

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Tribal Members Eligible for Increased Scholarship Funding

For Immediate Release

Date November 16, 2022

Perri Ahhaitty, Chairman, Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma

Attending college just became more affordable for Iowa tribal members beginning with the 2022 fall semester.

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee has approved a scholarship increase of 133% from the current tribal scholarship amount. All eligible Iowa tribal members can now receive a maximum \$14,000.00 general fund scholarship, each calendar year, based on their financial needs analysis. The increased tribal scholarship will be able to be utilized simultaneously with existing tribal assistance benefits and possible BIA funding to create a pathway to an affordable higher education experience.

The scholarship increase will directly support tribal members attending accredited higher education institutions such as colleges, vocational schools, or trade schools of their choice.

Eligible Iowa tribal members receiving resources from the increased Higher Education Fund will be able to utilize their disbursement in one of two ways. Based on the Financial Need Analysis forms completed by their school, funds can be issued at a maximum \$7,000.00 per fall and spring semester or a maximum \$5,000.00 per fall and spring semester with a maximum \$4000.00 available for a summer semester.

Chairman Ahhaitty said the scholarship will no longer be limited to first time degree seeking tribal members. Scholarship funds will now be available to any tribal member seeking to pursue higher education through a degree or certification-seeking, accredited institution.

“The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma strives to find new ways to help Iowa tribal members achieve academic success by removing barriers to higher education in their career, education, and financial plans”, said Chairman Ahhaitty. The scholarship increase is directly related to the tribal Higher Education Department’s growth over the last six years.

Further inquiries can be sent to Regina Riley, Higher Education Director, for the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma at rriley@iownation.org or visit <https://www.bahkhoje.com/native-services/education-programs>.