



January 21, 2011

Dear Education Director,

The Washington Indian Gaming Association (WIGA) is pleased to announce our 2011-12 Scholarship Program. This year we will be awarding up to \$50,000 for students pursuing degrees at community and technical colleges, four-year colleges, and post-graduate and professional schools.

One of the principal goals in WIGA's mission statement is to promote tribal economic development and self-sufficiency. The WIGA Scholarship Program is designed to promote tribal self-sufficiency by providing scholarships for Native American students in Washington, seeking to advance their own self-sufficiency and broaden their personal and professional potential through higher education.

I have included our announcement as well as a copy of the application. This information can be also be downloaded at our website: www.washingtonindiangaming.org.

Please contact me with any questions. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Rebecca George
Deputy Director



Washington Indian Gaming Association Scholarship Program for 2011 \$50,000 to be Awarded

Purpose: One of the principal goals in WIGA's Mission Statement is to promote tribal economic development and self-sufficiency. The WIGA Scholarship Program is designed to promote tribal self-sufficiency by providing scholarships for Native American students in Washington, seeking to advance their own self-sufficiency and broaden their personal and professional potential through higher education. Students pursuing degrees at community and technical colleges, four-year colleges, and post-graduate and professional schools are eligible.

Timeline Dates:

- January 2011 – Announcement of WIGA Scholarship
- January to March 2011 – Advertise and accept Scholarship Applications
- **March 31, 2011 – Deadline for Scholarship Applications (postmark deadline)**
- April 15, 2011 – WIGA Scholarship Committee meets and selects recipients
- April 29, 2011 – Scholarship Recipients Announced
- August 12, 2011 – Distribution of Awards for Fall Term

Both enrolled members of the WIGA Tribes and Indian students in Washington are eligible for WIGA scholarships, which may be used to attend two-year and four-year colleges and universities, as well as for advanced degrees. Scholarship recipients from the previous year are also eligible to re-apply under a reduced format.

Award Levels:

- Up to nine community college/technical scholarships at \$1,100 each.
- Up to sixteen undergraduate level scholarships at \$1,500 each.
- Up to eight graduate/professional level scholarships at \$2,000 each.

The Scholarship Committee has discretion in determining the amount of each award and the number of student recipients, depending on the availability of funds and the pool of applicants each year. The Scholarship Committee budget for 2011 is \$50,000.

Award Distribution: Scholarship awards will be made either directly to the student or to the financial aid office of the institution for which the recipient is attending, in the name of the student, at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

Application Requirements: (See reverse side)

Download a copy of the WIGA Scholarship Application from the WIGA website
<http://www.washingtonindiangaming.org/>.

Deadlines-- March 31, 2011 – Postmark Deadline for Scholarship Applications



Application Requirements: Applicants should include the following in the WIGA scholarship application package:

- ✓ **WIGA Scholarship Application**
- ✓ **Personal Essay**
- ✓ **Two Letters of Recommendation**
- ✓ **Verification of tribal enrollment**
- ✓ **Copy of your Tribe's Educational Assistance Policy (if any)**
- ✓ **High School or most recent College Transcripts (unofficial) or GED certificate**

Applicant Criteria: Any Native American/Alaska Native student who is an enrolled member of a Washington tribe or who is a Washington state resident, and is currently a college student in good standing, or has been accepted in a two-year or four-year accredited institution, including post-graduate study. This includes Native American students from Washington who attend college in another state, as well as Native American students from outside of Washington, who attend college in Washington. Applicants must offer proof of tribal enrollment.

Application Procedure: Students should submit an application supplied by WIGA, proof of tribal enrollment, recent transcripts (high school or college) or GED, two letters of recommendation, a Personal Essay, and a copy of your Tribe's Educational Assistance Policy (if any). If you receive scholarship assistance through your Tribe, you must include the amount on the application.

