

Mission Statement

Education Trust Fund Scholarship, Higher Education and Adult Vocational Training.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Higher Education Programs provide educational assistance to its Tribal members throughout the world. The program provides financial, program advising, counseling, and Institute network support to Tribal members who wish to gain intellectual growth, personal fulfillment and career success through learning.

Overview of Programs

Higher Education

The Higher Education Program encourages students to continue their education and training beyond high school for the purpose of developing leadership and increasing employment opportunities in professional and vocational fields. The Higher Education Program financially assists eligible members while enrolled in an approved course of study. The "Ceiling Award" for 2002-2003 academic year is \$7,000 per student and is based on a student's unmet need.

Eligibility Requirements:

- ◆ have graduated from High School/High School Completion or have a GED;
- ◆ provide verification of Tribal enrollment;
- ◆ must be enrolled in or accepted for enrollment in an accredited institution and be pursuing a Bachelor's Degree, or enrolled in a two-year program which will transfer to a four-year institution;
- ◆ must demonstrate financial need utilizing an approved financial Needs Analysis System.

A Higher Education Program application must be filed with the Tribal Education Program. Application forms can be obtained by contacting the Education Specialist.

Applicants are required to apply for Federal Financial Aid. Federal applications are available at the Tribal Education Office, at all community colleges, colleges, universities, high school counselors offices and on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Students are required to attend school full time.

Higher Education programs are four years in length. A person completing this program usually receives a Bachelor's Degree.

Adult Vocational Training

The purpose of the Adult Vocational Training (AVT) Program is to assist Tribal members in acquiring training and job skills necessary for full time satisfactory employment. The AVT financially assists eligible members while enrolled in an approved course of study. The "Ceiling Award" for 2002-2003 academic year is \$7,000 per student and is based on a student's unmet need.

AVT Eligibility Requirements:

- ◆ be 18 years or older, except — high school graduates shall be eligible at 17 years old;
- ◆ have graduated from high school/high school completion or have a GED;
- ◆ provide verification of Tribal enrollment;
- ◆ be in need of training in order to obtain reasonable and satisfactory employment;
- ◆ be in need of financial assistance in order to obtain such training;
- ◆ have the ability to pursue such training;
- ◆ be willing to accept employment upon completion of training.

An AVT Program application must be filed with the Tribal Education Program. Application forms can be obtained by contacting the Education Specialist.

Applicants are required to apply for Federal Financial Aid. Federal applications are available at the Tribal Education office, at all community colleges, colleges, universities, high school counselors offices other Institutes, and on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Vocational training programs are usually one or two years in length. A person completing this program usually receives a Certificate or an Associate of Arts / Science degree.

American heritage. Overall, educational opportunities strengthen the Tribal community and provide the steps to self-sufficiency, attainment of career goals and an improved quality of life.

Services Provided

Services offered to the community are as follows:

◆ **GED Classes and Tutoring** — Monday and Wednesday afternoons 1:30 – 4 p.m., available to Tribal and non-Tribal members. The GED classroom in the Education Division is open year round, except for traditional holidays, offering classes tailored to student needs with special emphasis on the math and writing needed for the GED test. Also available is a basic budgeting, financial literacy class.

Tutoring is offered at CTGR and offsite. Often one-on-one or small group tutoring is more effective and efficient in serving students' particular needs.

◆ **Computer Lab** — The lab is available for basic skill development, GED practice testing, resume writing, computer keyboarding, MS Word and MS Excel documents, Internet research, CIS career search, FAFSA financial aid form, and the Rosetta Stone/French and Spanish instructional software. The food handler's certification is offered free to Tribal members, who take the online class and pass the exam.

◆ **GED and High School Completion Costs** — Expenses for GED/HSC registration, orientation, tuition, classes, and testing are provided. Bus passes are available for students to attend GED/HSC classes, as well as transportation for CTGR students registering or testing at the McMinnville Chemeketa Center. Tribal members preparing for the GED receive a calculator and workbook.

◆ **Assessment** — The Adult Education Program provides funding for a diagnostic testing assessment, which may give a student the ability to test with various accommodations granted by the state. These include the following: double time, use of a calculator, large-print, private room, audiocassette, scribe and frequent breaks.

◆ **Outreach Services** — The Adult Education Program strives to encourage and support the Tribal community outside the local Grand Ronde area. Services are provided to the following areas: Portland Vocational Rehabilitation office, various outreach campuses of Chemeketa Community College, including Salem, Dallas, McMinnville and Woodburn. Future plans are to provide services for a large community south of Grand Ronde in the Eugene area.

◆ **Life Skills Program** — The Life Skills class covers topics for success such as time management, goal setting, relationship building, breaking barriers, domestic violence and self-sufficiency. Working with Social Services and Vocational Rehabilitation, the Adult Education Program can provide tribal members skills to meet and positively address life's challenges.

◆ **Culture Classes** — Classes available to Tribal GED students, Vocational Rehabilitation clients, and the Tribal community reflect the importance of addressing the cultural component and pride in the Native American heritage. Presently a hand drum class was given in Portland with great success. Students have become more aware and proud of their culture, connected more with other Tribal members, and become more active in their educational pursuits.

January – July 2003 Program Accomplishments

- ◆ Outreach Service Plan developed to provide services to Portland, Salem, Woodburn and Dallas.
- ◆ Financial Skills Class available Monday & Wednesday. Food Handler's Certification provided for Tribal members in computer lab.
- ◆ Drum making class for Portland site and local beading class.
- ◆ Collaboration with Social Services and Vocational Rehabilitation for student services, assessment, accountability, and mutual encouragement.
- ◆ Hart Mountain Diagnostic Testing services for Tribal members to apply for testing accommodation, if recommended.
- ◆ 21, 2002-2003 GED Graduates.
- ◆ 3 high school completions.



Joanne Carr, Adult Education Coordinator — 503-879-2282

Adult Education Program

Description of Program

The HIA Adult Education Program provides assessment, instructional services, and financial support to Tribal members, 16 years of age or older, seeking the GED, high school completion and basic skills instruction. Also included are classes covering life skills, financial skills and cultural awareness skills that strengthen understanding of Tribal heritage.

Mission/Purpose

The mission of the Adult Education Program is to provide services in a timely, efficient, cost effective and consistent manner. Emphasis is on open communication and strategies to support and refer students to further educational and employment opportunities. As students re-enter the educational system through GED or high school completion, they are then able to pursue future opportunities in short-term training, continuing/distance education and higher education. The GED is the entry-level prerequisite for school or work.

The Adult Education Program seeks to fulfill the Tribe's mission "to improve the quality of life for Tribal people by providing opportunities and services that will build and embrace a community rich in healthy families and capable people with strong cultural values." The Basic Skills Classes, including financial literacy, life skills and cultural classes, serve to strengthen Tribal families' resilience, abilities to meet financial challenges and connections with their Native

Education Deadlines

Adult Vocational Training & Higher Education program deadline dates are as follows:

- Q November 1, 2003 _____ Winter/Spring Term
- Q February 1, 2004 _____ Spring Term
- Q April 1, 2004 _____ Summer Term
- Q July 1, 2004 _____ Fall Term/Semester

Deadlines do not apply to open-enrollment Institutes for Adult Vocational Training applicants. Please contact the Education Division to request an application at 503-879-2275 or write 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347. Education information and applications can be accessed through the Tribe's web-site at www.grandronde.org.