

## Our Mission

The mission of The CIRI Foundation (TCF) is to promote individual self-development and economic self-sufficiency through education and to maintain pride in culture and heritage among Alaska Natives.

The CIRI Foundation supports the education and career development of eligible original enrollees of Cook Inlet Region Inc. (CIRI) and their direct lineal descendants through post-secondary scholarships and grants. Individuals with inherited or gifted shares do not qualify as original enrollees, but may be eligible if they are a lineal descendant. If you are not a direct lineal descendant of a CIRI original enrollee, but you are an Alaska Native voting CIRI Shareholder – please review TCF’s Raven Fund for funding opportunities that you *may* qualify for.

### JUMP START AWARDS

For applicants attending a recognized or accredited college, training program, or other authorized post-secondary education course of study **while concurrently enrolled in high school or an equivalent program. Must have a current term GPA of 2.0 or higher.**  
*Up to \$2,000 per calendar year (subject to available funding).*

Application Deadlines: Every month, deadline is the last day of the month

#### APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

**Applications must be received before the deadline and must be complete by the last day of the month.** Applications received after the deadline are not considered.

- 1. **Three-page application.** Complete, sign, and date the three-page application provided by TCF.
- 2a. **Proof of eligibility for lineal descendants.** (*new applicants only*) Lineal descendants of original CIRI enrollees must provide the relevant documents to confirm their relationship. (e.g. official birth certificate(s) or adoption decree linking you to the original enrollee.) More than one birth certificate may be necessary. *Sworn statements or affidavits are not accepted as official verification of eligibility.*
- 2b. **Proof of name change.** Any legal name changes must be supported by official documentation (i.e. marriage certificate, divorce decree, etc). *Sworn statements or affidavits are not accepted to verify name changes.*
- 3. **Transcripts and/or Certificate of Completion.** Submit a copy of your most current transcripts for high school/GED work. Your term GPA must be 2.0 or above to be eligible for funding.
- 4. **Statement of purpose.** Complete instructions regarding the Statement of Purpose are available in Section F. Your statement is evaluated for clarity of goals, correct use of English language, relationship to community, and overall quality.
- 5. **Proof of acceptance and enrollment.** Applicants must submit a copy of the final letter of acceptance into a post-secondary institution **and** a class schedule.
- 6. **Photograph.** (optional) Please note that your photograph becomes the property of TCF and may be used in print and electronic TCF or related publications. Digital photos may be emailed to [tcf@thecirifoundation.org](mailto:tcf@thecirifoundation.org).

**Applications must be received before 11:59 p.m. Alaska Time on the day of the deadline.**

**Applications will be considered in the order they were received – only complete applications will be considered.**

**Submit your application and documents to TCF via mail, email, or fax to:**

The CIRI Foundation | 3201 C Street, Suite 506, Anchorage, AK 99503 | Phone: (907) 793-3575

Toll-free: 1 (800) 764-3382 | Fax: (907) 793-3585 | [tcf@thecirifoundation.org](mailto:tcf@thecirifoundation.org) Updated 2/6/2024 TKL



**A. ELIGIBILITY**

**Name:**

1

<p><b>I am a direct lineal descendant of this original enrollee of CIRI:</b></p> <p>Name (Last, First, M.I.):</p> <p>Other Last Names Used by the original enrollee (if applicable):</p>	<p><b>What is your relationship to the original enrollee:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Parent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Great-Grandparent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Great-Great Grandparent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Great-Great-Great Grandparent</p>
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**B. PERSONAL DATA**

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Name (Last, First, M.I.)		Other Last Names Used (if applicable)	
Mailing Address (correspondence will be mailed here)		E-mail Address (correspondence will be emailed here)	
City	State	Zip Code	Tel No. - -
Date of Birth (month/day/year)	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer Not to Say <input type="checkbox"/> Preference		
<b>Are you related to a current Board member of The CIRI Foundation?</b> (not Cook Inlet Region, Inc.) <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> yes <i>If yes, provide their name and your relationship.</i>			

**C. EDUCATION LEVEL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

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<p><u>Please check your enrollment status, provide your current school's name and indicated your expected graduation date.</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am currently enrolled in high school at:</p> <p>Expected high school graduation date: mm/yyyy</p>	
<p><b>Recent community/volunteer activities, honors, awards, or accomplishments (if none, put n/a):</b></p>	

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**D. EDUCATION PLANS**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

9	<b>Name of School</b> (where you will be enrolled in post-secondary credits) If awarded, this is where the check is mailed to		
10	<b>Financial Aid Office Address</b>		<b>Tel No.</b> -      -
11	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip Code</b>
12	<b>Current program</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> a recognized or accredited college, training program, or other authorized post-secondary education course of study while concurrently enrolled in high school or equivalent program  (Additional information – if you are enrolled in a specific program i.e. 2-year degree or a certificate program, please include that information here:.)	
13	<input type="checkbox"/> Check this box if your program is <b>online, distance-delivery, study abroad, or correspondence.</b>		
14	<input type="checkbox"/> Declared major: If declared, what is your field of study: <b>-OR-</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Not enrolled in a specific major		
15	Expected date of completion:    mm/yyyy		
16	My most recent cumulative grade point average (GPA) is: _____		Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above to be eligible for funding.
17	<b><u>My school calendar is based on:</u></b> <input type="checkbox"/> semesters <input type="checkbox"/> quarters <input type="checkbox"/> trimesters <input type="checkbox"/> other ( <b>specify</b> time period, weeks, months, year, etc.):	<b><u>I am applying for the term(s):</u></b> <input type="checkbox"/> fall term only <input type="checkbox"/> spring term only <input type="checkbox"/> winter/spring terms <input type="checkbox"/> other ( <b>specify</b> time period, weeks months, year, etc.):	<b>Term start date:</b> _____ <b>Term end date:</b> _____ *Note: You cannot apply for courses completed prior to the application deadline.
18	I will be enrolled <input type="checkbox"/> part-time -or- <input type="checkbox"/> full-time for the term dates noted above on line 19. <b>*Please immediately send TCF <u>written</u> notification of any schedule or enrollment changes.</b>		
19	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>I understand that I am expected to complete all of the courses and credits for which I receive funding from The CIRI Foundation</b> (check box).		

