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**External Scholarships for American Indian Law Students  
for the 2019-2020 Academic Year**

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## **1. American Indian Graduate Center**

The [American Indian Graduate Center \(AIGC\)](http://www.aigcs.org) provides funding from multiple sources for Native American graduate students. ([www.aigcs.org](http://www.aigcs.org))

The *AIGC Fellowship* application opens January 1, 2019 and closes June 1, 2019. The *Fellowship* typically awards \$1,500 - \$3,000 per academic year to students. Because applicants must submit information from recommenders and their tribe in order to complete an application, students should allow sufficient time to obtain such third-party information.

### **Basic eligibility for all AIGC opportunities**

Students must:

- (1) Pursue a doctoral or professional degree as a full-time student at an accredited graduate school in the United States;
- (2) Demonstrate financial need by submitting a (i) Financial Needs Form\*, and the (ii) Free Application for Federal Student Aid; and
- (3) Demonstrate tribal affiliation by submitting a Tribal Eligibility Certificate\*.

*\*documents linked in AIGC website.*

### **Note:**

In order to apply to the *AIGC Fellowship*, students must first complete the General Application. The General Application takes a student's initial information and matches students with all available scholarship opportunities that AIGC manages. The General Application may be completed anytime, but students might not see any "open" opportunities at the time they complete it. Furthermore, applicants must submit additional applications for each scholarship opportunity as those opportunities open. For example, as mentioned above, the *AIGC Fellowship* application opens January 1, 2019. AIGC manages a number of private scholarships (\$500 – \$5000 each) based on field of study and other criteria. Students can apply to as many scholarships as recommended by the AIGC system; however, they may accept only one award even if awarded more than one scholarship.

## **2. Cobell Scholarships**

The [Cobell Scholarship](http://cobellscholar.org) offers various merit-based and need-based competitive scholarship opportunities to post-secondary students. Deadlines and award amount information is listed below. The application is a six-step process that must be completed via the OASIS website. For more information, email Bridget Neconie – [bridget.neconie@cobellscholar.org](mailto:bridget.neconie@cobellscholar.org). (<http://cobellscholar.org/>)

2019-2020 Cobell Scholarship Academic Year opportunity opens December 15, 2018 and closes March 15, 2019. Up to \$10,000.

2019-2020 Cobell Scholarship Summer opportunity opens December 15, 2018 and closes March 31, 2019. Up to \$5,000.

2019 Cobell Graduate Summer Research Fellowship Program currently open and closes January 10, 2019. Up to \$5,000.

### **Basic eligibility for Cobell Scholarships**

Students must:

- (1) Be an enrolled member of a US Federally-Recognized Tribe;
- (2) Be enrolled in full-time study and degree seeking at an accredited institution; and
- (3) Pursue a vocational certificate or diploma, associate's, bachelors, masters, doctoral or professional degree.

## **3. American Indian Education Fund**

The [American Indian Education Fund \(AIEF\)](http://www.nativepartnership.org/site/PageServer?pagename=aief_home) offers competitive scholarships to eligible American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian students pursuing a masters or doctoral degree. AIEF provides \$1,000 to \$2,000 per scholarship for graduate students who are attending or have been accepted to an accredited graduate school. The scholarship is paid directly to each recipient's college or university.

([http://www.nativepartnership.org/site/PageServer?pagename=aief\\_home](http://www.nativepartnership.org/site/PageServer?pagename=aief_home))

Applications for the 2018-2019 academic year closed on April 4, 2018. Please check AIEF's website to see the deadline for the 2019-2020 academic year. For more information, call 1-866-866-8642 or email [rschad@nativepartnership.org](mailto:rschad@nativepartnership.org).

### **Basic Eligibility for AIEF scholarships**

Students must:

- (1) Be enrolled between 6-18 credit hours;
- (2) Have a GPA of 2.5 or above, as shown on transcripts; and
- (3) Provide documentation that the student or a parent is an enrolled member of a tribe.

## **4. Association on American Indian Affairs**

The [Association on American Indian Affairs \(AAIA\)](https://www.indian-affairs.org/) offers several annual, merit-based and need-based scholarships for graduate students. More information about each scholarship below. Awards are mailed directly to the school. (<https://www.indian-affairs.org/>).

[Sequoyah Graduate Scholarship](#) – one-year scholarship for graduate students in all fields of study.

[Elizabeth & Sherman Asche Scholarship](#) – one-year scholarship for undergraduate and graduate students in health and science fields.

[Florence Young Memorial Scholarship](#) – one-year scholarship for graduate students in art, law, and public health fields.

[Allogan Slage Memorial Scholarship](#) – one-year scholarship for undergraduate and graduate students from a non-federally recognized tribe (students from state-recognized tribes may apply) in all fields of study.

Applications for the 2019-2020 year are not open as of November 19, 2018. Please check AAIA's website periodically to see upcoming opening and closing dates. AAIA requires all components of the scholarship application to be received by AAIA by the application deadline. If the application is only postmarked by the deadline, it will not be considered.

### **Basic eligibility for AAIA scholarships**

Students must:

- (1) Be enrolled members of a US Tribe or Alaska Tribe, either a federally recognized or non-federally recognized Tribe;
- (2) Submit a copy of Tribal enrollment;
- (3) Be enrolled as full-time students for both fall and spring semesters at an accredited institution;
- (4) Have a minimum of 2.5 out of 4.0 GPA; and
- (5) Submit a current class schedule and transcript.

