

**SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, and OTHER
POTENTIAL FUNDING
SOURCES for NATIVE AMERICAN
GRADUATE and UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS**

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Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network

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American Indian Graduate Center

(1) Program Name: Graduate Fellowship

Program Description: Each year, the AIGC fellowship program provides \$1,200,000 in fellowships to over 350 Native American and Alaska Native graduate students. Graduate fellowships are monetary awards made to American Indian and Alaska Native graduate or professional degree-seeking students, who meet all eligibility criteria. The United States Bureau of Indian Education funds the fellowship program. The fellowship amount is typically between \$1,000 and \$5,000 per academic year (not including summer), and varies from year to year, depending on the availability of funds and unmet financial need.

Eligibility: To be considered for an AIGC fellowship, the applicant must be:

- Pursuing a post-baccalaureate graduate or professional degree as a full time student at an accredited institution in the United States;
- Able to demonstrate financial need; and
- An enrolled member of a federally-recognized American Indian or Alaska Native group, or provide documentation of ancestry (possess one-fourth degree federally-recognized Indian blood).

Deadline Information: Deadline to submit an application for the AIGC Fellowship Program is June 1, 2010.

- 2010-2011 AIGC Fellowship Packet: [Download Fellowship Packet now](#)
- 2010-2011 Financial Need Form: [Download FNF now](#)
- 2010-2011 Tribal Eligibility Certificate: [Download TEC now](#)

Contact: For further information, please contact us at (505) 881-4584 or toll-free at (800)-628-1920.

(2) Program Name: Bureau of Indian Education Loan for Service

Program Description: AIGC administers a grant from the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) to provide financial assistance in the form of loans to eligible American Indians and Alaska Natives seeking graduate and professional degrees.

Program Goal: The goal is to promote opportunities for careers with tribal governments, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and BIA-funded organizations on and off reservations. Loans are paid back at the rate of one year of service for one year of funding.

Eligibility: To be considered for the AIGC Loan for Service, the applicant must:

- Be an enrolled member of a United States federally-recognized American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group, or possess 1/4 degree federally-recognized Indian blood;
- Have a 3.0 GPA; and
- Be pursuing a graduate or professional degree as a full-time student at an accredited institution in the United States.

Deadline Information: The deadline to submit an application for the BIE Loan for Service in AY 2010-2011 is June 1st, 2010.

(3) Program Name: Rainer Scholarship

Program Description: The Rainer Scholarship is awarded in memory of John Rainer of Taos Pueblo in New Mexico, who was one of the co-founders of the American Indian Graduate Center and its first director. His life was dedicated to fighting for Indian rights, yet he began his long activist career starting school at 13, speaking only his native language, Tiwa. He was sent away to boarding school, was miserably homesick, and yet, beyond great obstacles, went on and got an undergraduate degree in 1938 to be a teacher, making \$75 a month.

At a time when it was rare to find Indians with any degrees, Mr. Rainer persevered and got a master's degree in education from USC in 1951. He returned to New Mexico and became the chairman of the All Indian Pueblo Council for all nineteen Pueblo tribes. Mr. Rainer received many awards over his lifetime. One of his quotes was: "Get the best possible training you can."

Of the \$1,000 award, \$500 is to be applied towards the cost of education. Since the Rainer Scholarship is designed to reward the qualities and commitment characteristic of a future Indian leader, the remaining \$500 is to be used to support participation in volunteer activities that afford an opportunity to develop leadership skills. Scholarship recipients could use the funds to:

- Become involved and take a leadership role in on-campus activities
- Take the initiative in organizing a monthly get-together of Native American graduate students at your college for dinner or a weekend meeting to network and share successes at school and discuss challenges encountered
- Find a tribe and/or organization in their area that could use assistance and leadership in accomplishing its objectives
- Make presentations on the need for strong Native American leaders to secondary school students in their area
- Make presentations to faculty and staff of their institution on collaborating with Native American students who want to realize their potential to be productive members and leaders of the campus community

Eligibility: One male and one female student receive a one-time \$1,000 award each year. Recipients are selected in-house and must be a current AIGC fellowship recipient to be nominated to receive the Rainer Fellowship

(4) Program Name: Accenture American Indian Scholarship - Graduate & Undergraduate

Program Description: The Accenture American Indian Scholarship fund meets a vital need for American Indian and Alaska Native students seeking higher education and requiring financial assistance. Accenture will award three types of scholarships to high-achieving American Indian and Alaska Native students seeking degrees and careers in fields of study including: engineering, computer science, operations management, finance, marketing, and other business-oriented fields.

