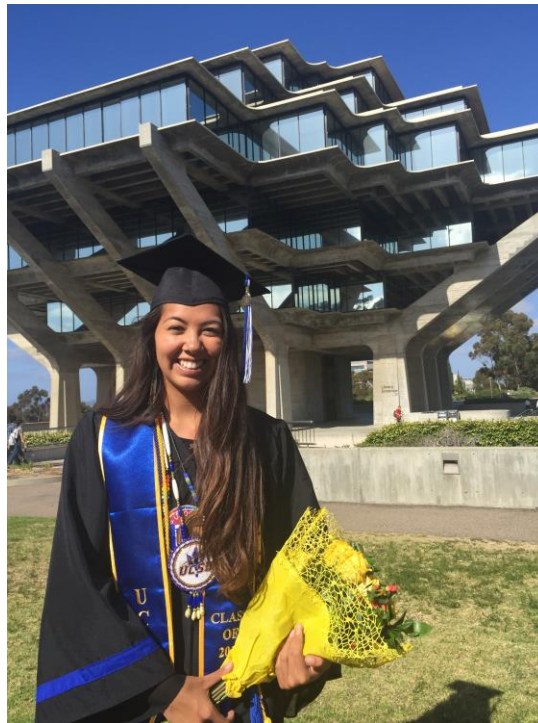


Tools for Success

Scholarship Directory & Guidelines for Getting Into College

A Reference Guide for High School Seniors, Families, Counselors &
Others Focused on Native American Education



Published by American Indian Education Fund

A Program of

Partnership With Native Americans

(Fifth Edition, January 2018)



AMERICAN INDIAN
EDUCATION FUND™



How this guide helps you

AIEF staff developed this reference guide to provide Native American students and families with information that helps you plan for college. Knowing when to sign up for tests, which forms to fill out, and when and where to begin looking for the right school can be an overwhelming task for many high school students. With this guide, you will be able to develop a plan for your senior year or the year preceding your entry to college. Deadlines are a critical part of this plan and we cover them as well.

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AIEF Scholarship Application Deadline: April 4th each year
(See page 11 for details)

Intro to AIEF

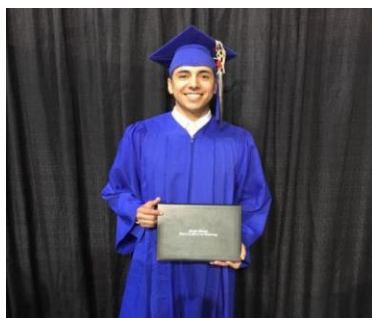
The American Indian Education Fund (AIEF) is a nonprofit program aiding students in achieving their dreams through completion of post-secondary education. A program of Partnership With Native Americans, AIEF supports American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students enrolled in post-secondary schools as full-time students. (Only Graduate students can be provided partial scholarships as part-time students.)

We seek out college or college-bound students of all ages who demonstrate a focus on their educational goals and the ability to make positive change in their communities. We expand opportunities for Native American students to attend and succeed in two-year or four-year vocational, tribal, or non-tribal colleges and universities.

AIEF also partners with counselors and officials at accredited post-secondary institutions to support their work and increase their institutional capacity to assist Native American students. We provide a range of education services that support retention of Native students in underserved states.

We seek out college-bound high school students, as well as students already enrolled in college. We also work with GED students and “non-traditional” students, i.e., students of all ages. We support students with scholarships, mentoring throughout the academic year and essential materials for the classroom. For more information, visit us online at www.aiefprogram.org

“Thank you AIEF for contributing to my success! My scholarship fellowship and the moral support from the care packages made a huge difference in my life. It was comforting to have a program rooting for me all the way. I am so happy to be in a place now where I can pay forward the support!” – Tosa T.H. (Lakota)



“I wanted to tell you how grateful for your financial support... Words are not enough to express my gratitude. I hope to be in a position to one day give back and support future students as you did for me. Thank you for choosing me as an investment.” – Stephen Y. (Crow)

Why College?

Better Opportunities! By obtaining a two-year degree, trade certificate or a four-year college degree, your chances of acquiring a job and earning more income will increase. According to data compiled by the Economic Policy Institute in 2015, college graduates, on average, earned 56% more than high school graduates and this earnings gap appears to be accelerating.

To Make a Difference in Your Community! Getting a certificate or degree can open up a world of knowledge and experience for you! It means new information you apply in your own community, building capacity and success for others – a win-win for those of you with a strong desire to give back to your community. By pursuing a certificate or college degree, you are also setting a good example for future college-bound students who need someone they can look up to – a role model like you.

Some questions to ask yourself

- How much can I afford to pay for school?
- Do I want to stay in my home community or state?
- Is there a strong Native American presence and support at the school?
- Can I meet the school's application requirements?
- Does the school have the courses that interest me?
- Do I want to participate in sports or other activities?
- Does the school have accreditation (so I can use my financial aid)?
- Do I want to live at home, on campus, or somewhere else?
- How long am I planning to spend on working towards my degree?

Ask your guidance counselor for more information on different types of schools or check out www.collegeplanning.org



Which College Is Right For Me?

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)



also offer important cultural and language curriculum options as well.

TCU's are operated by their respective tribal governments. Typically, these schools are chartered through the tribe and are located on or near a reservation and a majority of the enrolled students are Native American. TCU's are attracting many degree-seeking students by keeping tuition rates low, serving a population that might otherwise be unable to pursue higher education. You might prefer a TCU to remain closer to home while also minimizing the financial load on your budget. TCUs typically have accreditation and offer the same programs as public or private community colleges and universities, yet

Community Colleges

A community college is a two-year school that generally offers an Associate's Degree. An Associate's is a first-level undergraduate degree, typically obtained with only two years of study. Community colleges are often considerably less expensive than most four-year colleges and universities. They offer an easy way to pursue courses of interest while staying close to home. Community colleges can also cut the overall cost of a four-year degree; many students complete two years of community college before transferring to a four-year university.



Four-Year Colleges & Universities

Four-year colleges and universities are often larger, more expensive schools, many of which offer meal plans and housing on campus. Four-year colleges and universities offer a Bachelor's Degree, and many offer Master's or Doctorate Degrees as well. Although it may cost more, if you want to earn a Bachelor's and stay at one school the entire time (without transferring), a four-year school might be right for you.

