



PARTNERSHIP WITH  
**NATIVE AMERICANS®**

## American Indian Education Fund

# Undergraduate Scholarship Application Form

*The American Indian Education Fund was established to support educational opportunities for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students. Our vision is strong, self-sufficient American Indian communities. Scholarships are awarded for each school year and are chosen by a national selection committee. Decisions are based on an overall assessment of the application.*

**APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETE AND POSTMARKED BY APRIL 4th TO BE CONSIDERED.**

**Completed applications received before March 1st will earn you one additional point on your score!**

### Applicant Criteria

- Native American, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian (student or one parent must be enrolled and have documentation)
- Attending an accredited 2 or 4 year college/university or technical/vocational school
- Must be enrolled as a full-time student
- GPA between 2.0-3.4 is desirable, however, ALL current or future undergraduate students are encouraged to apply
- An ACT score of 14 or above is desirable
- Scholarships are available for undergraduate studies only – online schools are not applicable
- Scholarship can only be used for tuition and books

### Scholarships available through the American Indian Education Fund

**AIEF Undergraduate Scholarship:** Scholarships are for \$2,000 for the full year.

**AIEF Graduate Scholarship:** Scholarships are up to \$2,000 for the full year.

**AIEF does not offer funding for summer programs/studies or online schools.**

**Designated Scholarships:** All finalists are eligible to be reviewed for these scholarships.

**Notification of Awards:** Please do not call the AIEF offices, **awarded students will be notified by mail no later than mid-July.**

### Application Checklist

1. Please read and follow instructions carefully.
2. Complete **ALL** sections of the application.
3. Include these documents (copies are acceptable), securely clip together (**NO STAPLES**), and submit in a large envelope in the following order:
  - AIEF Application Form
  - Community Involvement Form
  - Essay – guidelines provided (**not to exceed 4 pages double spaced, 12 pt. font only**)
  - Photo of yourself with your name printed on the back (**secure on back of application**)
    - Please submit a 4 x 6 (or similar sized) color photo of yourself
    - Original print photos are preferred
    - **DO NOT** submit a photo printed on plain copy paper
    - Sign the **BACK** of your photo
  - Tribal Enrollment Document/Card – **COPY ONLY** – Do not send original!
    - If submitting your parent's documentation, please specify.
  - Recent Transcripts (Do **NOT** have to be official – Unofficial or Web Advisor acceptable)
  - GED Documentation (if applicable)
  - ACT Test Scores (applicable to **ONLY** incoming freshman who have taken the ACT Test)
  - SAT Scores (applicable to **ONLY** incoming freshman who have taken the SAT Test)

Mail Applications To: American Indian Education Fund, 2401 Eglin St., Rapid City, South Dakota 57703  
Phone: 1-866-866-8642 Website: www.aiefprogram.org

For office use only: ER = 1 0-1.99 = 1 2.0-3.5 = 2 3.6-4.0 = 0 GED = 2 FR = 1 tribal community = 2 Pr. State = 1 Sub. 1 2 3 4  
I A C S L D U Total \_\_\_\_\_

**A letter of admission to college/university/technical school will be required if you are awarded the scholarship!**

**General Information (Please print CLEARLY – illegible applications will not be considered)**

Name (First, M.I., Last): \_\_\_\_\_

**Important! We need a summer contact address since we select & notify scholarship winners in July.**

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Tribal Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Current Email \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a previous AIEF Scholarship recipient?  No  Yes

Have you applied for other scholarships?  No  Yes Did you receive any?  No  Yes Don't Know Yet

List other scholarships you have received \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever resided on a reservation, a tribal village, tribal community or town bordering a reservation?  No  Yes

How long living there? \_\_\_\_\_ If you have not lived on a reservation, a tribal village, tribal community or town bordering a reservation briefly explain why not. \_\_\_\_\_

If you speak your Native language, please identify your language \_\_\_\_\_

How did you **first** hear about the AIEF scholarship?  School Counselor/Advisor  Teacher  Radio  Website

Newspaper  Financial Aid Office  Saw a poster  Family member  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check if you received your GED, if not, please complete the High School information portion (include transcript if you will be a college freshman)**

I received my GED (attach documentation to completed application)

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Guidance Counselor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a Boarding school?  No  Yes

Have you ever resided in a dormitory for high school?  No  Yes, name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Test Scores (Fill in all relevant fields and attach a copy of your score report)**

Current GPA \_\_\_\_\_ GPA is  High school or  College

Did you take the ACT Test?  No  Yes, what was your Composite Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you take the SAT Test?  No  Yes, what was your Composite Score: \_\_\_\_\_

**College Information**

Name of school you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

At the beginning of the 2017-2018 academic school year I will be a:  Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you transitioning from a 2 year college to a 4 year college this upcoming 2017-2018 academic school year?

