

AIS SCHOLARSHIP

"Education is the key that will open the door of opportunity for the Native Americans." – Spencer W. Kimball

Please take a moment to read our Requirements to ensure that you qualify for scholarship support. Be sure to also read the Guidelines, Deadlines, and Required Documents below as well as the <u>Policies and Procedures</u> for more information on our scholarship, then follow the link to the right to apply for a scholarship if you are interested in receiving assistance through AIS.

REQUIREMENTS

- Enrolled or will enroll as a matriculated student in a university, college, junior college or technical school
- At least One-Quarter (1/4) enrolled member of a Federally Recognized Native American Tribe.
- Undergraduate student with no more than 150 semester credits or 210 quarter credits. First bachelor's degree only. Graduate studies not eligible.
- Full-time or part-time status excluding non-credit courses (minimum of 6 credits).
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25 must be established and maintained after the first semester/quarter of college.
- Completed Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

*Each deadline is for the semester, trimester or quarter that starts in one of the months listed. If your school's terms overlap our schedule below or you are a recent high school graduate, please read the <u>Policies and Procedures</u> for exceptions to the deadlines.

Award	Award Opens	For Semester/Quarter Starting Either	DEADLINE
Ι	Nov 2nd	April, May or June	Feb 1st
II	Feb 2nd	July, August or September	May 1st
III	May 2nd	October, November or December	Aug 1st
IV	Aug 2nd	January, February or March	Nov 1st

GUIDELINES

First-Time Applicants and Re-Applicants must fill out an online application and submit all required documents each time no later than the deadline. Postmarked by the deadline is fine. If you are uploading your documents (excluding Official Transcript), they are due no later than 10:59 pm MST on the deadline, after which the upload option is no longer

available for that award. Students are only able to apply for the current award at a time. Incomplete applications will not be processed. Late documents and/or applications will not be accepted. Faxed or emailed documents are also not accepted. Be sure to read the Required Documents below. **If the last time you were awarded was before 2016, you will need to resubmit your photo and proof of heritage.*

AIS corresponds with students through emails. Be sure to add scholarship@americanindianservices.org to your contacts and safe senders list to avoid emails from AIS going to your SPAM folder. Check your emails frequently.

Please allow 6 to 8 weeks after the deadline for applications to be processed and updated online. Please DO NOT call or email about the status of your application. If you are awarded, you will receive an Award Email and you will be required to write a thank you letter (details will be in the email), which needs to be submitted by the deadline specified in the email. Be sure to read the email before sending out your letter. Scholarship checks will be sent to the school only after receipt of thank you letters. If no letter is received by the deadline, even after attempts to contact the student, the award will be canceled.

If you have questions about scholarships, please contact us at scholarship@americanindianservices.org

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

First-Time Applicants

Submit online application Please upload to your application or mail the following required documents/items:

- **Photo of the applicant.** Please provide a recent photo. It does not have to be professional, but old, tattered, blurry photos, or photocopies will NOT be accepted. The photo will be sent to potential donors who might fund your scholarship or promotional material.
- **Biographical Letter.** Letter about yourself: specify your tribe, where you are from, the school you are attending and area of study. Describe your educational goals and future plans. Explain why you feel you need this scholarship. Letters should be typed, 12-point font, and at least one full page, but no longer than 1,000 words.
- **Proof of Heritage.** Proof of Heritage must show blood quantum, that you are at least one-quarter. If your document does not show blood quantum, ask your tribal enrollment office for a statement or you can apply for a <u>Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood</u> from the BIA.
- **Official Tuition Billing Statement.** The statement must reflect the semester you are applying for and the tuition amount. If you are unable to get an official tuition statement, you may request a <u>letter</u> of estimated cost of tuition from your school stating your name, the semester you are applying for and the estimated cost of tuition for however many credits you plan to take for that semester. You may also submit a <u>Financial Needs Analysis form</u> in place of a tuition statement. Be sure the statement you get from your school reflects the specific semester or quarter you are applying for and not the academic year.
- **Official Transcript** (most current). The student can send it or the school can mail it directly to AIS. Must stay in the school sealed envelope. DO NOT WAIT for final grades to be posted and request the most current official transcript as of today. If ordering an eTrans/eScript (an official electronic transcript), it

must be sent directly to scholarship@americanindianservices.org from the institution you order it from. Unofficial transcripts or copies are NOT acceptable. *UPLOAD OPTION NOT AVAILABLE.

Re-Applicants

<u>Login</u> to submit online application *Please upload to online application or mail the following required documents/items:*

- **Biographical Letter.** Adhere to First-Time Applicants guidelines. This may be bypassed if most recent accepted bio letter on file is less than a year from the deadline. If you are unsure on this, contact our office.
- Official Tuition Billing Statement. Adhere to the First-Time Applicants guidelines.
- **Official Transcript** (most current). Adhere to First-Time Applicants guidelines. This may be bypassed if most recent acceptable official COLLEGE transcript on file is less than a year from the deadline. If you are unsure on this, contact our office. *UPLOAD OPTION NOT AVAILABLE.

AIS Financial Needs Analysis Form

Sample Letter of Estimated Tuition

If mailing Official Transcripts and/or other Required Documents, send to:

American Indian Services Attn: Scholarship Department 3115 East Lion Lane, Suite 320 Salt Lake City, UT 84121-3536

Policies and Procedures

Give the Gift of Education



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(801) 375-1777

ais@americanindianservices.org

Mon — Fri: 9AM — 5PM MST