Trade & Vocational Schools

Trade schools, also known as vocational, technical, or career schools, are a great way to train for specialized jobs. In addition to graduating with a Certificate (or Associate's) in a specific trade skill, students often leave with specialized tools required for their trade. Certificate programs at trade schools often take less time to complete (up to two years) and their cost varies from inexpensive to very expensive. If you're planning to become an auto mechanic, medical technician, welder, cosmetologist, chef, or other type of skilled trades professional, then a trade school is probably right for you. Many trade schools also work with your financial aid, so your out-of-pocket cost of education can be significantly less.



The FAFSA Form

Every student should complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) because most federal student aid is not based on your grade point average (GPA) or income level. In addition, many states and schools use FAFSA information to determine the amount of aid they will provide. Some scholarship applications require the FAFSA too.

Completing the FAFSA form is your first step toward getting federal aid for college, career school, or graduate school. Federal Student Aid provides more than \$120 billion in grants, work-study funds, and loans each year, **but you must complete the FAFSA form to see if you can get any of that funding.** This website -- <https://fafsa.ed.gov/> -- will give you access to the form, and tips on how to fill it out and where to submit it.

How to Fill Out and Submit the FAFSA:

Step 1: Get a FSA ID

- Go to <https://fsaid.ed.gov> to apply for Federal Student Aid (FSA).
- You, and your parent if you're a dependent student, should get an FSA ID as soon as possible. You can apply for an FSA ID at any time, but in some cases, you'll need to wait up to three days before you're able to use your FSA ID, so we recommend registering early.
- Use the FSA ID to make corrections, access online information, and sign your FAFSA.

Step 2: Get the FAFSA form

- Completing the FAFSA form online at fafsa.gov is faster and easier than using paper.
- If you need a printed FAFSA form, visit <https://fafsa.ed.gov/to> download a FAFSA PDF or order a print-out of the FAFSA PDF.
- Ask the financial aid office at your college or career school whether you can file it there. Some schools will use special software to submit your FAFSA form for you.

Step 3: Fill out the FAFSA

- Fill out the FAFSA form in December or January of your senior year (or the year before you enter college). You will need your parent or guardian's help filling out the FAFSA because it will ask for their income.
- Go to <https://fafsa.ed.gov/andlogin> using your FSA ID. This site guides students and parents through the FAFSA step by step, lets you know if you have forgotten anything, and provides online help (including private online chats for questions).

Types of Federal Student Aid:

- A **Grant** is money that you will not have to pay back. Many low-income students receive one grant or another from the government. (Example: Pell Grant)
- A **Subsidized Loan** is money you will have to pay back. The loan starts to accrue interest after you graduate from your school.
- An **Unsubsidized Loan** is money that you will have to pay back. The loan starts to accrue interest as soon as you receive the money.

Who and What is FAFSA: Federal Student Aid is provided through the U.S. Department of Education, the largest provider of student financial aid in the United States. More than 1,300 employees at the Federal Student Aid office help make college education possible for every dedicated student, annually providing more than \$120 billion in federal grants, loans, and work-study funds to help more than 13 million students pay for college or trade school.

The College Board Tests: ACT & SAT

What is the ACT or SAT?

The ACT and SAT are separate standardized tests that many colleges use to determine whether they feel a student would be successful at their school. Usually, a school will require you to take only one of these tests. Some schools require that you score within a certain range to attend their school, while other schools have no score requirement. Typically a school's website will display average scores under their admissions tab.

Even if you have chosen a school that requires no score, it is still **very** smart to register for and take either the ACT or SAT. Many scholarship programs require you to provide your test score. You may also find yourself in a situation in the future when your ACT or SAT score is requested (such as when transferring to a different college or seeking financial aid for future years of college).

Which Test Do I Take & How Do I Pay for It?

Depending on which high school you attend, it may be more common to take one of these tests over the other. Some high schools only offer the ACT, while some schools only offer the SAT. If your school has a guidance counselor, they can help you decide which test you should register for or whether you should register for both. You should look very closely at the ACT or SAT requirements for the school, college or university you're planning to attend and share that information with your counselor. If your school does not have a counselor, talk to someone in the main office.

Generally, there are fees for taking the ACT and the SAT. For students from low-income families, fee waivers are often available through your high school. This means the entire cost of taking the test will be covered for you. Ask your guidance counselor or someone in your school's main office how you can qualify for a test fee waiver and receive a waiver form. **The waiver form (for either test) is not available online.** If you decide to use a fee waiver to cover the cost of your test you will must register through regular mail or through your high school/counselor.

How Do I Register for the ACT and SAT?

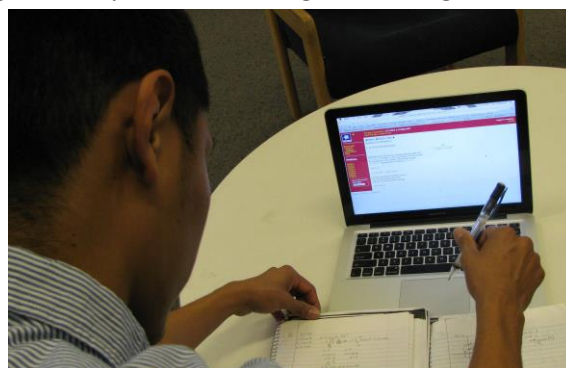
Most high schools have information on how to register for these tests, so consult with your school counselor. Online options are available at the following links:

For SAT Waiver information:

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/sat-fee-waiver-student-brochure.pdf>

For ACT Waiver information:

<http://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/FeeWaiver.pdf>



- **Register through your high school guidance counselor, or through the mail:** Often, the best way for students to register for these tests is through their high school counselors. If your high school does not have the information you need, you can request information via their website and they will mail it to you. (See website information below.)
- **Register over the Internet:** Go to www.actstudent.org for information on the ACT or to www.collegeboard.com for information on the SAT. These sites will give you information about test dates and locations, practice tests, college search information, and more. If you register over the Internet, you will need a credit card number for the fee.
- **Register by phone:** Call ACT at 319-337-1270 or call SAT at 866-756-7346. If you have already taken either test and want to register to take the test again, you can, but you will need to pay an additional fee.

Waivers do not typically cover the costs of changing your test center location, transportation or date, or taking the test. Again, contact your high school guidance counselor or check the test website for additional information.

