

Higher Education

Applying for Financial Aid

In order to apply to the Tribe's full-time Higher Education programs students must apply for Federal Aid. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form for 2004-2005 is available at your local libraries, colleges, and universities or on the web at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Should students be eligible, the FAFSA can help pay for tuition, books and fees, and may include a portion of your living expenses.

The Department of Education uses the information provided on your FAFSA to determine your eligibility for aid from the federal student financial assistance (SFA) programs. Many states and schools also use the FAFSA data to award aid from their programs. **Some states and schools may require you to fill out additional forms.**

The information you report on your FAFSA is used to calculate your Expected Family Contribution, or EFC, according to a congressionally determined formula. Your school will use your EFC to determine your need and what federal, state, and institutional aid you are eligible to receive.

February 15, of each year, is the recommended deadline to have your applications in for Summer or Fall Term students. Should you have questions please contact Education Division at 1-800-422-0232 ext 2275.

Higher Education and Adult Vocational Training Program Deadlines:

July 1	Fall Term / Semester
November 1	Winter Term / Spring Semester
February 1	Spring Term
April 1	Summer Term

*Deadlines do not apply to clock-hour institutes for Adult Vocational Training applicants.

Please contact the Education Division to request an application at 1-503-879-2275 toll free 1-800-422-0232 ext. 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.

Adult Education Program



Adult Education Coordinator Joanne Carr

Description of Program

The BIA 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 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 has been given in Portland and in Grand Ronde, and there have been beading & leatherwork classes for GED students in the GR class and Portland Tribal members. Students have become more aware and proud of their culture, connected with other Tribal members and become more active in their educational pursuits.

January-July 2004 Program Accomplishments

- GED Classes offered every Monday & Wednesday 1:30-4 p.m.
- Food Handler's Class in Computer Lab, ongoing
- Outreach GED Tutoring-Portland Satellite Office, Salem, & Dallas
- Beading, Leatherwork, and Drum making Classes in Grand Ronde & Portland for GED students
- Diagnostic Learning Assessment Testing for GED students if recommended
- Financial Skills Class at Grand Ronde, Spring 2004
- 16 GED graduates for Academic Year 2003-2004
- 2 High School Completions

Tribal Library

"The Freedom to Read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label 'controversial' views, to distribute lists of 'objectionable' books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as citizens devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read."



Tribal Librarian Chris Mercier