Accenture Scholars—three undergraduate scholarships, of \$20,000 each (each award at \$5,000 per year for four years), will be awarded to students pursuing a four-year degree.

Accenture Fellows—two graduate scholarships, of \$15,000 each (each award at \$7,500 per year for two years) will be awarded to students pursuing a master’s or doctorate degree.

Finalist Scholarship—Two undergraduate scholarships, of \$8,000 each (each award at \$2,000 per year for four years) and two graduate scholarships, of \$5,000 each (each award at \$2,500 per year for two years).

In addition to the funding, scholarship recipients are eligible for summer internships with Accenture, as first-year graduate students or junior-year undergraduate students.

Eligibility: Applicants will be evaluated based on academic excellence, demonstrated leadership ability, commitment to preserving American Indian culture and communities, and proof of enrollment in a federally-recognized American Indian/Alaska Native tribe. [Download the 2010-2011 Accenture application now.](#)

Deadline Information: The deadline to submit an application for the Accenture 2010-2011 AY is June 1st, 2010 for graduate and undergraduate students.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Program Name: Gates Millennium Scholar Program

Program Description: The Gates Millennium Scholar (GMS) Program initiative, funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, is aimed at expanding access and opportunity to higher education to those citizens who will help reflect the diverse society in which we live. The Foundation seeks to increase the number of African Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asian & Pacific Islander Americans, and Hispanic Americans enrolling in and completing undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The goal is to promote academic excellence and to provide an opportunity for thousands of outstanding students to reach their fullest potential. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has established this initiative to encourage and support students in completing college and in continuing on to earn masters and doctoral degrees in disciplines where ethnic and racial groups are currently underrepresented. The Gates Millennium Scholar Program awards will enable thousands of young Americans to attend undergraduate and graduate institutions of their choice and be prepared to assume important roles as leaders in their professions and in their communities.

Program Goals: The mission of the Gates Millennium Scholar Program initiative is to provide higher education and leadership development opportunities and service to our society. The Gates Millennium Scholar Program community of administrators, counselors, staff and Scholars pursue common goals to accomplish this mission. The goals in brief shall be:

- To encourage and facilitate the intellectual, moral, and ethical development of individuals as scholars and leaders for our changing society and community.
- To foster learning among all members of the Gates Millennium Scholar Program community while recognizing individual differences in achievement, experience, and aspirations.
- To encourage excellence in educational, leadership, and service activity and accomplishment.
- To serve our community as a professional and intellectual resource.
- To utilize the GMS Academic Intervention Plan when needed (i.e. if you fall below a 2.5 GPA as an undergraduate and a 3.0 GPA as a graduate student within a semester/quarter).

Eligibility: 2009-2010 Application period is closed. Students are eligible to be considered for a GMS Scholarship if they:

- Are African American, [American Indian/Alaska Native](#), Asian & Pacific Islander American, or Hispanic American.
- Are a citizen, national or legal permanent resident of the United States.
- Have attained a cumulative high school GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted) or have earned a GED.

- Will be enrolling for the first time at a US accredited college or university as a full time, degree-seeking, first year student in fall 2008.
- Have demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular or other activities.
- Meet the [federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria](#).
- Have completed and submitted all three required forms (Nominee Personal Information Form, Nominator Form, and Recommender Form) by the deadline.

If you are Native American, you will be asked to provide proof of tribal enrollment or certificate of descent from a state or federally recognized tribe if selected as a GMS Candidate.