When and Where Will I Take the Test?



If you registered via your guidance counselor or your high school's main office, that person will be able to tell you the date, time, and location of the test. Some schools will provide transportation; others will not and you will have to get to the test location on your own. If you need transportation, plan early. If you miss the test and need to retake it, you will have to pay an additional fee before the test date.

If you registered over the Internet, you most likely were able to choose your test date, time and location. If you have questions about this, call the testing center.

ACT & SAT Checklist:

- ✓ Which test you want to register for (depending on whether the ACT or SAT is more common for your high school and the school(s) to which you are applying)
- ✓ How to register to take the test(s)
- ✓ How much it will cost you to take the test
- ✓ Where the test will be held
- ✓ The date and time the test will be administered
- ✓ How you will get to the test site
- ✓ How you will utilize a waiver (if any)



Applying To College

Now that you have given some thought to which type of college you would like to attend, you should begin the application process.

Obtaining College Application(s)

For any school you want to attend, you will have to fill out an application form and submit it to the school. You can obtain this form by contacting the school, college or university and asking them to send you an application form. Many schools also accept the Common Application Form available at www.commonapp.org.

Paying for College Application(s)



While all public and private universities and colleges charge an application fee, many tribal colleges do not. The amount of a college application fee varies depending on the school to which you are applying. Most colleges offer an application fee waiver to low-income students. Call the school to determine whether they charge an application fee or accept application fee waivers.

For students who have taken the ACT: When you call a school to request an application, ask about the fee waiver and have the school send you the form.

For students who have taken the SAT: If you were eligible for a fee waiver for the SAT, you are eligible for the *College Board* / college application fee waiver. Using these waivers, you may apply to up to four colleges or universities. To obtain these application waivers, go to your high school guidance counselor (or the main office if you have no counselor). **The waiver form for the college application fee is unavailable by mail or online.**

High School Transcripts

Before any school can accept you for attendance, they must be able to assess how well you have done in high school. Most schools will request an ‘official’ copy of your high school transcripts, in addition to your application form. Your guidance counselor (or the main office, if you have no counselor) must send “official transcripts.” It is okay if your current quarter or semester grades are not yet on your transcript. Most likely, the initial transcript sent will only have your grades through junior year. At the end of your high school year, ask to have your transcripts sent again.

Essays for College Applications

Some schools require that you write an essay (also known as a personal statement) to send in with your application. The purpose of application essays is to help schools discover what makes you unique – such as experiences you have had and what you learned from them. Essays also show what kind of person you are and what you care about in life. Unless the school gives you specific questions to cover in your essay, you should write about your life, the biggest barrier you’ve overcome, how you got to where you are today, your plans to pay for college and what a degree will help you accomplish. Ask a teacher or your counselor for suggestions on the essay – but be sure to write it yourself. The College Board offers “Tips for Writing an Effective Application Essay” online at: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays/tips-for-writing-an-effective-application-essay-college-admissions>.



College Application Checklist & FAQs

College Application Checklist

- ✓ Request a college application from the school(s) you want to attend (ask about fees).
- ✓ Request letters of recommendation. Give teachers, counselors or others plenty of time to complete the recommendation forms. Select teachers with whom you have a good relationship. Some references can be submitted online, so be sure to have the information you need from the individuals who will be completing the information.
- ✓ Find out whether you are eligible for an application fee waiver from your school of choice. Also ask other organizations such as the Indian Education department at your school whether they will cover these fees.
- ✓ Fill out the application.
- ✓ Write an essay (if required) and submit it with the application.
- ✓ Have your high school send a copy of your transcripts to the school(s) to which you are applying.
- ✓ Fill out and return the FAFSA form.
- ✓ Search and apply for scholarships. (See page 11 of this guide for helpful tips.)

FAQs – Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I get an application for the colleges to which I want to apply?

A: Check their website, call/write the college's admission office, or visit the college.

Q: What are the parts of a college application?

A: The college application usually includes most or all of these parts:

1. application form
2. recommendation forms
3. application essay
4. high school transcript (sent by your guidance counselor)
5. standardized test scores (possibly with documentation)
6. financial aid form(s)
7. fees or fee waivers
8. interview

Q: How do I make sure I fill out the application correctly?

A: Read the instructions carefully and fill it out completely! Ask another trusted individual... a parent, teacher and/or guidance counselor... to review your application before you send it out.

Q: Can I submit my application on the Web?

A: Most colleges allow and prefer you to submit their applications online. Each college's website will explain this process. You will still have to submit all other items as the website dictates.

Q: What is the Common Application?

A: The Common Application is a form developed and widely accepted by more than 700 colleges and universities. If all the colleges you apply to accept the common application, then you only need to complete this one application and submit it to each school. Some schools may have supplemental forms or addendums that can also be submitted to make your applications more competitive—be sure to take advantage of these opportunities. You can view a list of schools that accept the Common Application and download a copy of it at www.commonapp.org.

Types of College Application Deadlines

Be sure to keep a record of application and deposit deadlines. The information below is a general guide, but always check directly with the schools you will apply to for specific deadlines.

Rolling admission: Colleges with rolling admissions consider applications upon receipt, until spaces are filled. These colleges generally have later application deadlines (around March 1) or no deadlines at all (as is the case with community colleges or technical schools). It is still important to apply early in order to receive the maximum amount of financial aid.

Transfer admission: Transfer applicants generally have a deadline of around May 1 to submit applications for the following fall semester.

Regular admission: Schools with regular admissions usually have a deadline of between January 1 and February 1 and notify students of a decision around April 1.

Early decisions: Students with a strong interest in one college apply early (usually November) to receive an early decision. When you submit the application, you agree that, if accepted, you will attend that college. A nonrefundable deposit will be required for these types of decisions.

Early action: Students apply early and receive an early decision but are not required to enroll at that college or to make a deposit prior to May 1.

Candidates' reply date: After a school accepts you for admission, you have until the reply date to tell the college whether you plan to attend. You must send a reply card and a deposit by the deadline that is provided in your acceptance letter. The deadline varies, depending on the college, but for some it's May 1. Many schools have an online option to accept and make an electronic payment. If you need to mail the deposit, send it several days before the deadline to ensure it arrives on time and call to confirm that the college received it!

