



2009-2010 Cherokee Nation Scholarship Program Guidelines



The Cherokee Nation's Higher Education Office awards scholarships to selected Cherokee Nation Tribal Citizens pursuing degrees at a college or university accredited with Carnegie units. **To apply for these funds, new and continuing students must submit a complete application packet to the Higher Education office on or before JUNE 12, 2009. It is recommended that you make copies of all documents before submitting.**

Desired Outcomes

The purpose of the Cherokee Nation Higher Education Program includes accomplishing three desired outcomes: 1) strengthen the sovereignty of the Cherokee Nation; 2) increase the capacity of its citizens; and 3) promote the language and culture of the Cherokee Nation. The scholarship selection process is designed to achieve these outcomes. Future scholarship applications may provide a preference for students who have demonstrated accomplishments relating to the desired outcomes.

Scholarship Programs and Selection Process

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS (students are limited to 8 semesters)

➤ **Cherokee Nation Pell Scholarship**

Cherokee Nation tribal citizens who qualify for Federal Pell Grant funding regardless of permanent residence

OR

➤ **Cherokee Nation Scholarship Program *see attached map***

Cherokee Nation tribal citizens who do not qualify for Federal Pell Grant funding:

- 1) Whose permanent residency is within the Cherokee Nation area, which is defined as counties within the Cherokee Nation boundaries; or
- 2) Whose permanent residency is within the contiguous counties to the Cherokee Nation boundaries (including contiguous counties in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma).

This scholarship is based on the following selection preferences:

First Preference

Continuing students (Funded in '08 and '09)

Second Preference

Classification order of new applicants (Senior, Junior, Sophomore, Freshman)

Third Preference

Academic performance

Students not awarded for scholarship funding will be placed on a waiting list. Students on the waiting list may be selected for scholarships as additional funding becomes available.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS (students are limited to 8 semesters)

➤ **Cherokee Nation Graduate Scholarship *see attached map***

Cherokee Nation Tribal citizens seeking graduate degrees:

- 1) Whose permanent residency is within the Cherokee Nation area, which is defined as counties within the Cherokee boundaries, or
- 2) Whose permanent residency is within the contiguous counties to the Cherokee Nation boundaries, (including contiguous counties in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma).

Self Help Component

Recipients are required to volunteer one-hour service to the tribe (Cherokee Nation) or community for every \$100 they receive in scholarship funding. (Example: \$1,000 per semester = 10 community service hours). Official written verification will be required.

Notification of Receipt of Complete Application

Students will be notified in writing when the Higher Education Office receives a complete application. There are no assurances that a student has a complete application in the Higher Education Office awaiting consideration for funding until the student receives official written notification from the Higher Education Office.

Notification of Scholarship Selection

Students will be notified in writing the first week of August of scholarship selection. There are no assurances that a student has been selected to receive the scholarship until the student receives official written notification from the Higher Education Office.

Students not eligible

1. Students seeking a license, training certificate, or Associate of Applied Science. *Students may contact Career Services for more information at 918-453-5555.*
2. Indian Health Services (HIS) Scholarship
3. Assistance from other tribe(s)
4. Cherokee Nation Career Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, Directed Studies, Cherokee Nation Nursing Program, Employee Leadership or Employee Reimbursement Program
5. Students who have completed an undergraduate degree

Cherokee Nation scholarship recipients who require more semesters than the traditional eight semesters or exceed 140 hours to complete baccalaureate degree requirements will be considered for an extended two-semester period in accordance with the following:

- A. Availability of funds
- B. Review of transcripts to determine that students completed the required number of hours for each semester supported by the Cherokee Nation scholarship funds
- C. Maintain good standing with college/university
- D. Review of transcripts and degree plans to determine that a two-semester extension makes degree attainment possible
- E. All existing Cherokee Nation Higher Education selection criteria and program regulations remain in effect, including the 140 hour limit.

Student Aid Report – what to look for

Student Aid Report (SAR) contains the results from a processed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA information can be obtained from high school counselor's office, local college financial aid office, Cherokee Nation Higher Education office, or online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

If students wish to complete a FAFSA online, they need to apply for a Personal Identification Number (PIN). Please allow two weeks for processing (must have the PIN). The SAR will be on the website. The student must use the PIN to retrieve the SAR (instructions to download are below). Student Aid Reports will be multiple pages (ALL pages must be mailed with the application).

