



National Relief Charities

Building Strong, Self-Sufficient American Indian Communities

American Indian Education Foundation Scholarship Application Form

The American Indian Education Foundation was established to support educational opportunities for American Indian and Alaska Native students. Our vision is strong, self-sufficient American Indian communities. Scholarships are awarded for each school year and are chosen by a national selection committee. Decisions are based on an overall assessment of the application.

APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETE AND POSTMARKED BY APRIL 4th TO BE CONSIDERED.

Completed applications received before March 1st will earn you one additional point on your score!

Applicant Criteria

- Native American or Alaska Native descent (student or one parent must be enrolled and have documentation)
- Attending an accredited 2 or 4 year college/university or technical/vocational school
- Must be enrolled as a full-time student
- GPA between 2.0-3.4 is desirable (but ALL current or future undergraduate college students are encouraged to apply)
- An ACT score of 14 or above is desirable
- Scholarships are available for undergraduate studies only – online colleges/courses are not applicable

Scholarships available through the American Indian Education Foundation

AIEF Undergraduate Scholarship: Scholarships are for \$2,000 for the full year.

AIEF does not offer funding for summer programs/studies or online courses.

Memorial and Designated Scholarships: All finalists are eligible to be reviewed for these scholarships.

Notification of Awards: Do not call the AIEF offices, awarded students will be notified by mail no later than July 7th.

Application Checklist

1. Please read and follow instructions carefully.
2. Complete ALL sections of the application.
3. Include these documents (copies are acceptable), securely clip together (NO STAPLES), and submit in a large envelope in the following order:
 - AIEF Application Form
 - Community Involvement Form
 - Essay – guidelines provided (not to exceed 4 pages double spaced, 12 pt. font only)
 - Photo of yourself with your name printed on the back (secure on back of application)
 - Certificate of Indian Blood/Tribal Enrollment Card (secure on back of application)
 - Most Recent Transcripts
 - GED Documentation (if applicable)
 - ACT Test Scores (if applicable)

DO NOT include any Letters of Reference

A letter of admission to college/university/technical school will be required if you are awarded the scholarship!

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE MAILED AS ONE PACKET AND IN A LARGE ENVELOPE. (DO NOT FOLD)
FAXES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!**

General Information (Please print CLEARLY – illegible applications will not be considered)

Name (First, M.I., Last): _____

Important! Give us an address where you can be immediately contacted if you are awarded a scholarship.

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____ Tribal Affiliation _____

Current Email _____ Are you a previous AIEF Scholarship recipient? No Yes

Have you applied for other scholarships? No Yes Did you receive any? No Yes Don't Know Yet

If Yes, Which ones? _____

Have you ever resided on a reservation, a tribal village, tribal community or town bordering a reservation? No Yes

How long living there? _____ If you speak your Native language, please identify your language _____

How did you **first** hear about the AIEF scholarship? School Counselor/Advisor Teacher Radio Website

Newspaper Financial Aid Office Saw a poster Family member Other _____

GED or High School Information (Include transcript if you will be a college freshman)

I received my GED (attach documentation to completed application)

High School _____ Graduation Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Guidance Counselor's name _____ Is this a Boarding school? No Yes

Have you ever resided in a dormitory for high school? No Yes, name: _____

Test Scores (Fill in all relevant fields and attach a copy of your score report)

Current GPA _____ GPA is High school or College

Did you take the ACT Test? No Yes, what was your Composite Score: _____

College Information

Name of school you plan to attend: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I will be a: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior **Major:** _____

Are you transitioning from a 2 year college to a 4 year college? No Yes

If Yes, (list schools) from _____ to _____

Miscellaneous Information

How many individuals currently live in your home? _____ How many children under the age of ten? _____

Do you have someone in your life that you consider a mentor? Yes No

If yes, please identify: Family Member Counselor Friend Other _____

Are you the first member of your immediate family to attend college? Yes No

Community Involvement

Please list all extra curricular activities, interests, hobbies, employment, family or tribal activities that show leadership and participation in community life. **Explain in essay.** (Attach separate sheet if necessary)

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES Activity/group name and your role	Dates		Contact for reference	Phone
	From	To		
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES Activity/group name and your role				
TRIBAL ACTIVITIES				
HOBBIES/INTERESTS				
EMPLOYMENT/INTERNSHIPS/SCHOOL WORK STUDY				

Essay Guidelines (not to exceed 4 pages double spaced, 12 pt. font only)

Please attach an essay that outlines the information listed below. This essay is the **primary component** of your application that will compel the award committee to fund your request. There is a four-page limit. Double spaced, well-written, typed essays are preferred. Take this as an opportunity to tell your story and demonstrate your writing skills. Include all of the following:

- Introduction** – Introduce yourself using your full name and tribal affiliation. Include information about your home, family and community.
- Academics** – Describe yourself as a student - how you made the grades you did, and how much time you spend studying. Tell us who/what inspired you to pursue a college education. Describe any school leadership positions you have held and how they shaped you. Tell us about any support systems you will have while pursuing your degree. Tell us about school activities you were involved in.
- Career Plans** – Describe your ultimate career goal. Tell us the steps you are taking to reach your goals. Explain what qualities you see in yourself that will help you in your journey and career. Discuss your strengths and weaknesses.
- Service to the Indian Community** – Share your Indian heritage and what it means to you. Describe your plan to help make positive changes in the Indian community. Explain how your college education will allow you to do so. If you were to return to work in your community, what would you do?
- Leadership/Community Service** – Describe and explain your community involvement activities. Tell us how your involvement may apply to your future. If you don't have traditional community involvement, describe how you helped your tribe, family or community.
- Describe your financial needs** and how you plan to fund your educational goals.
- Unique Circumstances** - Tell us any special circumstances or obstacles you have had to overcome to attend college. Let us know what is unique and different about you that will help the committee to understand you more fully. What do you think it is about you that will help you succeed in college?

TWO ATTACHMENTS: Please securely fasten.

Photograph

- Please submit a 4 x 6 (or similar sized) color photo of yourself
- Original print photos are preferred
- DO NOT submit a photo printed on plain copy paper
- Sign the BACK of your photo.

Enrollment/CIB Card copy

Read and sign below

*I certify that the information contained within this application is true to the best of my knowledge and is my own work. I understand that misrepresentation or fraudulent information may be grounds for loss of scholarship funds and repayment. By accepting a scholarship from National Relief Charities (American Indian Education Foundation), I authorize them to use my photograph and any information that I have provided in advertising, fundraising or publicity in any and all media. I understand that if I am awarded a scholarship, the Address Information Form that I receive with my award letter **MUST** be received by National Relief Charities (AIEF) no later than August 1st, or my scholarship will be forfeited. Additionally, if I am awarded a scholarship from AIEF, I understand that I **MUST** provide a copy of my semester grade to AIEF at the end of each semester*

Signature

Date

Application is not valid unless signed and dated!