The College Interview

Some colleges require, and many recommend, that you have an interview as part of your application process. Some colleges offer one-on-one interviews, which are great opportunities for you to make a positive impression. The interviewer could be an admissions counselor, a professor, or a graduate of the college. Some universities have alumni located throughout the United States that are used as an initial interview. This minimizes travel for a face to face interview at the university. After the interview, the interviewer will write a description of his or her impression of you and include it in your application. Some colleges offer group interviews with other students applying to the college, giving you an opportunity to learn about the college and ask questions.

Preparation for the Interview:

- Make the appointment well in advance.
- Learn as much as you can about the college in advance.
- Practice the interview – do some role plays (mock interviews).
- Come prepared with questions.
- Look neat, clean, and well groomed.
- Arrive on time.
- Be yourself, try to be engaging during the interview and introduce yourself with a handshake.



A Special Note to Students:

If there are weaknesses in your transcript, such as poor grades or low SAT or ACT scores, the interview is the time to explain them.

Senior Year Timeline & Planner

September:

- Begin thinking about what type of school you see yourself attending. Contact the schools you want to attend or learn more about, and ask them to send you an application and admissions requirements. (Many schools have their information online, but it's good to reach out and speak with colleges. If you know what each school requires (the ACT or SAT, which classes you need, and how much it will cost), it helps your guidance counselor ensure you take all of the necessary steps.
- Make an appointment to speak with your high school guidance counselor (or the school's main office) about your plans for college. Discuss the different types of schools and ask if they know of any scholarships and grants that can help you pay for college. Confirm you have taken all the required high school classes and have enough credits for admission to the school of your choice. Ask about waivers for the ACT and SAT test.
- Register for the Fall ACT or SAT test.

October:

- Begin reviewing applications and information from the schools you may want to attend.
- Take the ACT or SAT. Remember to list which schools you want to receive your scores.
- Register for the winter tests (December/January) and ask your counselor how to raise your score.

November/December:

- Fill out applications for any school you would like to attend and mail it to the school.
- Ask your counselor or main office to send your transcripts to all schools to which you will apply.
- Review the timeline above and finish anything you have not done up to this point.

January:

- Take the ACT or SAT test again and have your scores sent to your list of target schools again.
- Fill out your FAFSA and be sure to list which schools you may want to attend. Your FAFSA information will automatically go to those schools.
- Ask your tribal education office whether you are eligible for a scholarship. If so, ask for an application.
- Start looking for other Native American scholarships you can apply for, being mindful of deadlines. (Usually, scholarship deadlines are sometime in the spring).

February:

- Within 5 weeks after sending in your FAFSA, you will receive an SAR (Student Aid Report). Follow the directions to make any changes and return the form to the address indicated.
- Contact the admission offices at each of the schools you applied to and make sure they have all of the application materials they need from you.

March/April:

- The schools you applied to should begin sending you acceptance letters.
- Of the schools that accepted you, begin thinking about which one(s) you would most like to attend.
- Contact the school(s) and ask about housing options for students on campus. By this point, the school(s) may have already sent you information on housing.

May/June:

- Narrow down your choice of schools to one.
- Have your high school send your final transcripts to the school you chose to attend.
- You will begin receiving final award letters from the schools that received your FAFSA.
- You will also begin hearing back from scholarship programs to which you applied.
- Let the Financial Aid Office at the school you will attend know of the awards you received.
- Make a financial plan to pay for your tuition, expenses and housing.



July/August:

- Ask your school's Admissions Office about participating in an "orientation." If they don't provide orientation, schedule a time when you can take a tour of the school.
- If you plan to live on campus, start working out the details of those arrangements now.
- Get ready for your new life as a college freshman!

Finding the Money

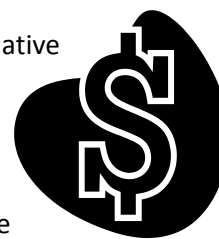
No matter which college or school you decide to attend, paying for it is always one of the most difficult issues students and families face. It is a challenge to find the money. Luckily, there are some options for you.



Jackie and Ellie from a TCU in northern Montana. Ellie asserts... "I don't know what our students would do without funding... Scholarships are critical to the success for our Native students."

AIEF Scholarships

The American Indian Education Fund offers scholarships to Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawai'ian students each year. Students must be from a state- or federally-recognized tribe, and plan to attend a vocational school, tribal college, or two- or four-year college or university. In addition to scholarship funding, AIEF provides mentoring and support for students receiving our scholarship. AIEF offers undergraduate and graduate scholarships – these are two different applications, so be sure to complete the correct one! Undergraduate students must be full-time; graduate students may be awarded part time scholarships for part-time attendance. Check our website and email or call us for more information.



AIEF Scholarship Application Deadline: April 4 each year

Download the application at <http://www.aiefprogram.org>

Or call 866-866-8642 to learn more.

Other Scholarships

In addition to AIEF, Native American students are encouraged to apply for other scholarships too. Below is a list of other major scholarships available to Native American/Alaska Native students. The application process varies for each scholarship and may change yearly. Please contact these scholarship providers directly for exact deadlines, eligibility criteria and submissions required. Any mention of “**FRT**” indicates that enrollment in a federally recognized tribe is required.

ACE Foundation Scholarship

Available to graduating high school seniors and students currently enrolled in college. Renewable and intended to support students through graduation.

Funding: Call funder

Address: 119 W. 6th Street, Pueblo, Colorado 81003

Contact: 719-583-7860

Website: <http://acefoundation.net>

American Indian College Fund

Available to Native American students and tribal college education.

Funding: Varies, Call funder

Address: American Indian College Fund, 8333 Greenwood Blvd, Denver, CO 80221

Contact: 800-776-FUND | 303-426-8900 | Email: info@collegefund.org

Website: www.collegefund.org

Link to additional scholarships: <http://collegefund.org/student-resources/scholarships/additional-scholarship-resources/>

American Indian Graduate Center

Financial support available to American Indian and Alaska Natives seeking higher education attaining undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees.

Funding: Call funder

Address: 3701 San Mateo NE #200, Albuquerque, NM 87110

Contact: 800-628-1920 | 505-881-4584 | Email: See Staff Members link on website

Website: <https://www.aigcs.org/>

Link to additional scholarships: https://www.aigcs.org/os_categories/other-scholarships/

American Indian Science & Engineering Society Scholarships

Available to AISES student members for American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawai’ians, Pacific Islanders and members of Canada’s First Nation.