No  Yes

If Yes, (list schools) from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**Miscellaneous Information**

How many individuals currently live in your home? \_\_\_\_\_ How many children under the age of ten? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have someone in your life that you consider a mentor? Yes  No

If yes, please identify:  Family Member  Counselor  Friend  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Are you the first member of your immediate family to attend college?  Yes  No

**Community Involvement (form needs to be completely filled out for eligibility)**

Please list all extracurricular activities, interests, hobbies, employment, family or tribal activities that show leadership and participation in community life. **Further explain in essay.** (Attach separate sheet if necessary)

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES Activity/group name and your role	Dates		Contact for reference	Phone
	From	To		
TRIBAL/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: List the most recent tribal and community activities and participation dates.				
HOBBIES/INTERESTS				
EMPLOYMENT/INTERNSHIPS/SCHOOL WORK STUDY				

**Essay Guidelines** (not to exceed 4 pages double spaced, 12 pt. font only)

Please attach an essay that outlines the information listed below. This essay is the **primary component** of your application that will compel the award committee to fund your request. There is a four-page limit. Double spaced, well-written, typed essays are preferred. Take this as an opportunity to tell your story and demonstrate your writing skills. Include all of the following:

- Introduction** – Introduce yourself using your full name and tribal affiliation. Include information about your home, family and community.
- Unique Circumstances** - Tell us any special circumstances or obstacles you have had to overcome to attend college. Let us know what is unique and different about you that will help the committee to understand you more fully. What do you think it is about you that will help you succeed in college?
- Academics** – Describe yourself as a student - how you made the grades you did, and how much time you spend studying. Tell us who/what inspired you to pursue a college education. Tell us why you have selected a particular major. Describe any school leadership positions you have held and how they shaped you. Tell us about any support systems you will have while pursuing your degree. Tell us about school activities you were involved in.
- Career Plans** – Describe your ultimate career goal. Tell us the steps you are taking to reach your goals. Explain what qualities you see in yourself that will help you in your journey and career. Discuss your strengths and weaknesses.
- Service to the Tribal Community** – Share your Indian heritage and what it means to you. Describe your plan to help make positive changes in the Indian community. Explain how your college education will allow you to do so. If you were to return to work in your community, what would you do?
- Leadership/Community Service** – Describe and explain your community involvement activities. Tell us how your involvement may apply to your future. If you don't have traditional community involvement, describe how you helped your tribe, family or community.
- Describe your financial needs** and how you plan to fund your educational goals.

### Read and sign below

*I certify that the information contained within this application is true to the best of my knowledge and is my own work. I understand that misrepresentation or fraudulent information may be grounds for loss of scholarship funds and repayment. By accepting a scholarship from Partnership With Native Americans (American Indian Education Fund), I authorize them to use my photograph and any information that I have provided in advertising, fundraising or publicity in any and all media. I understand that if I am awarded a scholarship, the Address Information Form that I receive with my award letter **MUST** be received by Partnership With Native Americans (AIEF) no later than **August 1<sup>st</sup>** or my scholarship will be forfeited. Additionally, if I am awarded a scholarship from AIEF, I understand that I **MUST** provide a copy of my semester grades to AIEF at the end of each semester.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

## APPLICATIONS MUST:

BE SIGNED

BE MAILED AS ONE PACKET IN A LARGE ENVELOPE (DO NOT FOLD APPLICATION)

NOT BE FAXED

HAVE THE CORRECT POSTAGE IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE

NOT INCLUDE LETTERS OF REFERENCE

MAIL APPLICATION PACKET TO:

**NOTE NEW MAILING ADDRESS: 2401 Eglin Street, Rapid City, South Dakota 57703**