

Alaska Native Education Funding Opportunities: Common Documents

Many scholarship applications will ask for similar documents from you to prove eligibility for funding. This is a good thing– it means you can start one file and keep everything together.

- **Tribal Enrollment Verification**—
This is usually a tribal ID card, but for some national scholarships proof of eligibility may be your connection to an ANCSA corporation as a shareholder or descendant. This may be a letter or ID card.
 - **Proof of Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI) Blood** —
This is your Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB or CIB).
 - Available from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) office at <http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/RegionalOffices/Alaska/>
 - **Proof of Selective Service Registration** —
This is required for male applicants between the ages of 18-25 for all federally based funding.
 - Available at: <https://www.sss.gov/regver/wfverification.aspx>
 - Most current **Official Transcripts** noting cumulative GPA —
If college transcripts are not yet applicable, high school transcripts or GED documentation are required.
 - Available from your school's Office of the Registrar.
 - **Acceptance Letter** noting degree and major or academic program —
This is a letter from your school granting you admission and stating your declared major or program change documentation.
 - This information may also be on your transcripts or printed from your online student portal if you do not have a specific letter.
 - Registered/official **Class Schedule** with credit load —
 - Available from your school's Office of the Registrar or via your online student portal.
- Flip this page over to continue**

- **Reference Letter —**

This is a letter recommending you as a good candidate for college, with the skills and desire to complete your degree program and college goals.

- A complete reference letter must contain the date it was written, signature, and contact information from referrer.
- This can be from a teacher, counselor, supervisor or any non-relative who can speak to your academic potential; see the sample letter below.

Sample letter of recommendation

MM/DD/YYYY

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Your Name for the past two and a half years, having served as her teacher in both English and Arts at _____ High School. I believe that Your Name is very well suited for higher education. Your Name is a bright and attentive young person. In class and in her work, she demonstrates that she is an intelligent and capable student with great potential. I am confident that she will thrive in any academic program that she chooses to pursue. I am convinced that Your Name would make a more than valuable contribution to your university. She has my highest recommendation. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Name of Non-Relative

Teacher, _____ High School (or other title)

Contact Information

- **Statement of Purpose —**

This is a short essay (like a letter to the scholarship funder) identifying your educational and professional goals.

- See the Statement of Purpose worksheet on the next page to get started on writing your own scholarship essay outline.
- Remember that many funders will have specific prompts that you should use, but you can use the same outline for many essays.
- The Statement of Purpose or essay portion of many scholarship applications is part of the scoring for higher award levels. It is worth your time to double-check all scholarship essays for spelling and grammar before submitting them.

Many applications will require similar documents, so it is a good idea to keep an electronic copy of your previously submitted scholarship materials (on your computer or in cloud storage). This way you can re-use the same items with a few minor changes.

Statement of Purpose Outline Worksheet

Start here and then save a typed-up version of this outline into your scholarship folder for use on multiple scholarship applications.

Answer the following questions for yourself. Use the back if you need more space.

- What is your (planned) degree program? What are you going to study in school?

I will study: _____

- What do you want to be?
- How does this academic program fit with your long-term career goals?
- What about your personal history makes this field appealing to you?
- Why is this field a good fit for you and/or important for your family or community?

I chose this field because: _____

- What are the accomplishments you are proud of, in relation to school and your community?

My recent accomplishments are:

- How are you/will you contribute to a positive Alaska Native or local community by working in your chosen field?

I will make a positive impact in my community using this degree by:
