

NOTICES

Farm Loans Available for Women and Minorities

PORTLAND, Ore. – The USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers farm loans to help qualified women and minorities buy and operate family-sized farms and ranches.

FSA reserves a portion of its loan and loan guarantee funds each year to assist socially disadvantaged applicants.

"Both targeted and non-targeted loan funds can be used to help members of socially disadvantaged groups buy and operated farms," said Larry Frey, FSA's Oregon state executive director.

Frey said that socially disadvantaged groups are those whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group with regard to their individual qualities for the purposes of FSA's loan programs.

Socially disadvantaged groups are women, American Indians, Alaskan

Natives, African Americans, Hispanics, and Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders.

"There are growing concerns over the future of agriculture," Frey said. "Having access to available targeted and non-targeted funds will help assure that women and minorities have an opportunity to own and operate farms and ranches."

FSA's loan and loan guarantee funds are available to individuals and entities that are primarily and directly engaged in farming and ranching on family-sized operations. To qualify, the applicant must have participated in the business operations of a farm or ranch for at least three years.

For those applicants who have at least one year's experience in manag-

ing or operating a farm or ranch, operating loan funds are available to help purchase livestock, machinery, and equipment, as well as annual production expenses.

During fiscal year 2005, FSA made 55 loans and loan guarantees to women and minorities in Oregon, totaling nearly \$4 million. So far during fiscal year 2006, 16 loans and loan guarantees have been made to women and minorities in Oregon, totaling nearly \$200,000.

People who would like to learn more about FSA programs that assist women and minorities should contact their nearest USDA service center. These are listed in telephone directories under "United States Government, Department of Agriculture."

Further information also is available on the Oregon state FSA Web site at www.fsa.usda.gov/or/.

Farm Service Agency

Western Oregon University Multicultural Student Union's 13th Annual Pow-Wow

Feb. 4, 2006
Noon – Midnight
New Physical Education
Building – Gym

MC: David West
Whipman: Donald Moccasin
Host Drum: TBA
Flag Bearers: NIVA Grand
Ronde Honor Guard

Noon: Grand Entry
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.: Dinner Break
7 p.m.: Grand Entry

All dancers and drummers welcome!
For vendor registration or more info,
contact MSU at 503-838-8403 or
503-838-8195 or e-mail
msu@wou.edu

Knowledge River Recruiting for Fall 2006 Class

The University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS) is pleased to announce it is now recruiting students for Knowledge River—a master's degree program leading to an exciting career as an information professional, focusing on the information and library needs and perspectives of Hispanics and American Indians.

Students accepted into Knowledge River will receive full tuition and a generous graduate assistantship or stipend for one academic year, in addition to other special program features.

A bachelor's degree in any field is acceptable. **The application deadline is April 1, 2006.**

Knowledge River has an innovative program design, with culturally relevant courses, professional development, academic support, and the chance to

go through the program with a large peer group.

Now starting our fifth year, we will admit 15 new students to Knowledge River for fall 2006. All eligibility requirements and application procedures can be found on our Web site – <http://knowledge.river.arizona.edu>.

Students wishing to be considered for Knowledge River must be accepted into the SIRLS graduate program. All application materials are online at the SIRLS Web site.

To contact SIRLS for information or questions, call 520-621-3565 or visit www.sir.arizona.edu.

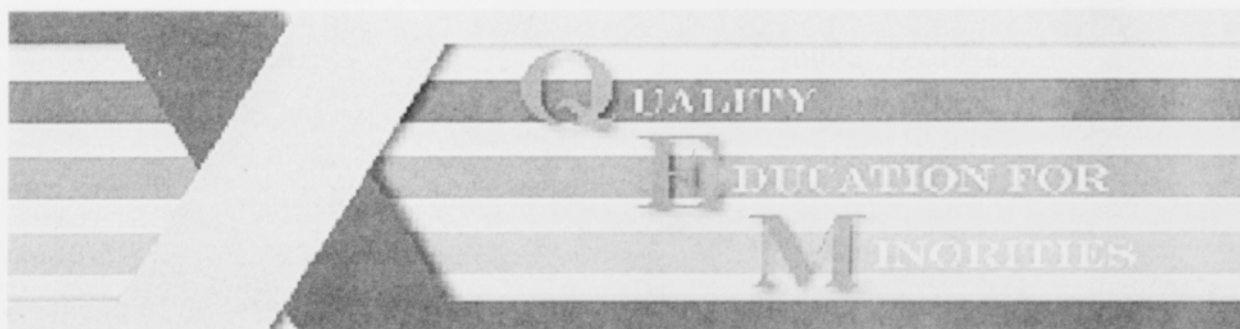
Please contact us directly for additional information or any questions you might have concerning Knowledge River at 520-621-3958 or e-mail kriver@sbs.mail.arizona.edu.

QEM Offers Internships for Science Students

The Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit organization dedicated to improving the education of minorities nationwide, is offering 10-week summer internships for students from tribal colleges and universities that run from May 29 to Aug. 4, 2006.

The QEM Network Internship Program is designed to enhance students' ability to apply their knowledge to the internship assignment, increase their

These internships provide undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to interact with program officers at the National Science Foundation (NSF) who are involved in making science policy; to participate in, and further develop their skills through, mathematics, science, or engineering (MSE)-related research; and to further develop their potential for becoming leaders and proponents of increased MSE participation by students from minority and low-income families.



understanding of the educational and health needs of minorities, and instill a sense of responsibility to help others in their communities.

The Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP) provides five internships for students enrolled at TCUP institutions to give them the opportunity to become familiar with science education policies and how they affect the education of American Indians; learn about health disparities disproportionately affecting American Indians; and design a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM)-focused community outreach program that will engage K-12 students in their respective communities in hands-on science and mathematics activities.

The application deadline for these internships is March 20, 2006.

For science policy-oriented internships, applicants must be majoring in the physical or life sciences, mathematics, engineering, or technology at an accredited U.S. institution.

Up to five science internship opportunities will be available to students at tribal colleges and universities who meet the eligibility criteria.

In addition to a \$3,000 stipend, interns will be provided round-trip travel, housing on the campus of George Washington University, and support for local ground transportation.

Applications can be downloaded at <http://qemnetwork.qem.org/InternshipTribalApp2006.pdf>.

Mail applications and direct inquiries to QEM Network, Internship Program, 1818 N St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20036; 202-659-1818; Fax: 202-659-5408; e-mail: qemnetwork@qem.org.

IHS Scholarship Applications Available

The Portland Area Indian Health Service (IHS) has scholarship applications available. To request an application, please forward your name and address to the following:

Indian Health Service – Portland Area
Office
Attn: Athena Bezahaloni, IHS Scholarship Coordinator
1220 SW Third Ave., Suite 400
Portland, OR 97204
503-326-7428
Fax: 503-326-5787
E-mail: abezahal@pao.portland.ihs.gov

IHS scholarship applications are due in the Portland Area Office by Feb. 28, 2006.

Interested students are encouraged to visit www.ihs.gov/JobsCareerDevelop/DHPS/Scholarships/Scholarship_index.asp for information on this scholarship program. Forms can be downloaded from this Web site that will provide students with an idea of what they will be required to submit with their application.

Previously, students were required to submit their BIA Form 4432; the scholarship committee would not consider students who submitted their tribal cards. Depending on the submission requirements for 2006/07, students are strongly advised to obtain their BIA Form 4432 now in order to be prepared.

Students can obtain this form on the Internet. For filing instructions regarding BIA Form 4432, please contact your reservation BIA agency.