## **5. American Indian College Fund**

The [American Indian College Fund \(College Fund\)](#) provides scholarships to American Indian and Alaska Native college students attending Tribal colleges and universities *and* any non-profit and accredited college or university. (<https://collegefund.org/>)

The [Full Circle scholarship program](#) provides scholarship support for an academic year (two semesters). Applications are open from January 1 to May 31 of each year.

### **Basic eligibility for *Full Circle* scholarship**

Students must:

- (1) Be a U.S. citizen or Canadian eligible to attend college in the U.S. under provisions of the Jay Treaty;
- (2) Be enrolled full-time in a certificate, associate, bachelor's, or graduate program at an accredited tribal, public, or private (non-profit) college or university;
- (3) Be an enrolled member of a federal or state recognized tribe, or a descendant of at least one grandparent or parent who is an enrolled tribal member. Alaska Natives may use Native Corporation membership; and
- (4) Have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA. A scholarship may require a higher GPA to maintain eligibility.

## **6. National Native American Bar Association Foundation**

The NNABA Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization established by the National Native American Bar Association. The NNABA Foundation awards scholarships on a nationwide basis to law students who demonstrate a commitment to serve or contribute to the Native American community as future leaders. In the past, the NNABA Foundation has awarded general scholarships to cover tuition and bar review scholarships to

cover bar review expenses. As of November 19, 2018, it appears that only Bar Review scholarships are available. (<https://www.nativeamericanbar.org>).

Applications for the 2018 Bar Review Scholarships closed on March 2, 2018. Please check NNABA's website for opening and closing dates for 2019 scholarships. Applications must be submitted electronically.

### **Basic eligibility for NNABA Foundation Bar Review Scholarship**

Student must:

- (1) Be an active member of the National Native American Bar Association, a regional American Indian Bar Association or the National Native American Law Student Association;
- (2) Be a current third-year law student attending an accredited law school in the United States; and
- (3) Be registered to take the a State Bar Examination in July or February;

## **7. Colorado's American Indian Scholars Scholarship Fund**

The State of Colorado raises funds for a scholarship program for American Indian students attending colleges and universities in Colorado. Support for this Fund comes from the sale of specialized license plates. Scholarships are administered by the Colorado Indian Education Foundation and are available for law students. For more information about obtaining an American Indian Scholars License Plate, please visit the [Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce's website](#) or call 303-629-0102.

(<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/ccia/education-2>)

2018 Scholarship winners were recognized in October during an event hosted by the Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce. Please check the Chamber's website and the Colorado Indian Education Foundation Facebook page (the website is experiencing technical difficulties as of November 2018) for more information about the application process for the 2019 scholarships. ([www.rmicc.org](http://www.rmicc.org))

## **8. Consider the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society**

The [Native American Fish and Wildlife Society \(NAFWS\)](#) awards scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students pursuing education in natural resources, fisheries, wildlife management, resource recreation, conservation law enforcement, forestry, land management and environmental science. If you are pursuing a legal career related to one of these fields of study such as natural resources law, environmental law, etc., consider applying to the scholarship opportunities offered by NAFWS. While NAFWS scholarships are not explicitly tailored to law students, students who will use their law degree in the aforementioned fields might be a good fit. See the NAFWS website for more information. (<https://nafws.org/>).

[Truman D. Picard Scholarship Program](#) – dedicated to the support of Native American students pursuing higher education in Natural Resources. Award of \$2,500 for graduate students. Completed applications must be submitted both via e-mail/fax and mail. Deadline

to submit all application materials by email and postmarked is **March 15, 2019** at 5:00 p.m. PST.

[NAFWS Regional Scholarship](#) – a one-time award of \$1,500 to enable Native American students to pursue a course of study leading toward a graduate degree in natural resources, fisheries, wildlife management, resource recreation, conservation law enforcement, forestry, land management or environmental science. Award can be used for any aspect of an undergraduate, technical or graduate education, including tuition, textbooks, equipment, travel and living expenses. Award is made directly to the student. Deadlines for NAFWS regional scholarships vary depending on the region. Check the NAFWS website for details.

### **Basic eligibility for NAFWS scholarships**

Student:

- (1) Must be an enrolled member of a Federally-Recognized US Tribe or Alaska Native Corporation, and
- (2) Must be a full-time student at an accredited institution of higher education in one of the related natural resources fields.
- (3) Student is also encouraged to be a member of the NAFWS.

## **9. Consider the American Indian Science and Engineering Society**

The [American Indian Science and Engineering Society \(AISES\)](#) awards scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students pursuing education in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields. If you are pursuing a legal career in STEM-related fields such as intellectual property law, patent law, natural resources law, environmental law, etc, consider applying to the scholarship opportunities offered by AISES. While AISES scholarships are not explicitly offered to law students, students who will use their law degree in the science and engineering fields might be a good fit. See the AISES website for more information. ([www.aises.org](http://www.aises.org)).

## **10. Additional Scholarship Resources**

- See additional resources on the American Indian Graduate Center website, [here](#),
- See additional resources on the Bureau of Indian Education website, [here](#).
- See additional resources on the American Indian College Fund website, [here](#).
- See additional resources on the National Indian Education Association website, [here](#).
- Some Tribes offer assistance for enrolled members.
- Some national specialty bars offer scholarships and internship stipends for law students. For example, the Federal Communications Bar Association.