Funding: Call funder

Address: 4263 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite 200, Albuquerque, NM 87109

Contact: 505-765-1052 | Fax: 505-765-5608

Website: <http://www.aises.org/>

American Indian Services Scholarship Program

Provides education to Native American in need through scholarships and programs.

Funding: Call funder

Address: 3115 East Lion Lane, Suite 320, Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

Contact: 800-375-1777 (Scholarship department)

Website: <https://www.americanindianservices.org/>

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)

Scholarships for Minority accounting students. Provides financial assistance to outstanding minority students to encourage their pursuit of accounting as a major and their ultimate entry into the profession.

Funding: \$3000-\$5000

Website: <https://www.thiswaytocpa.com/education/aicpa-legacy-scholarships/scholarship-minority-accounting-students/>

Association on American Indian Affairs

Scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students from a FRT.

Funding: Call funder

Address: Association on American Indian Affairs, 966 Hungerford Drive, Suite 12-B, Rockville, MD 20850

Contact: 240-314-7155, Email: general.aaia@indian-affairs.org

Website: www.indian-affairs.org

AAIA's Emergency Aid has been suspended

Catching the Dream

Provides scholarship funds for Indian students and assists Indian schools in preparing students for success in college.

Funding: Call funder

Address: Catching the Dream, 8200 Mountain Rd NE, Suite 203, Albuquerque, NM 87110

Contact: 505-262-2351 | Email: nscholarsh@aol.com

Website: www.catchingthedream.org

Daughters of the American Revolution American Indian Scholarship

Available to Native undergraduate and graduate students with proof of ancestry.

Funding: Call funder

Address: National Vice Chairman, DAR American Indian Committee, 5990 US 64, Farmington, NM 87410-1507

Contact: 202-628-1776 (National office)

Website: www.dar.org

Link to specific American Indian scholarship: <https://www.dar.org/national-society/scholarships/american-indian>

The Gates Scholarship Program

Available to African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian & Pacific Islander American, and/or Hispanic American; Pell-eligible and Weighted GPA of 3.3 (of 4.0).

Funds: Scholars will receive funding for the full cost of attendance (not already covered by other financial aid and the expected family contribution, as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Website: <https://www.thegatesscholarship.org/scholarship>

Indian Health Service Scholarship Program

Available to qualified American Indian/Alaska Native health professions. I.H.S. gives priority to students who will work on a reservation.

Funding: Call funder

Address: Indian Health Service Scholarship Program, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop: OHR (11E53A), Rockville, MD 20857

Contact: 301-443-6197 | Fax: 301-443-6048

Website: www.ihs.gov/scholarship/contact_us.cfm

IOKDS North American Indian Scholarship Program

Available to undergraduate Native American students if they or their parent(s) has FRT-enrollment. The scholarships are for technical, vocational or college studies but not granted for schooling beyond a bachelor's degree.

Funding: \$500 to \$700

Address: International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons, Attn: North American Indian Scholarship Director, P.O. Box 1040, Chautauqua, NY 14722-1040

Contact: 716-357-4951 | 716-357-3762 | Email: iokds5@windstream.net

Website: <http://iokds.org/scholarships/north-american-indian-scholarships/>

Jackie Robinson Foundation Minority Scholarship

Available to freshman students entering an accredited four-year college or university; present evidence of financial need; US citizen.

Funding: Up to \$30,000 over four years

Address: Jackie Robinson Foundation, Attn: Scholarship Coordinator, One Hudson Square, 75 Varick Street, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10013-1917

Contact: 212-290-8600 | Fax: 212-290-8081

Website: www.jackierobinson.org

The LAGRANT Foundation

The LAGRANT Foundation (TLF) will award 100 scholarships in 2018 in celebration of its 20th anniversary, to include 60 ethnic minority undergraduate students for scholarships of \$2,000 each and 40 graduate students for scholarships of \$3,250 each. **Students must be attending four-year accredited institutions in the U.S. and majoring in the fields of advertising, marketing or public relations.**

Funding: Call funder

Address: The Largent Foundation, 633 W 5th Street, 48th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Contact: 323-469-8680 | Fax: 323-469-8683 | tlfinfo@lagrant.com

Website: www.lagrantfoundation.org

Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program

Provides postsecondary financial assistance to eligible Minnesota resident students who are of one-fourth or more Indian ancestry and demonstrate financial need for an award.

Funding: Call funder

Address: Minnesota Office of Higher Education, 1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55108-5227

Contact: 800-657-3866 | 651-642-0567 | Fax: 651-642-0675

Website: www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=149

Montana American Indian Student Fee Waiver

Persons of one-fourth (1/4) or more American Indian blood, or who are enrolled members of a state-recognized or federally-recognized Indian tribe located within the boundaries of the State of Montana are eligible for a waiver upon demonstration of financial need.

http://mus.edu/Prepare/Pay/Waivers/AmerIndianTuitionFlyer_4.pdf

Funding: Call funder

Address: Director, American Indian/Minority Achievement, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, 2500 Broadway, Helena, MT 59620

Contact: 406-444-6570

Website: http://mus.edu/Prepare/Pay/Tuition_and_Fee_Waivers.asp

Native American Education Grants

Available to graduate and undergraduate students who are Native American/Alaska Native Tribes (55% of available scholarships go are restricted for certain tribes).

Funding: up to \$3,000

Deadline: May 15th

Address: Laura Bryan, Native American Education Grants, Presbyterian Church- USA, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202

Contact: 502-569-5224 | Fax: 502-569-8766 | Email: finaid@pcusa.org

Website: www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/financialaid/native-american-education-grant/

Native Vision Scholarships

Awards scholarships annually to two Native youth who are entering their first year of college.

Funding: Call funder

Address: Native Vision Scholarship, 415 N. Washington Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21231

Contact: 410-955-6931 | mhammen@jhu.edu Marlene Hammen, NV Coordinator

Website: www.nativevision.org

North Dakota Indian Scholarship Program

Applicants must be North Dakota residents and enrolled members of a federally-recognized Indian tribe, accepted by a North Dakota institution and be enrolled as a full-time student. Also based on unmet need as well as merit. Students with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 - 3.499 must show unmet need to qualify. Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or high can qualify based on merit.

