



AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

Higher Pathways 2020-2021 Grant Application

Application Due Dates:

Fall 2020 Funding – October 15th, 2020 by 5:00pm MT

Spring 2021 Funding – February 15th, 2021 by 5:00pm MT

Native Pathways Grant Funding Overview

Partnerships with high schools, TCUs, tribal education departments, and tribal community organizations are an important aspect of the Native Pathways program. To boost college-going resources and opportunities for American Indian/Alaska Native students, College Fund offers exclusive grant funding with programming support for these partners.

Native Pathways Sr. Grant Administrator:
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Native Pathways Program Officer
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Higher Pathways Grant Opportunity Overview

The grant period is September 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021. The emphasis of this **\$3000 grant** is for high schools and other tribal organizations working with Native youth to boost college going resources and opportunities for American Indian/Alaska Native high school students. Provides funding for reservation-based and/or BIE-funded high schools, tribal education departments, and tribal community organizations to 1) take a group of students on an in-state [college campus visit*](#), 2) hold a [college readiness completion contest](#), 3) host a [college application day/week](#), 4) host/attend a [college & career fair](#) with TCU and/or university representatives, 5) [other](#). There are 90 Higher Pathways grants awarded each year.

Higher Pathways Grant Administrator:
Micheleen Pennington, BS
College Readiness Coach
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Native Pathways Grant Eligible Schools

Reservation-based and/or Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded high schools, tribal education departments, and tribal community organizations that are located within proximity of a Tribal College or University are eligible to apply for the Native Pathways Grants.

- Reservation-based/BIE-funded high schools, tribal education departments, and tribal community organizations in the following 13 states where TCUs are located are eligible:
 - AK, AZ, KS, MI, MN, MT, ND, NB, NM, OK, SD, WA, WI
- Currently, 156 eligible high schools have been identified

Higher Pathways Grant Details

Native Pathways grant recipients receive access and information for:

- Funding, assistance, & support for events
- In-person & virtual student workshops
- Native Pathways Toolkit of presentation materials
- College readiness resources
- Professional development & networking opportunities
- Native Pathways College Going Guidebooks
- Native Pathways College Preparatory Curriculum Guide

Native Pathways Toolkits include information for the Native Pathways student programs, presentations on college readiness, grade level timelines, repository of academic resources, College Fund Education Calendar of webinars, and other valuable resources. A Toolkit will be provided to each grant recipient on a flash drive and mailed to each school along with a classroom set of Native Pathways College Going Guidebooks and a teacher copy of the Native Pathways College Preparatory Curriculum Guide.

Grant Recipient Expectations & Responsibilities

1. **Campus Contacts and Lead Event Coordinator** - The Native Pathways Grant application designates a primary and secondary contact for each school campus:
 - The primary contact will be lead event coordinator and main campus contact
 - The secondary contact will support the lead event coordinator
2. **Native Pathways Student Application and Surveys** - Grant recipients will recruit students to the Native Pathways Student Programming and assist with the online application and pre- and post-surveys.
3. **Report Attendance/Participation for Events and/or Activities** - Lead Event Coordinator will create an attendance sheet for the event(s) and/or activities to include school name, student first name, student last name, grade level, student email, student phone and submit to their respective College Fund Coach.

Grant Spending – Event Recommendations & Spending Suggestions

Contests to Encourage College Readiness Activity Completion:

Use contests with prize incentives and/or drawings to encourage college readiness activity completion. For example:

1. Hold a contest for the first (#30) students who complete (*their FAFSA*) will win (\$100 gift card).
- OR**
2. All students completing (*their FAFSA*) will earn a \$20 gift card and be entered for a grand prize drawing for a (*Chromebook*).

Suggestions for Drawings & Prizes – Gift Certificates \$5/\$10/\$20/\$25/\$50/\$75/\$100 (Visa, Amazon, Wal-Mart, Subway, Starbucks), Chromebooks, laptops, tablets, headsets, charge cords/extensions for home & car, flash drives, earbuds, Wi-Fi hotspots, internet service, smartphone & data plan, school spirit gear, backpacks, calculators, school supplies (notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, highlighters, rulers, erasers, sticky notes)

Attendance, Participation, or Activity Completion Ideas:

- Student and Parent register for FSA ID
- Complete FAFSA
- Complete College Admission Application(s)
- Complete Scholarship Application(s)
- Schedule an advisement appointment with a university representative
- Attend a Virtual College & Career Fair
- Register and attend a College Fund Online Webinar
- Attend a College Readiness Virtual Webinar, Conference, Workshop, Camp (Native Pathways, AIGCS, College Horizons, ASU, NYSACAC, NABI, UNITY, CUUB, etc.)

Virtual/Hybrid-Friendly Substitution Options for Campus Visits and On-Site Events:

- Virtual FAFSA Night
- Virtual Campus Tours
- Virtual College & Career Fairs
- Honoraria for Virtual Guest Native Speakers – academic, motivational, health & wellness
- Purchase Online Resources & Training
- Test Prep Courses for ACT/SAT
- College Admission Application Fees
- Academic Tutoring Services
- Gift Certificate Prizes (Visa, Amazon, Wal-Mart, Subway, Starbucks)

Native Pathways Grant Application Process

1. Attend a virtual Native Pathways Grant Webinar
2. Complete the 3-page Grant Application (*Contact Signature form, Event form, Budget form*)
 - The Native Pathways Grant application designates a primary and secondary contact designated for each school campus:
 - a. The primary contact will be lead event coordinator and main campus contact
 - b. The secondary contact will support the lead event coordinator
 - Select the type of event you will facilitate and answer the 3 short questions regarding the opportunity benefits, marketing & promotion, and monitoring & reporting.
 - Complete the respective detailed itemized budget that coincides with your event option. Each grant application requires a projected budget outlining how the funding will be spent on the event, activity, or alternate options.
3. **Scan and email the completed, signed 3-page application with any additional documentation to nativepathways@collegefund.org**
4. Award Notification:
 - Award letters will be issued upon receipt of complete application and committee approval
 - Award checks will be issued within 30 – 45 days of event, activity, or alternate option date
5. Event Reporting:
 - Event attendance sheet and any other event information should be sent within 14 days of event date.

Questions? Contact your grant administrator:

Higher Pathways Grant Administrator

Micheleen Pennington, BS
College Readiness Coach
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