

## Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship

The Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship (ECS) is an annual award program administered by the Minnesota Department of Education, Office of Indian Education. This scholarship is intended to aid American Indian students in their pursuit of higher education opportunities. Awards generally range from \$1000-\$4000 per academic year, but can and do vary. FT students and Graduate students may be awarded at a higher rate.

### Eligibility:

- Applicants must be a U.S. citizen;
- Applicants must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe;
- Applicants must be enrolled PT (6-11 credits) or FT (12+ credits) in a certificate, associate, bachelor's, or graduate program at an accredited tribal, public, or private college or university in the state of Minnesota;
- Undergraduate applicants must have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA on their educational transcripts;
- Graduate applicants must have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA on their educational transcripts;
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate leadership qualities within the American Indian community;
- Applicants must not be related to an employee of the Minnesota Department of Education.

### Applicant Portfolios Must Include the Following:

1. Undergraduate or Graduate application, filled out in its entirety. Applications should be typed or printed legibly.
2. Most recent unofficial college transcript, or high school transcript if you are currently a senior in high school. Transcripts must reflect all high school or collegiate coursework at all schools attended, and your career cumulative GPA. This includes transferred credit and coursework from previously attended institutions.
3. Proof of your enrollment in a federally recognized tribe. We accept copies of enrollment papers as well as current tribal IDs. If either item reflects a name that you no longer legally use, due to marriage or other circumstances, proof of the name change is required (i.e. a copy of a marriage certificate, adoption certificate, etc.).
4. A 350-400 word essay expressing the reasons why you should be awarded this scholarship. Essays must include your educational goals, professional/work goals, and the impact you want to have within the American Indian/tribal community at large.
5. One **academic** letter of reference that describes your academic leadership activities and connection to the American Indian community. Academic letters should be typed on letterhead and signed.
6. One **personal** letter of reference describing your character and leadership qualities, and connection to the American Indian community. Personal letters should be typed or written legibly, and signed.

## Submission Guidelines:

- Applicant portfolios must include all of the required materials as outlined above.
- All applicant materials must be submitted **together** in one portfolio/package.
- All applicant portfolios must be received by May 31.

**Please note:** Due to the high volume of applications received, we are not able to provide personal feedback or follow-up on applicant submissions, and you will not be contacted if your portfolio is missing a required item, arrives past the deadline, or is otherwise deemed incomplete. It is therefore vitally important that all required items be submitted together as outlined above. Incomplete or late applicant portfolios will be eliminated from consideration.

All personal information provided to the Minnesota Department of Education is held in the strictest confidence.

Questions about this scholarship program should be directed to Kristen Aeikens: 651-582-8558  
or [kristen.aeikens@state.mn.us](mailto:kristen.aeikens@state.mn.us).

## Submit Applicant Portfolio to:

Minnesota Department of Education  
Office of Indian Education  
Attn: Kristen Aeikens  
1500 W. Hwy. 36  
Roseville, MN 55113

## Award Notification:

All applicants will receive an award letter, or a letter of denial by August 15.

## About Ethel Curry

Ethel Curry was born in Hixton, Wisconsin, in 1888. In 1914, she graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in mathematics and biology. Post-graduation, Ms. Curry was accepted into two medical schools, but due to her health, she was not able to attend either institution. She instead spent nearly 40 years working as a surgical secretary at the esteemed Mayo Clinic.

According to her niece, Jeanne Angel, Ms. Curry lived simply and frugally, without television or telephone. She was a lifelong scholar with a lively, inquiring mind and an independent spirit, and she was a warm and sociable person who held a deep compassion for American Indian people. Her tremendous wealth was attained through investments in Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (3M).

Ms. Curry died in 1995 at the age of 107. It is due to her extreme generosity that the Minnesota Department of Education is able to provide this valuable scholarship opportunity to American Indian students.



*Ethel Curry, 1888-1995*

# Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship

## Undergraduate Student Application

### A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name - First, Middle, Last \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone - Home \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone - Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

New/Returning? (Check one):  First-time applicant  Returning Ethel Curry Scholar

Full/Part-time? (Check one):  Full-time student status  Part-time student status

Tribal Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

### B. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Institution of Attendance \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Status in Community or Technical College:  First Year  Second Year

Status in 4-year Undergraduate Program:  Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior

Anticipated Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Major \_\_\_\_\_ Minor \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated/Actual Graduation Date - Month and Year \_\_\_\_\_

***I certify that I have met all of the requirements for eligibility for the Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship. I understand that this scholarship is annual and competitive. I certify that I am not a family member or relative of any Minnesota Department of Education employee. I understand that by completing this application, I am not guaranteed funding.***

Signature of Applicant/Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship

## Graduate Student Application

### A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name - First, Middle, Last \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone - Home \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone - Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

New/Returning? (Check one):  First-time applicant  Returning Ethel Curry Scholar

Full/Part-time? (Check one):  Full-time student status  Part-time student status

Tribal Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

### B. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Institution of Attendance \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Status in Graduate Program:  First Year  Second Year  Third Year  Fourth Year +

Anticipated Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Major \_\_\_\_\_ Minor \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated/Actual Graduation Date - Month and Year \_\_\_\_\_

***I certify that I have met all of the requirements for eligibility for the Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship. I understand that this scholarship is annual and competitive. I certify that I am not a family member or relative of any Minnesota Department of Education employee. I understand that by completing this application, I am not guaranteed funding.***

Signature of Applicant/Date \_\_\_\_\_