Funding: Can earn up to \$2000 per year

Address: State Capitol, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 21, Bismarck, ND 58505-0602

Contact: 701-328-2964 | Fax: 701-328-2979 | Email: Ndus.office@ndus.nodak.edu

Website: www.ndus.nodak.edu/students/default.asp?ID=252

Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Requires students to be of Native Hawaiian ancestry, and enrolled full- or part-time in an accredited two- or four-year college, with a 2.0 or higher grade point average for undergraduate students (3.0 or higher for graduate students).

Funding: Call funder

Address: There are several office locations

Contact: 800-594-1835 | Email: info@oha.org

Website: <https://www.oha.org/news/oha-offers-500000-scholarships/>

Truman D. Picard Scholarship Program

Available to Native American students pursuing a higher education in natural resources.

Funding: \$2000 to \$2500

Address: The Intertribal Timber Council Office, Attn: Education Committee Intertribal Timber Council
1112 N. E. 21st Avenue, Suite 4, Portland, Oregon 97232-2114

Contact: 503-282-4296

Website: www.itcnet.org | itc1@teleport.com

Xerox Technical Minority Scholarship

Available to eligible graduate or undergraduate minority students enrolled in a technical program.

Funding: Call funder

Address: Xerox Technical Minority Scholarship Program, 150 State St., 4th Floor, Rochester, NY 14614

Contact: <https://www.xerox.com/jobs/minority-scholarships/escr.html>

State Scholarships

The following scholarships are available to students who reside within a specific state. Other states that not listed here may also have scholarship programs. You can search the particular state's Department of Education website, Indian Education website (if any), government website, or higher education or board of regents website. Once you get into these sites, search with the keyword "scholarships" and you should be able to find options for funding.

Alaska

Available to state residents. Other criteria may apply.

Funding: Varies, Call funder

Address: P.O. Box 110505, Juneau, AK 99811

Contact: 800-441-2962 | 907-465-2962 | Email: ACPE@alaska.gov

Website: <https://acpe.alaska.gov/FINANCIAL-AID>

Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education

Available to state residents. Other criteria may apply.

Funding: Varies, Call funder

Address: Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education,
2020 N. Central Avenue, Suite 650, Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Contact: 602-258-2435 | fax: 602-258-2483 <https://azgrants.az.gov/available-grants>

Website: <http://highered.az.gov>

Link to additional scholarships: <https://collegegoal.az.gov/financial-resources>

Hawaii State Department of Education

Available to high school graduates in the State of Hawaii.

Funding: Call funder

Address: 1390 Miller Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Contact: 800-586-3230 | doe_info@hawaiidoe.org

Website:

http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/CollegeAndCareerReadiness/ScholarshipsAndFinancialAid/Pages/home.aspx?sctitle=*%&scgrade=%&sctype=%&scdeadline=1%2f1%2f1900&

Idaho

The State of Idaho offers a variety of scholarship options for eligible Idaho students.

Funding: Varies, Call funder

Address: 650 West State Street, 3rd Floor, Boise, ID 83702

Contact: 208-334-2280 | Fax: 208-334-2632 | Email: board@osbe.idaho.gov

Website: <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarships/>

Minnesota Office of Higher Education

Available to state residents. Other criteria may apply.

Funding: Call funder

Address: Minnesota Office of Higher Education

1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55108-5227

Contact: 800-657-3866 | 651-642-0567 | Fax: 651-642-0675

Website: <http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/>

Montana University System – Office of the Commissioner of High Education

Available to state residents. Other criteria may apply.

Funding: Call funder

Address: Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, 2500 Broadway, Helena, MT 59620

Contact: 406-444-6570

Website: <https://mus.edu/Prepare/Pay/Scholarships/>

Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Available to state residents. Other criteria may apply.

Funding: Varies, Call funder

Address: P.O. Box 95005 | Lincoln, NE 68509-5005

Contact: 402-471-2847 | Email specific staffer members: <https://ccpe.nebraska.gov/ccpe-staff>

Website: <https://ccpe.nebraska.gov/financial-aid>

Link to additional scholarships:

New Mexico Lottery Scholarship Program

Available to New Mexico GED or high school graduates attending an accredited college or university in New Mexico full-time, with a 2.5+ GPA.

Funding: Pay a portion of tuition (up to an undergraduate degree)

Address: New Mexico Higher Education Department, 2044 Galisteo Street, Suite 4, Santa Fe, NM 87505-2100

Contact: 800-279-9777 | 505-476-8400

Website: <http://www.hed.state.nm.us/students/lotteryscholarship.aspx>

North Dakota University Program

Available to state residents. Other criteria may apply.

Funding: Call funder

Address: State Capitol, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 215, Bismarck, ND 58505-0230

Contact: 701-328-2960 | Fax: 701-328-2961 | Email: ndus.office@ndus.edu

Website: www.ndus.nodak.edu/students/default.asp?ID=252

South Dakota Department of Education and Cultural Affairs

Options for South Dakota residents and enrolled members of American Indian tribes in South Dakota.

Funding: Varies, Call funder

Address: South Dakota Department of Education, 800 Governor's Drive, Pierre, SD 57501

Contact: 605-773-3134 | Fax: 605-773-6139 | Email: mato.standinghigh@state.sd.us (Director of Indian Education)

Website: <http://doe.sd.gov>

Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority

Available to state residents. Other criteria may apply. We guide families through the financing of higher education.

Funding: Varies, Call funder

Address: P.O. Box 145110, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5110

Contact: 877-336-7378 | 801-321-7294 |

Website: <https://uheaa.org/>

Wyoming

Available to state residents. Other criteria may apply.

Funding: Varies, Call funder

Contact: wde-communications@wyo.gov

Website: <https://edu.wyoming.gov/beyond-the-classroom/college-career/scholarships/>

Tribal Scholarships

There are currently 567 Federally Recognized Tribes in the United States (Federal Register, Jan 2017). Many of these tribes offer higher education assistance, including financial aid to tribally enrolled members who are pursuing post-secondary education. Each tribe has its own application and eligibility criteria and scholarship amounts. Because PWNA concentrates much of its work in 60 reservations throughout the Northern Plains and Southwest, we have compiled a list by researching their higher education or education departments. Keep in mind that this is only 60 of the 567 federally recognized tribes and if your tribe is not listed, simply do a web search for your tribe with the keywords “higher education” or “education department.” Your tribal education department is a great resource so be sure you have their contact information!