How to download a SAR from the WEB

1. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov
2. Under "FAFSA Follow-up" click **PRINT STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR)**
3. Select year **2009-2010**
4. Enter your personal information then 'submit'
5. SAR Transactions, pick most recent number
6. Processing Information – at left of screen **PRINT SUMMARY**
7. Print Summary **HTML** or **PDF** Version
8. Check for **COMMENTS ABOUT YOUR INFORMATION** on last page

If you have questions or need assistance completing either the Cherokee Nation Scholarship Application or the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, feel free to contact our office:

Cherokee Nation Higher Education
(918) 453-5000 Ext. 5465 or 3948
(800) 256-0671 option 5

Other Important Numbers
Career Services (918)-453-5000 Ext. 5555
Registration (918)-453-5000 Ext. 6980

Deadline: June 12, 2009



2009-2010 CHEROKEE NATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



NAME			SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER				OTHER NAME(S) UNDER WHICH YOUR RECORDS MAY APPEAR											
LAST		FIRST		MI														
PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS						CITY, STATE ZIP				STUDENT EMAIL ADDRESS								
COUNTY NAME			HOME PHONE AND CELL				DATE OF BIRTH		SEX		TRIBAL CITIZENSHIP NUMBER							
							Mo	Day	Yr			CO						
ACT SCORE (Composite)		SAT SCORE TOTAL (Verbal + Written)		GED		HIGH SCHOOL NAME				HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP?								
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO														
COLLEGE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN 2009 - 2010 (No abbreviations please)						SEMESTER YOU PLAN TO BEGIN				CLASSIFICATION IN 2009-2010 (Check One)								
										___ FRESHMAN (0-29 HRS) ___ SOPHOMORE (30-59 HRS) ___ JUNIOR (60-89 HRS) ___ SENIOR (90- 140 HRS) ___ MASTERS ___ DOCTORAL								
FIELD OF STUDY/MAJOR			LAST SEMESTER FUNDED BY THIS PROGRAM				***** FOR OFFICE USE ONLY *****											
			SEMESTER: _____ YEAR: _____								NEW		CONT					
											PELL		NP					
											IN/CONT		OUT					
											GPA		HRS					
REQUIRED DOCUMENTS												CONTINUING						
New Undergraduates			New Graduates			All Continuing Students			Return Complete Packet to:				HOURS EARNED		GPA		TOTAL HRS	
1. 2009 - 2010 Student Aid Report (All pages) 2. Copy of Social Security card 3. Copy of Tribal Citizenship card (Blue) 4. Official High School Transcript (7 semester) or GED scores (Freshmen only) 5. Copy of ACT/SAT or College Placement Test Scores (Freshmen only) 6. Official Undergraduate Transcript with most recent semester grades (if applicable)			1. Copy of Social Security card 2. Copy of Tribal Citizenship card (Blue) 3. Official Undergraduate Transcript with Bachelor's Degree conferment 4. Letter of Acceptance to Graduate Program			1. 2009 - 2010 Student Aid Report all pages (undergraduate) 2. Official Transcript (with Spring 2009 grades) 3. Spring 2009 Self Help Verification with Non-Profit Proof attached			Cherokee Nation Higher Education P.O. BOX 948 Tahlequah, OK. 74465 Phone: (918) 453-5000 ext. 5 (800) 256-0671 ext. 5465									

RELEASE OF INFORMATION AGREEMENT

The information contained in my scholarship application contains no falsification and all items are true and correct. I understand that any false statement made herein would result in a voided application. I hereby authorize the release of all information contained in this application for eligibility for this scholarship to Cherokee Nation Education Services. Any modifications I wish to make to this Release of Information Agreement must be described in writing by a document bearing my signature and attached to this application.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ PRINTED NAME: _____

This application does not create a contract, commitment or entitlement from the Cherokee Nation. Scholarships awarded are subject to availability of funds. All documents must be delivered or postmarked on or before JUNE 12, 2009.

Deadline June 12, 2009

Certified Mail with Return Receipt Encouraged