

Health professionals: IHS to pay loans

The Health and Human Services Department's Indian Health Service (IHS) is soliciting applications for repayment of educational loans for health professionals. (Sept. 4, *Federal Register*).

DEADLINE: Applications will be accepted and evaluated monthly beginning January 2, and continuing until funds are exhausted. Deadline dates are scheduled for Friday of the second full week of each month.

FUNDS: About \$ 11.7 million for 250 awards, pending budget approval. IHS will repay all or part of the applicant's health professions educational loans (both undergraduate and graduate) for tuition expenses and reasonable educational and living expenses, up to \$30,000 a year for two years.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must be enrolled in their 1st year of study at an accredited U.S. institution or in an ap-

proved graduate training program in a health profession; or have a degree in health profession and a license to practice. Applicants also must: be eligible for or hold an appointment as a commissioned officer in the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service; be eligible for selection for civilian service in the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service, meet the professional standards for civil service employment in the IHS; or be employed in an Indian health program without service obligation.

AREAS: Loans will be repaid in exchange for full-time clinical service in Indian health programs.

CONTACT: Charles Yepa, IHS Loan Repayment Program, Twinbrook Metro Plaza, Suite 100, 12300 Twinbrook Pkwy, Rockville, MD 20852 (301) 443-3396. The CFDA number is 93.164.

Students need to respect college staff

During the last two academic years, the Tribal Education Division has received a number of concerns voiced by college financial aid offices and counseling staff. We are witnessing an increase in the number of incidents where members receiving grants or scholarships from the Tribe have verbally attacked, berated or voiced threats to college staff personnel. These incidents, though few, are uncalled for and usually are the result of a student's failure to gather the accurate facts. A majority of issues have been centered around lack of student follow through or completing necessary steps in order to obtain services from the colleges and the Tribe.

Examples of some of these incidents include the following:

- A student approached a college financial aid office and after learning no tribal check was waiting for them, began to argue and yell at staff. Financial aid staff were accused of losing the student's check and being incompetent. The bottom line was that no check was issued for the student and sent to the college due to the fact that the student did not submit grade reports and required documentation to the Tribal Education office.
- A student needing to meet with counseling staff approached the college counseling center, refused to follow center's process by signing in and awaiting counselor availability. Student demanded that the counseling staff be interrupted in spite of the fact the counselor was meeting with students who had arrived earlier. The student made inferences that because they were Native American they did not need to follow process.
- A student contacted a college business office weeks prior to the start of school and asked to receive their tribal grant. Staff indicated checks were not released until the first day of classes. The student demanded the college release their check and voiced an opinion that they were being discriminated against because they were Native American. In this case, it was the Tribe who set the policy for checks being released on the first day of classes. It was not the college.
- A student contacted a financial aid office and was informed their budget was not complete. The student had not included verification of class pre-registration and necessary documentation. The student yelled and cursed at office staff during each encounter. Additionally, the student threatened staff with physical harm. As a result of these encounters, the student has been banned from the financial aid office. Any future contact must be channeled through the center director.

While these incidents listed are only a few, they are extreme in nature. These issues are not reflective of the majority of our tribal members who attend school. Generally our students' behavior is commendable.

Everyone wants to be treated with respect, however respect goes both ways. We ask that students realize as they enroll in college, there are processes and procedures which can be time consuming and frustrating. At times just when you think you've completed all necessary forms and provided all required documentation, you learn there are still several steps which still need to be addressed. Yelling, cursing and berating college staff will not complete this process nor will it endear you to these people who serve you. We ask you to remember that as recipients of grants or scholarships from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, you also represent the Tribe.

Photos and crafts needed for Open House

The Education Division would like to have pictures of GED graduates and Adult Education participants for an Open House and graduate board. We would also like you to consider bringing the baskets, drums, and moccasins you have made in class for an informal show-and-tell at the Open House. The Open House is tentatively scheduled for early afternoon, Saturday, November 15 at the Education Department. To make arrangements, please call Hollie at 879-2275.

Need some class?

Maybe the Tribal Adult Education Program can help you... We offer support for many programs which allow you to improve basic skills, gain high school credit (if within 3 credits of graduation), or earn a GED diploma. These services are available to tribal members ages 16 and above who are not enrolled in a formal education program. If interested, call for an application today! We're waiting to hear from you. **ADULT EDUCATION SERVICES ALSO INCLUDE:** 1. Tuition and books for one Skill Building, Self Enhancement, or Job Skill Development class per term. 2. GED tuition assistance, counseling and planning. 3. Fee coverage for bus passes to ABE or GED classes. Please submit proof of attendance and cost of the fares. 4. Senior Citizens classes. Many communities offer special classes for senior citizens. Our program can often cover the fees for these classes.

Our application is quick and easy to fill out — simply call **Gayla at 1-800-422-0232 ext: 2282** or **Hollie at ext: 2275** and ask for an Adult Education Application. Fill it out and return it with a copy of your Tribal ID and you're all set to request program assistance. We look forward to hearing from you.

Grand Ronde GED Class Schedule: Sponsored in partnership with Chemeketa Community College, classes are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Education Training Building. JoAnn Leathers is the Instructor.

CONGRATULATIONS goes to DELMER CROY for the successful completion of his GED Requirements!

Site visitation and program intake schedule: Gayla Tulensru, Adult Education Coordinator, will be at the following sites for program intake, information, and to provide GED school supplies. Site visitation is also available upon request.

PORTLAND ~ OCTOBER 21

Portland Area Office, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Phone: 235-4230

SALEM ~ OCTOBER 28

Chemeketa Main Campus, 4000 Lancaster Dr. N.E., Building 2, GED Classroom

EUGENE ~ OCTOBER 29

Lane Community College, 4000 E 30th

Deadline dates to remember!

The Higher Education Program and Adult Vocational Training Programs have established the following deadlines to apply for consideration of funding: **Winter Term 1998** deadline is November 1, 1997. **Spring Term 1998** deadline is February 1, 1998. **Federal Financial Aid Application** due February 15, 1998

Tribal Education Trust Fund Scholarship Applications disbursement begins in January 1998 and last date of acceptance is April 30, 1998. **Fall Term 1998** deadline is July 1, 1998. You can get an application to any one of the programs by calling the Tribal Education office at 1-800-422-0232, Marion Mercier, ext. 2284.

HOME BUYER SEMINAR

The Steps to Becoming a Successful Homeowner"

Learn about credit reports, financing a home, and whether you may be a candidate for homeownership.

OCTOBER 22 — 6 to 9 p.m.

Tribal Community Center, Grand Ronde

For more information, please contact Bryan Langley at 1-800-422-0232