The list below is arranged alphabetically by tribe and includes the tribal website; the higher education phone number (or tribe’s main number), and the tribe’s higher education website (if any). When there is only the tribe’s name and phone number, no other information could be located online.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Ak-Chin Indian Community http://www.ak-chin.nsn.us/ 520-568-1280 | Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes http://www.fortpecktribes.org/ 406-768-5136 http://www.fortpecktribes.org/education.html | Blackfeet Tribe http://tribalnations.mt.gov/blackfeet |
| Chemehuevi Tribe http://www.chemehuevi.net/ 760-858-1063 dir.edu@cit-nsn.gov | Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe http://www.sioux.org/ 605-964-7880 http://crsteducationservices.com/ | Cocopah Tribe http://www.cocopah.com/ 928-627-4973 cocoed@cocopah.com |
| Colorado River Indian Tribes http://www.crit-nsn.gov/ 928-669-8831 http://www.crit-nsn.gov/criteducation/ | Colville Band http://www.colvilletribes.com/ | Crow Creek Sioux Tribe http://www.crowcreekconnections.org 605-245-2356 |
| Crow Tribe of Montana http://www.crow-nsn.gov/ 406-638-3769 http://www.crow-nsn.gov/education.html | Eastern Shoshone http://easternshoshone.org/ 307-335-8000 https://easternshoshoneeducation.com/ | Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe www.santeesioux.org 605-997-2859 http://santeesioux.com/programs/ |
| | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gila River Indian Community http://www.gilariver.org | Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes http://www.ftbelknap.org/ 406-353-8376/2466 | Havasupai http://www.havasupai-nsn.gov/ 928-448-2731 |
| Hopi http://www.hopi-nsn.gov/ 800-762-9630 https://www.hopi-nsn.gov/tribal-services/department-of-education/htgsp/ | Hualapai http://hualapai-nsn.gov/ http://hualapai-nsn.gov/services/education/ | Kewa Pueblo http://santodomingotribe.org/ 505-465-2214 http://santodomingotribe.org/education/ |
| Lower Brule Sioux Tribe https://www.lowerbrulesiouxtribe.com 605-473-9232 | Mescalero http://mescaleroapachetribe.com/ 575-464-4500 https://mescaleroapachetribe.com/tribaledu/ | Navajo Nation http://www.navajo-nsn.gov/ http://www.onnsfa.org/Home.aspx |
| Northern Arapaho http://www.northernarapaho.com/ 307-332-5286 http://skypeopleed.org/ | Northern Cheyenne Tribe http://www.cheyennnation.com/ 406-477-6567 http://www.cheyennnation.com/TribalEd.html | Oglala Sioux Tribe http://www.oglalalakotanation.info 605-867-5338 |
| Ohkay Owingeh 505-852-3477 http://oocsorg0000.web803.discountasp.net/ | Omaha Tribe http://omaha-nsn.gov/ 402-837-5357 http://omaha-nsn.gov/tribe/government/higher-education/ | Pascua Yaqui http://pascuayaqui-nsn.gov/ 520-883-5050 |
| Ponca Tribe http://www.poncatribene.org/Home 402-371-8834 | Pueblo of Acoma http://www.puebloofacoma.org/ 505-552-6077 | Pueblo of Conchiti http://www.pueblodecochiti.org/ http://www.pueblodecochiti.org/departments/education |
| Pueblo of Jemez http://www.jemezpueblo.org/ 575-834-9102 http://www.jemezpueblo.org/Education.Aspix | Pueblo of Laguna 505-552-6008 http://www.lagunaed.net/ | Pueblo of Nambe http://nambepueblo.org/ 505-455-4400 |
| Pueblo of Picuris http://www.picurispueblo.org/ 505-852-4400 | Pueblo of Pojoaque http://pojoaque.org/ 505-819-3298 http://pojoaque.org/community/administrative-support/education/ | Pueblo of Tesuque 800-483-1040 |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Quechan Tribe https://www.quechantribe.com/index.html 760-572-5268 https://www.quechantribe.com/departments-higher-education.html | Rocky Boy Chippewa Cree 406-395-5705 www.sccprogramsonline.com | Salish and Kootenai Tribes http://www.cskt.org/ 406-675-2700 ext 1073 http://edu.csktribes.org/ |
| San Carlos Apache 928-475-2336 | San Felipe 505-771-9970 | San Ildefonso Pueblo www.sanipueblo.org 505-455-2635 http://www.sanipueblo.org/education-department.aspx |
| Sandia http://www.sandiapueblo.nsn.us/ 505-771-5077 https://www.sandiapueblo.nsn.us/education/ | Santa Ana http://www.santaana-nsn.gov/ 505-867-1623 http://www.santaana-nsn.gov/education/index.html | Santa Clara Pueblo 505-692-6265 |
| Santee Sioux Tribe http://santeesiouxnation.net/ 402-857-2779 | Shoshone-Bannock Tribes http://www.sbtribes.com/ 208-478-3851 http://www2.sbtribes.com/higher-education/ | Rosebud Sioux (Sicangu) http://www.rosebudsiouxtribe-nsn.gov/ 605-747-2375 http://www.rst-education-department.com/higher-education-services/ |
| Spirit Lake Tribe http://www.spiritlakenation.com/ 701-766-4347 http://www.spiritlakenation.com/programs/departments/education/ | Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate http://www.swo-nsn.gov/ 605-698-3911 http://www.swo-nsn.gov/?page_id=613 | Standing Rock Sioux http://www.standingrock.org/ 701-854-8545 https://www.standingrock.org/content/standing-rock-tribal-department-education-scholarship-program |
| Taos http://www.taospueblo.org/ 575-758-5990 http://www.taospueblo.org/cms/education-training-division | Tohono O'Odham Nation http://www.tonation-nsn.gov/ 888-966-3426 | Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians http://tmbci.kkbld.com/ 701-477-8102 http://tmbci.kkbld.com/programs/?program_id=35 |
| White Mountain Apache Tribe http://www.wmat.nsn.us/ 928-338-5800 http://www.wmat.nsn.us/high_ed.html | Winnebago Tribe http://www.winnebago-tribe.com/ 402-878-2631 http://www.winnebago-tribe.com/index.php/services/education-department/higher-education | Yankton Sioux Tribe http://www.yanktonsiouxtribe.net/ 605-384-3382 https://www.yanktonsiouxtribe.net/higher-education/ |
| Yavapai Apache Nation http://yavapai-apache.org/ 928-649-7111 | Zia Pueblo 505-867-3304 | Zuni http://www.ashiwi.org/ 505-782-5998 |

Other Resources for Native Students

Native American students may also find these other resources helpful. For the most current information, be sure to contact each organization or explore each book listed.

