



PARTNERSHIP WITH  
**NATIVE AMERICANS®**

## American Indian Education Fund 2021-2022 **UNDERGRADUATE** Scholarship Application Form

APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETE AND POSTMARKED BY **APRIL 4<sup>th</sup>\*** TO BE CONSIDERED.

\*Completed applications received by **March 1<sup>st</sup>** will earn you one additional point on your score!

*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.*

### 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 - 3.5 is desirable, however, ALL current or future undergraduate students are encouraged to apply
- An ACT score of 14 or above is desirable
- Online schools and summer programs are not applicable

### Scholarships available through the American Indian Education Fund

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

**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 paperclip together (**NO STAPLES**), and submit in a large envelope in the following order:
  - AIEF Application Form
  - Community Involvement Form (pg. 4)
  - Recent Transcripts (They do **NOT** have to be official – Unofficial or Web Advisor acceptable)
  - Essay – guidelines provided (**not to exceed 4 pages double spaced, 12 pt. font only**)
  - Photo of yourself with your name printed and signed on the back
    - 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
  - Tribal Enrollment Document/Card – **COPY ONLY** – Do not send original!
    - If submitting your parent's documentation, please specify.
  - GED Documentation (if applicable)
  - ACT Test Scores (applicable **ONLY** to incoming freshman who have taken the ACT Test)
  - SAT Scores (applicable **ONLY** to incoming freshman who have taken the SAT Test)

**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. Please include 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 your 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.

**Please 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 COMPLETE AND POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN **APRIL 4TH**

BE SIGNED (Page 2)

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

HAVE THE CORRECT POSTAGE IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE

**NOT BE FAXED**

**NOT INCLUDE LETTERS OF REFERENCE, RESUME OR CV**

**MAIL APPLICATION PACKET TO: 2401 Eglin Street, Rapid City, SD 57703**

## American Indian Education Fund 2021-2022 UNDERGRADUATE Scholarship Application Form

*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): \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

**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  Do Not Know

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

Have you ever resided on or near a reservation, tribal village or tribal community?  No  Yes How long? \_\_\_\_\_

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

Website  Newspaper  Financial Aid Office  Saw a poster  Family/Friend  Other \_\_\_\_\_

### High School Information (include transcript if you will be a college freshman)

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: \_\_\_\_\_

I received my GED (attach documentation to completed application)

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

Current GPA \_\_\_\_\_ GPA is from  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: \_\_\_\_\_