The **Personal Essay** is a very important part of the application. Applicants should be as specific as possible about their academic and professional interests and how the Washington Indian Gaming Association Scholarship will help support them in these interests. The essay should include a discussion about your intended major and a description of your future career objectives and how that will involve and benefit your home community. The Personal Essay should be between 250 and 500 words in length.

Scholarship Renewal: The WIGA scholarship may be renewed for previous recipients subject to the availability of funds. They must be in good standing with their institution and making satisfactory progress in order to re-apply. Satisfactory progress will be defined in accordance to financial aid guidelines of the institution. Previous award recipients should submit the following items for consideration in subsequent years.

- ✓ **College Transcripts (unofficial)**
- ✓ **WIGA Scholarship Application (updated with new contact information)**
- ✓ **Statement of Progress/Reflective Paper (mentioning re-application, under 250 words)**

Submit all completed applications to:

Washington Indian Gaming Association
1110 Capitol Way S., Suite 404, Olympia, WA 98501
Ph. 360-352-3248 FAX 360-352-4819
Website: <http://www.washingtonindiangaming.org/>

**Washington Indian Gaming Association
2011-2012 Scholarship Application**

A. Personal Information

1. Name: _____
First Middle Last Social Security No.
2. Mailing Address: _____
Street
 _____ (_____) - _____
City State Zip Phone
3. First time Applicant? Previous scholarship recipient, renewing application.
4. E-mail Address: _____ Female
5. Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____ Gender: Male
6. Tribal Affiliation (please provide proof of enrollment by attaching a copy of enrollment card or statement from Tribal Enrollment Officer):
 Tribe/Band/Nation: _____ Enrollment #: _____

B. Previous Academic Information (high school, GED or college)

1. School Name: _____ City/State _____
2. Latest Cumulative GPA _____ Date of Certificate completion _____

C. Transcripts

In addition to this completed application and essay, please attach a copy of your most recent transcripts (transcripts or GED certification may be unofficial).

D. Activities, Awards, Experience

List honors, awards, elected positions, volunteer or work experience, and extracurricular activities in order of importance to you. Attach extra sheet(s) if desired.

Activity/Award	Position	Year(s)

E. Letters of Recommendation (2) (Optional for renewal applications.)

You must submit two letters of recommendation written by someone who is not related to you. The person can be a teacher, counselor, community leader, Tribal leader, etc. (Letters may be sent directly from the letter writer or included in your application packet).

G. Academic Institution (that you attend or plan to attend or have been accepted)

- Institution: _____
- Mailing Address: _____
 _____ (_____) - _____
City State Zip Phone

Washington Indian Gaming Association
2011-2012 Scholarship Application

H. Personal Essay (Statement of progress/reflective paper for students reapplying.)
In addition to this application, students should submit a Personal Essay. The statement of purpose is a very important part of the application. Applicants should be as specific as possible about their academic and professional interests for consideration by the Scholarship Committee. The statement should be approximately 250 words in length, but not more than 500 words. (For scholarship renewals, a statement of progress under 250 words.)

Essay Topic: Why are you considering your intended major and how will it help you reach future career objectives? How will your education benefit your home community, whether urban or rural?

I. Statement of Need

Please indicate below your anticipated financial situation for the 2011-12 academic year.

1. Student Income-All Sources

Income (including family contributions): _____

Tribal Contribution (attach policy): _____

*Please attach a copy of your **Tribe's Educational Assistance Policy**, if any. (Not required for renewal applications.)

Scholarships (total): _____

Student Loans (total): _____

Grants (total): _____

2. Educational Costs Estimates

Tuition: _____

Books: _____

Housing: _____

Miscellaneous (transportation, childcare, etc.): _____

Name: _____ (Print)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this application completed by **March 31, 2011** (*postmark deadline*) to:

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1110 Capitol Way S., Suite 404, Olympia, WA 98501
Ph. 360-352-3248 FAX 360-352-4819
Website: <http://www.washingtonindiangaming.org/>