

Scholarships

Steven R. Nelson Native Educator Scholarship Program Deadline: Dec. 31

The Steven R. Nelson Native Educator Scholarship Program seeks to increase the number of Alaska Native, American Indian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students who pursue graduate degrees that will qualify them for careers in education policy, leadership, technical assistance or research in the Northwest region.

The scholarship is named in honor of a retired leader at Education Northwest whose 40-year career was dedicated to working with Tribes, communities, schools and districts to improve Native and rural students' academic and life success.

The program provides up to three years of annually renewable scholarships to help students pursue a master's degree. Recipients will be notified of conditional awards by March 31 for study beginning in the following fall term.

For further information contact Nelson Scholarship Administrator, c/o HR Director, Education Northwest, 101 SW Main St., Suite 500, Portland, OR 97204; NelsonScholarship@educationnorthwest.org.

Native American Public Media Internship Deadline: March 1

Vision Maker Media seeks to increase opportunities for American Indian and Alaska Native youth in public broadcasting with its Public Media Internship for undergraduate or graduate students.

Interns can be located at Vision Maker Media's offices at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in Lincoln, Neb., or at a public television station in the United States. Vision Maker Media will contact the public television stations requested by interns to determine placement options.

For assistance, call 402-472-3522 or email visionmaker@unl.edu.

Outside Scholarships for NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS

Cobell Scholarship

<http://cobellscholar.org/>
various scholarships available
*essay required

Open to descendants/enrolled members

American Indian Services

<https://www.americanindianservices.org/>
various scholarships available
*essay may be required

Open to descendants/enrolled members

American Indian College Fund

<http://www.collegefund.org/>
various scholarships available
*essay required

Open to descendants/enrolled members

Bureau of Indian Education

<http://www.bie.edu/ParentsStudents/Grants/>
various scholarships available
*essay may be required

Open to descendants/enrolled members

Native American Scholarship Fund

<http://catchingthedream.org/>
various scholarships available
*essay may be required

Open to descendants/enrolled members

Important information for college-bound Tribal seniors

December

- If you haven't already done so, take this last SAT test for seniors.
- Get FAFSA forms, available for federal and state financial aid.
- Apply for FAFSA pin number – student/parents must apply separately.
- Mail or submit all revised, complete college applications before the holiday break.
- Start scholarship essays.
- Start OSAC (Oregon Student Assistance Commission).

January

- FAFSA forms can be submitted Jan. 1! Do not delay – do this ASAP.
- Complete scholarships that are due.
- Check for Student Aid Report (SAR) on the FAFSA website several days after filing out the FAFSA).
- Request mid-year transcripts be sent to colleges to which you have applied.
- Request transcripts needed for OSAC scholarship application.
- Send thank you notes to people who have helped you.
- Students who plan to apply for Tribal assistance for college must apply for FAFSA no later than Jan. 31 at fafsa.ed.gov.

February

- First semester grades and mid-year reports are sent to some colleges.
- Check your school counseling office or ASPIRE center for scholarship information.
- Complete scholarships.
- Check with colleges applied to for verification they have received all necessary documents. Continue to monitor status of submitted applications.
- Check to see if your mid-year transcripts have been sent to the schools to which you have applied.
- Wrap up any scholarship application, essays and activities chart (for OSAC) as early bird deadline is in February.

March

- Check for three Tribal scholarships at ctsi.nsn.us.
- Complete scholarships.
- Start working on Tribal higher education or adult vocational training grant application. This can be found on the Tribe's website and is due June 30.
- Review the Student Aid Report (SAR).
- You should start receiving admission responses.

April

- Send thank you notes to people who have helped you.
- Make final decision about which college or university you will attend.
- If you decide to decline enrollment to a college or university to which you have been accepted, send notice indicating this to the college's admissions office.

May

- This is the deadline for final decisions for universities.
- Send letter of intent to registrar.
- Line up a summer job.
- Attend your Senior Awards Night.
- Review any award letters and be sure you understand the terms and conditions that accompany each type of aid.
- If necessary, arrange for housing and a meal plan (at school).
- Send thank you notes to any person/committee from which you received a scholarship.

June

- Tribal higher education and AVT applications are due June 30!
- Attend graduation – congratulations!
- Arrange for your final grades to be sent to colleges and universities.
- Good luck!

Siletz Tribal Youth Conference

Nov. 4-5, 2016
Lincoln City, Ore.

Photo by Diane Rodriguez

Larell Covington and Andrew Mike paddle a canoe during canoe races at the B'nai B'rith Camp, site of the conference. Youth also engaged in Native games, archery, a dance and workshops that included such topics as suicide prevention and bullying prevention. Additionally, youth participated in a culture night and a financial literacy presentation.



Oregon students can apply for Senate Page Program

WASHINGTON – Oregon Sen. Jeff Merkley announced that he will accept applications to the U.S. Senate Page Program through Dec. 31. Rising high school juniors or seniors can apply to be part of the page program in summer 2017.

Pages play a critical role in the day-to-day work of the U.S. Senate by helping deliver bills, correspondence and legislative material within the congressional complex on Capitol Hill and assisting senators on the Senate floor. By assisting the legislative process, Senate pages gain valuable insight into Congress and our political system overall.

“My message to young leaders is this: Get informed and get involved in the political process to create the change you wish to see in the world. The Sen-

ate Page Program is an excellent way for young Americans to do exactly this,” said Merkley. “I encourage all eligible Oregonians to apply and take advantage of this unique opportunity to come to our nation's Capitol and see the inner workings of Congress firsthand.”

Senate pages must be appointed and sponsored by a senator. Unlike interns who work in the senators' offices, pages work for the Senate as a whole.

Pages receive a stipend, live in a dormitory near the Capitol and attend classes in addition to performing their page duties.

Interested participants should apply online at merkley.senate.gov/services/students/page-program and must upload the following items:

- An official copy of your high school transcript(s)
- A current résumé
- A cover letter explaining why you wish to be a Senate page
- A letter of recommendation from one of your teachers
- A letter of recommendation from a supervisor familiar with your work on a job or in volunteer service
- A short essay (250-500 words) responding to the question, “Describe one major problem that the United States is currently facing and – if you were a U.S. Senator from Oregon – how you would try to fix that problem.”

For questions or for further assistance, contact Merkley's office at 202-224-3753.