To be eligible for the GMS Scholarship, the student must matriculate at a college or university that is accrediting agency recognized by the US Secretary on Education. The following are accreditation resources: Accredited Institutions of Postsecondary Education Programs Candidates; American Council of Education published in consultation with the Council for Higher Education Accreditation; and the Higher Education Directory published by Higher Education Publications, Inc.

The Nomination Process

1. Nominee

Each student is required to provide a completed Nominee Personal Information Form. Nominees are encouraged to request assistance from Nominators with this step. Please note that Students are allowed to submit a Nominee Personal Information Form on their own and may secure a Nominator afterward.

2. Nominator

Principals, teachers guidance counselors, higher education representatives and other professional educators are invited to nominate students with outstanding academic qualifications, particularly those likely to succeed in the fields of computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health or science. Nominees should also possess strong leadership potential and a demonstrated commitment to community service. Nominators must be sufficiently familiar with the student's academic performance to respond to questions concerning academic achievement. Nominators should carefully review GMS eligibility requirements and nominate only those students who are eligible. We encourage Nominators to assist students in completing the Nominee Personal Information Form.

3. Recommender

A Recommender can be an adult who is familiar with the Nominee's community service and leadership activities, such as a supervisor at work or a community leader. All Recommenders must act within their personal capacity. If the person who serves as a Nominator is also familiar with the student's non-academic activities, he or she may serve as a Recommender as well. Note: Relatives may not serve as Recommenders.

American Indian Science and Engineering Society

(1) Program Name: American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Google Scholarship

Program Description: The AISES Google Scholarship will provide scholarships to American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian AISES members pursuing degrees in computer science, computer engineering and management information systems. AISES and Google support the advancement of American Indian and Alaska Native students working towards obtaining a degree in computer science and technology so they can obtain the necessary skills to compete in today's global society. [Download Application](#).

Deadline Information: June 15, 2010

(2) Program Name: Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Foundation Scholarship

Program Description: Administered for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation, this scholarship is made available to American Indian high school seniors every year, who reside in states serviced by the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Pacific Corporation and its affiliated companies: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, and Washington. The award is for four academic years (eight semesters) or until a baccalaureate degree is obtained, whichever occurs first. Eligible majors include business, engineering, mathematics, medicine/health administration, natural/physical sciences, technology and education. [Download Application](#)

Deadline Information: April 15, 2010

(3) Program Name: A.T. Anderson Memorial Scholarship

Program Description: AISES' own scholarship program was established in 1983 in memory of A.T. Anderson (Mohawk), a chemical engineer who founded AISES with six other American Indian scientists. Scholarships are awarded to members of AISES who are American Indian/Alaskan Native college students pursuing academic programs in the sciences, engineering, medicine, natural resources, and mathematics. [Download Application](#)

Deadline Information: June 15, 2010

Eligibility for AISES Scholarships: AISES reserves the right to exercise discretion in determining whether students with majors that are not clearly within the 'hard sciences' or engineering fields are eligible for scholarships. In these circumstances, AISES will thoroughly examine each application, and make an informed decision based on the information that is available, including but not limited to: 1) what school within the college/university the student is attending; 2) the student's current or expected course curriculum; and 3) AISES' current year funding levels, in order to make a determination.

Association on American Indian Affairs

(1) Program Name: Allogan Memorial Scholarships

Program Description: The Association on American Indian Affairs (AAIA) offers Allogan Slagle Memorial Scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 to students who are members of tribes that are not recognized by the federal government. Disbursement in the amount of \$750 is made directly to the college in the fall and spring semesters pending satisfactory progress. Spring disbursement requires a copy of the fall semester's grades and a spring semester class schedule. This scholarship does not automatically renew. Students are eligible to apply on a yearly basis.

Eligibility: Due to tribal status, the 1/4 blood quantum requirement is waived for this scholarship only. A Certificate of Indian Blood is requested if available, but not required. Documents showing lineal descent (parent/grandparent tribal enrollment cards) and a letter from a tribal chairman noting a history of family enrollment/participation are otherwise required.