**E. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b><u>New Applicants</u></b> (at least 500 words) – Please attach a statement of purpose which describes your education and career goals. How does your program fit with your education and career plans? How are you currently or plan to, contribute to a positive Alaska Native community? You may attach your personal history and a summary of accomplishments.</li> <li>▪ <b><u>Repeat Applicants</u></b> (at least 300 words) – Please attach a statement of purpose updating your education and career goals. To what extent are you moving toward your goals? What changes might have occurred since your last application and why? What new information do you have about your career and education goals? How are you currently, or plan to, contribute to a positive Alaska Native community? You may attach your summary of recent accomplishments.</li> </ul>
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**F. STATEMENT OF CORRECTNESS, UNDERSTANDING, AND AUTHORIZATION**

**By signing this statement, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the funding guidelines and terms specified below:**

1. To the best of my knowledge, the information in this application is true, correct and complete.
2. It is my responsibility - not that of The Ciri Foundation (board or staff) or any other party (e.g. parent, spouse, academic advisor) – to obtain and submit the necessary application materials on or before the deadline to receive consideration for any award.
3. This application does not obligate The Ciri Foundation to award an education scholarship or grant or to pay any costs incurred in the submission of this application. All decisions made by the Education Awards Committee are final.
4. If approved for a scholarship or grant, I agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the award. If, for any reason, I am unable to use the award for which I am selected, the full amount or any portion thereof is to be refunded to The Ciri Foundation.
5. I understand that I am required to complete all courses and credits for which I am funded by The Ciri Foundation.
6. All applicant information is kept confidential in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Information will not be released to another party, including parents or family members, without having written consent of the applicant.
7. I give The Ciri Foundation permission to release, as appropriate, my comments, photo, name, address, e-mail, and telephone number for employment or education referrals and Ciri publications.

21 **SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## JUMP START AWARD GUIDELINES

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The CIRI Foundation Jump Start Awards are open to direct lineal descendants (either natural-born or legally adopted) of original enrollees of CIRI. Individuals who have inherited or received gifted shares do not qualify as original enrollees. Alaska Native, voting CIRI shareholders that are not direct lineal descendants of an original enrollee may be eligible through the Raven Fund Jump Start program. ***All scholarships are made subject to available funding and up to the amounts listed below.***

### **JUMP START APPLICANTS ARE:**

Students accepted or enrolled full-time or part-time at a recognized or accredited college, training program, or other authorized post-secondary education course of study while *concurrently* enrolled in high school or equivalent program.

### **AWARD USES**

The priority of The CIRI Foundation is to help you meet your direct educational expenses including tuition, student registration fees, course-required books/supplies, and on-campus housing/meal plans. If funds remain after the direct educational expenses are met, then up to \$500 per calendar year.

**JUMP START AWARD PURPOSE:** To promote preparation for successful educational attainment while concurrently obtaining a secondary education.

**Eligibility:** must be enrolled in a recognized or accredited college, training program, or other authorized post-secondary education course of study while *concurrently enrolled* in high school or equivalent program. Must currently have and maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average

**Amount:** Up to \$2000 received during a calendar year.

**Duration:** May re-apply each Month of a calendar year until the grant cap is reached. May re-apply the following calendar year after grant cap has been reached.

**Deadlines:** **This is a rolling deadline that opens the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month.**

### **DEADLINES**

Applications must be **received by** The CIRI Foundation on or before the deadline to receive consideration. Late applications will not be considered. The stated deadline remains in effect whether the day falls on a weekend or a holiday. Submit your application **before** the start date of your coursework. Courses completed before the application deadline are not eligible for funding.

When TCF receives more eligible applications than the available funding, meeting the minimum selection criteria does not guarantee funding at any level. Applicants are considered for the appropriate award category based on their submitted information.

### **NOTIFICATION OF FUNDING DECISIONS**

The CIRI Foundation's Education Awards Committee makes the award selections and all decisions are final. Funding decisions are only released in writing; they are not released over the telephone or in person. Funded students are sent an award letter that contains the award terms and the responsibilities of the recipient. It is essential that award recipients read and understand the terms of their financial aid.

### **DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS**

In general, award checks are made payable to your educational institution directly and do not require endorsement. Award checks are sent directly to the financial aid office address of the institution specified in your application. *Please make sure the financial aid office address is correct to avoid delay in the receipt of your financial aid.* Students receive a photocopy of the disbursement letter that accompanies the award check.

### **PROOF OF COMPLETION**

Scholarship and grant recipients must submit final transcripts or certificates upon the completion of each semester/term of funding. Proof of completion must be received before any additional funds will be released or future

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applications can be considered. If you are currently enrolled in classes, TCF will need transcripts once those classes are completed and grades are posted.

**NUMBER OF AWARDS**

An applicant is permitted to receive only one (1) award at a time and for one (1) type of award at a time, up to the maximum amount of grant funding in a calendar year.

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