

NWIHA Youth Scholarship Policy

1. Each year, NWIHA receives donations to support a Youth Scholarship Program, whereby students enrolled in NWIHA-member tribes are eligible to apply for monetary scholarships to be used for tuition and other school-related expenses. Specific requirements and guidelines for the program are as follows:
 - a. To be eligible, applicants must be enrolled members of a dues-paying Voting Member of the NWIHA. To be an eligible Voting Member, all membership dues must be paid as of the application deadline. Applicants must be younger than 24 years of age as of the application deadline.
 - b. All applications awarded shall be approved by the Executive Committee at the first Executive Committee meeting after the deadline, based on recommendations of the Executive Director.
 - c. The specific application requirements, including the application deadline, shall be specified on the application form as approved by the Executive Committee and shall be subject to change as deemed necessary.
2. Funds to be used for the Youth Scholarship Program shall be accounted for in a Restricted Fund account, and shall be reported to the Executive Committee and the NWIHA Voting Membership on a quarterly basis.
3. The total amount of funds to be distributed to successful scholarship applicants shall be based on the balance in the Restricted Funds – Youth Scholarships account as of December 31st of the preceding year. The Executive Committee shall approve awards according to the following procedure:
 - a. The maximum number of scholarships to be awarded and the maximum amount of each scholarship shall be determined by the Executive Committee at the first regular Executive Committee meeting of the year.
 - b. If the number of eligible applications received is less than the maximum number to be awarded, all eligible applicants shall be awarded using the maximum amount determined in paragraph 3.a., above.
 - c. If the number of eligible applications received exceeds the number of scholarships to be awarded, the scholarships shall be awarded using a random drawing by the Executive Committee, using the maximums described in paragraph 3.a., above.

Any unused funds shall be made available the following year.
4. Scholarships shall be paid directly to the educational institution and shall only be used for tuition, books, or other school-related expenses. Scholarships may not be used for food, clothing, housing or other student personal needs.
5. Eligible educational institutions shall include accredited universities, graduate schools, community colleges, and trade schools. The successful applicants must verify their school acceptance at the time of application.