All items listed on the application check sheet must be included. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

(2) Program Name: Adolph Van Pelt Special Fund for Indian Scholarships

Program Description: The Association on American Indian Affairs offers Adolph Van Pelt Scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 to students in any curriculum. Disbursement in the amount of \$750 is made directly to the college in the fall and spring semesters pending satisfactory progress. Spring disbursement requires a copy of the fall semester's grades and a spring semester class schedule. This scholarship does not automatically renew. Students are eligible to apply on a yearly basis.

(3) Program Name: Displaced Homemaker Scholarships

Program Description: The Association on American Indian Affairs offers Displaced Homemaker Scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each to those men and women who would not otherwise be able to complete their educational goals due to family responsibilities. Funds in the amount of \$750 per semester are disbursed directly to the college pending satisfactory progress. Funds may be used to assist with childcare, transportation and basic living expenses in addition to educational costs. Spring disbursement requires a copy of the fall semester's grades and a spring semester class schedule. This scholarship does not automatically renew. Students are eligible to apply on a yearly basis.

Eligibility: This scholarship is generally for older students who have put off college to raise their children and students who are returning to college after raising their children. Additional information is required for this scholarship:

- Separate essay on family responsibilities
- Monthly budget

All items listed on the application check sheet must be included. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Contact: If you have questions about whether you qualify as a displaced homemaker, contact Lisa Wyzlic at lw.aaia@verizon.net or 240-314-7155.

(4) Program Name: Elizabeth Sherman Asche Memorial Scholarship Fund

Program Description: The Association on American Indian Affairs offers Elizabeth and Sherman Asche Memorial Scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each to graduate and undergraduate students pursuing a degree in public health or science. Disbursement in the amount of \$750 is made directly to the college in the fall and spring semesters pending satisfactory progress. Spring disbursement requires a copy of the fall semester's grades and a spring semester class schedule. This scholarship does not automatically renew. Students are eligible to apply on a yearly basis.

All items listed on the application check sheet must be included. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

(5) Program Name: Sequoyah Graduate Scholarships

Program Description: The Association on American Indian Affairs offers Sequoyah Graduate Scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 to students in any curriculum. Disbursement in the amount of \$750 is made directly to the college in the fall and spring semesters pending satisfactory progress. Spring disbursement requires a copy of the fall semester's grades and a spring semester class schedule. This scholarship does not automatically renew. Students are eligible to apply on a yearly basis.

All items listed on the application check sheet must be included. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

How to Apply: To apply to the Association of American Indian Affairs scholarships listed above, please [download the application by clicking here](#).

Koniag Education Foundation

(1) Program Name: Academic/Graduate Scholarship

Program Description: The Graduate Scholarship awards students who maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher and show excellence in the pursuit of their college studies. Up to \$2,500 per year is awarded annually. [Download the application here.](#)

Eligibility: 3.0 GPA or equivalent

Deadline Information: Applications must be postmarked by March 15th for Summer Term or June 1st for Fall and Spring Terms.

(2) Program Name: College/University Basic Scholarship

Program Description: The College/University Basic Scholarship is our most popular scholarship. Up to \$1,000 per year awarded annually. [Download the application here.](#)

Eligibility: 2.0 GPA or equivalent

Deadline Information: Applications must be postmarked by March 15th for Summer Term or June 1st for Fall and Spring Terms.

Contact: scholarships@koniageducation.org

Bureau of Indian Education

(1) Program Name: Bureau of Indian Education Grant Program

Program Description: The Bureau of Indian Education's (BIE) Higher Education Grant Program application is available from the education officer of the tribe in which you are affiliated or possess membership. As the majority of federally-recognized tribes are administering the grant program for their tribal members, call your tribe first. (A tribal directory is located on the Department of the Interior's (DOI) web page: www.doi.gov/leaders.pdt) If your tribe is not administering the grant program, they can direct you to the nearest BIE Education Line Officer for the application. In the meantime, while you are waiting for your application, request that all available financial aid information from the college be sent to you. Be sure to inform the financial aid office that you are tribal member and will be submitting the grant application along with other financial aid applications. [Download the full description of the BIE Higher Education Grant Program here.](#)

Program Goals: The purpose of the BIE's Higher Education Grant Program is to provide supplemental financial assistance to the eligible American Indian/Alaska Native scholars who enter college seeking a baccalaureate degree.

