trainings. If you have more than five attendees that you are considering sending to our training institute, an on-site training is likely a better option for your organization.

What is the audience for the ICW training institutes?

Generally, ICW training institutes are attended by both tribal and state direct service providers, managers, program directors, attorneys and judicial personnel, and leaders. Parents and families for whom the Indian Child Welfare Act applies may also benefit.

How are NICWA's training institute topics chosen?

Training institute topics are chosen based on a variety of factors including (but not limited to) feedback from surveys and evaluations; changes or updates in the field of Indian child welfare; expressed need by individuals, organizations, entities, and tribes; and reception to previous offerings of the same course.

What are some of the most popular trainings?

Some of NICWA's most popular trainings include Positive Indian Parenting, the ICWA series (Basic and Advanced), Family-Centered Services, the Title IV-E series, and Cultural Competency. Of these, the Positive Indian Parenting and at least one of the courses in the ICWA series are guaranteed to be a part of every training institute season.

Where do I turn if I have more questions about the ICW training institutes?

For more information on the content, agendas, travel logistics, hotel blocks, and more, you can visit www.nicwa.org/training/institutes. If you have further questions, feel free to contact NICWA's event manager, Laurie Evans, at laurie@nicwa.org or by calling (503) 222-4044, extension 124.

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