Association of American Indian Physicians

Merit-based scholarships available to students enrolled in a FRT tribe (or 1/4 verified descent), enrolled full-time in a nonprofit postsecondary institution, with a competitive GPA and demonstrated unmet need.

Address: 1225 Sovereign Row, Suite 103, Oklahoma City, OK 73108

Contact: 405-946-7072,

Link to additional scholarships: <https://www.aaip.org/programs/student-programs/scholarships-internships-fellowships/scholarships/>

American University Washington Semester Program

DC-based internship for Native American students.

Funding: Call funder

Address: 4400 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20016-8083

Contact: 202-885-1000 | Email: admissions@american.edu

Website: www.american.edu/spexs/washingtonsemester/index.cfm



Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program

Available to U.S citizen undergraduate students who are receiving Federal Pell Grant funding at a two year or four-year college to study and intern abroad.

Funding: Call funder

Contact: 800-852-2141 | Email: gilman@iie.org

Website: <https://www.iie.org/gilman/>

Link to additional scholarships and programming: <https://www.iie.org/en/Programs>

Bureau of Indian Education

Available to Native American students pursuing specific studies such as health or science.

Address: 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-6335

Contact: 800-872-5327, www.bie.edu/ParentsStudents/Grants/

Link to additional scholarships: <https://www.bie.edu/ParentsStudents/Grants/>

BIA Indian Higher Education Grants

Available to Native American undergraduate students with financial need and FRT enrollment.

Funding: \$300 to \$900

Address: Contact your tribal education office for more information

Contact: www.bie.edu/cs/groups/xbie/documents/text/idc-008101.pdf

<https://www.bie.edu/ParentsStudents/Grants/>

The College Grants Database – Native American Grants

Extensive database of diverse grants available to Native American students.

<https://www.collegegrant.net/native-american-grants/>

Indian Resource Development

Nonprofit at New Mexico State University offering information on scholarships and college preparation.

Funding: NA, information only

Address: Indian Resource Development Program, MSC 3IRD, P.O. Box 30003, Las Cruces, N.M. 88003

Contact: 575-646-1347, ird@nmsu.edu, <http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/ird/financial-aid-informatio.html>

10 Online Tools & Sites about Indian Education:

1. <http://www.aihec.org/> - The American Indian Higher Education Consortium represents the nations Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)
2. <https://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/resources/native-american-scholarships-resources/> - Scholarships for Native American Students. Learn about financial aid, advocacy grounds and tribal colleges.
3. <http://collegeapps.about.com> – Tips on looking at colleges or applying for college and financial aid.
4. www.collegeview.com – Find colleges that fit your needs and goals, or find career info after college.
5. www.fastweb.com – A free, online tool to access over 1.5 million scholarship and find financial aid that apply to you.
6. www.finaid.org – Information on student loans, grants, scholarships and military aid.
7. <https://indiancountrymedianetwork.com/free-reports/101-tips-landing-native-american-scholarships-grants-college/> - 101 Tips for Landing NA Scholarships (Dr. Dean Chavers).
8. <https://www.moneygeek.com/education/college/resources/scholarship-guide-for-native-american-students/> - How to Get Scholarships and Grants for Native American Students.
9. <http://www.niea.org/for-students/support/scholarship-opportunities/> – Scholarships compiled by National Indian Education Association (NIEA).
10. <http://www.onlineschools.org/financial-aid/> - Guide to Financial Aid and other resources.



5 Books to Help Native Students Plan for College:

1. *The Debt Free Diploma: The Definitive Guide to Finding, Winning and Keeping Scholarships*, Diana Childers, 2015. McNally Strickland Publishing. https://www.amazon.com/Debt-Free-Diploma-Definitive-Scholarships/dp/0990542815/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1514388696&sr=8-3&keywords=finding+college+debt-free
2. *Developing Your Vision While Attending College. Book One: Marking the Decision to Attend College-* <http://www.collegefund.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/nefeone.pdf>
3. *Financial Aid for Native Americans 2014-2016*, Gail Schlachter and R. David Weber. Reference Service Press <https://www.allbookstores.com/book/link/1588412458>
4. *First Person, First Peoples: Native American College Graduates Tell Their Life Stories*. Andrew Garrod (Editor), Colleen Larimore, Louise Erdrich (Foreward by). May 1997, Cornell Press. <https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/first-person-first-peoples-andrew-garrod/1111384742?ean=9780801484148>
5. *The Seventh Generation: Native Students Speak About Finding the Good Path*, Amy Bergstrom, et al., 2003. This book tells how over 100 Native American students overcame their challenges and struggles to succeed in school and achieve their goals. It is inspirational and highly recommended for Native American students and parents alike. <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED472385.pdf>

Closing Encouragement

Rilda is a scholar who received multiple scholarships from AIEF. Here is some closing encouragement she offers to students who are seeking their dreams through a college education:

"I would just like to say, you are never alone. AIEF reminded me of that when I felt like I hit the biggest brick walls of my life, by helping me pay for school when I felt I couldn't move on with my education because of remaining balances that need to be paid, or when I had to purchase books that



were too expensive for me to even afford. In those moments I felt alone and stuck and AIEF was able to help me when I thought no one else would. Remember, that things will always work out the way it was meant to be and always for the best. All the hard work and stress you put in for your scholarships and your education will soon pay off. Be thankful for all the help you receive along the way because no matter the size of help, big or small, it's getting you closer to the dream you are striving for. There are people counting on you, looking up to you and rooting for you that you have no idea of. You are our next champion."

AIEF Scholarship Application Deadline: April 4 each year

Partnership With Native Americans, Attn: AIEF Program Office

2401 Eglin Street, Rapid City, SD 57703

Phone: 866-866-8642 | E-mail: rschad@nativepartnership.org

[Website: www.aiefprogram.org](http://www.aiefprogram.org)



**AMERICAN INDIAN
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