The Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research is within the Psychology Department at Colorado State University. It has been designated a Center of Excellence by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and has a history of over 40 years of broad-based, multidisciplinary and multifaceted research and technical assistance efforts.

Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research
The Great Law of the Six Nation Iroquois Confederacy
“In our every deliberation we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations.”
The Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research at Colorado State University has been funded for over 30 years by the National Institute on Drug Abuse to study the patterns, causes, trends and prevalence of substance use and other social issues among Native youth. The Center has the largest database in the nation on drug and alcohol use with Native youth. As part of this funding, the Center offers The American Drug and Alcohol Survey free to schools, grades 4 through 12, who have a significant Native enrollment. Each school that participates in the survey receives $500.00.

**The American Drug and Alcohol Survey (ADAS)**

- Is designed to be given in one classroom period
- Can be given in grades 4th-12th (a short version is given in 4th-6th grades)
- Is completely anonymous
- Asks about drug and tobacco use, violence and victimization
- Asks about school, family adjustment, peers, psychological and social traits that are related to drug use
- As a diagnostic tool, the ADAS reveals to students that, while many young people are using drugs, there are a large number who are not.
- Shows that drug and alcohol use is a community-wide problem, not just a school problem
- Raises community awareness of the nature and extent of drug and alcohol use
- Evaluates the effectiveness of prevention programs already in place

Prevention Programs can be created because the ADAS shows which drugs are most prevalent, informs tribal and other government officials of the need for implementation, and creates hard numbers that are required by many granting organizations. The ADAS does not ask about parent behavior or student sexual behavior. Exaggerators and/or inconsistent responders are not included in the report.

By administering the ADAS, your school will receive $500 for participating in the survey and a comprehensive report on your students.

**Important assurances…**

Your results are not seen by anyone unless you choose to distribute them. Any publications or reports published by the TEC contain only national aggregate data; the state, community, tribe and school are not identified.

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**What Is Needed To Participate?**

- A resolution signed by the tribal council or school board (sometimes both)
- A first class letter mailed to parents prior to taking the survey (this document also provided by TEC as well as postage for mailing letters to parents)
- A media release (e.g. school, newspaper, tribal, newsletter or radio announcement) about the survey