Eligibility:

1. Must be a member, or at least one-quarter degree Indian blood descendant of a member, of an American Indian tribe that is eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States through the Bureau of Indian Education because of their status as Indians.
2. Must be accepted for admission to a nationally accredited institution of higher education that provides a course of study conferring the Associate of Arts or Bachelor's degree.
3. Must demonstrate financial need as determined by the financial aid officer of the collegiate institution.

American Indian College Fund

Program Description: Partnerships with corporate and private donors have introduced a category of special scholarships that are being offered to American Indian students attending mainstream universities and tribal colleges for American Indian students pursuing undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees. These scholarships are administered by the Fund and are generally based upon merit or demonstrated financial need.

The American Indian College Fund has recently converted to a completely [online application](#). You are only required to complete one [application](#) to apply for all scholarships you are interested in. You may [click on the application](#) link to first create an account in our database, then you must log in, complete a short survey and proceed to completing all fields on your online scholarship application.

Scholarships: The American Indian Scholarship Fund has formed partnerships with corporate and private donors listed to offer the following special scholarships:

- Austin Family Scholarship Endowment: \$1250
- Cargill Scholarship Program: \$2500
- Citi Foundation Scholarship Program: \$4000
- Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship: \$5000
- Ford Motor Company Tribal College Scholarship: \$5000
- Foundation Scholarship : \$2600
- General Mills Foundation: \$2500
- Helen K. & Arthur E. Johnson Foundation Scholarship : \$2500
- Lilly Endowment, Inc: Woksape Oyate: “Wisdom of the People” Distinguished Scholar Award: \$8000
- Lilly Endowment, Inc: Woksape Oyate: “Wisdom of the People” Keepers of the Next Generation Award: \$8000
- Morgan Stanley Tribal Scholars Program: \$2500
- Newmont Mining Corporation Tribal Scholars Program: \$2000
- Nissan North America, Inc. Scholarship: \$3000
- Sovereign Nations Scholarship Fund: \$2000

- Spirit of Sovereignty Foundation (NIGA) Tribal College Scholarship Program: \$2000
- Time Warner Tribal Scholars Program: \$2500
- Traveler's Foundation: \$2500
- United Health Foundation Scholarship: \$5000

Eligibility: If you are attending a mainstream university and pursuing an undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree, only complete a special scholarship application. If you are a tribal college student, you may complete both general and special scholarship applications. General scholarships are only for tribal college students. For more information on the special scholarships listed above and on their specific eligibility requirements, visit the American Indian College Fund's [Special Scholarship page](#).

Please be sure to upload all required documents on the checklist. Once you have uploaded all required documents, a submit button will appear on your screen.

You will receive an automatic email notification that we have received your [application](#). Deadline to submit a complete application is May 31, 2010. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Award and denial notices will be mailed out to all applicants by September 2010 to the address listed on the application. Good luck!

[Begin application here.](#)

Contact: For more information on the special scholarship program, please contact [Debra Reed](#) at 800-776-3863.

Additional Scholarship Resources

The scholarship databases and guides listed below contain awards for which students of all ethnic/racial groups, including American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, are eligible.

1. FastWeb
www.fastweb.com
2. How to Find and Win Scholarships
Written by Dr. Dean Chavers, Director of Catching the Dream
www.catchingthedream.org
3. Scholarships.com
www.scholarships.com
4. ScienceNet Scholarship Listing for Undergraduate Minority Scholars
www.cse.emory.edu/sciencenet/undergrad/scholarships.html
5. CollegeScholarships.org
www.collegescholarships.org
6. The College Grants Database
www.collegegrant.net
7. CollegeBoard Scholarship Database
http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp
8. ScholarshipExperts.com
www.scholarshipexperts.com
9. FindTuition.com
www.findtuition.com
10. Nationally Coveted Scholarships, Graduate School Fellowships, & Postdoctoral Awards
www.scholarships.fatomei.com/