



## EKLUTNA, INC. MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS & Career Training Education APPLICATION

*On behalf of Eklutna, Incorporated (Eklutna, Inc.), The CIRI Foundation offers the Eklutna, Inc. Merit Scholarship and Career Training Education Scholarship application. The Eklutna, Inc. scholarships and grants are eligible for Alaska Natives who are original enrollees or direct lineal descendants of original enrollees of Eklutna, Inc.*

This application is due to The CIRI Foundation **on or before** the appropriate deadline in order for your application to receive consideration. Late applications will not be considered. All awards are subject to availability of funds. In addition to your application, the items below will also be required for a *complete* application packet.

1. Completed application – signed and dated
2. Proof of eligibility (for first-time applicants) Also, proof of name change if different from birth certificate or previous applications.
3. Letter of reference – signed, dated, contact information (valid for three years)
4. Copy of transcripts or certificates of completion
5. Statement of purpose (See pg. 4, section G)
6. Proof of acceptance/enrollment/registration confirmation for schooling
7. Course/seminar descriptions
8. Photograph of yourself (optional). Please note that your photograph becomes the property of TCF, and Eklutna, Inc. and may be used in TCF or Eklutna, Inc. publications.

### A. ELIGIBILITY

1	<b>I certify that I am</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> An Original Enrollee of Eklutna, Inc.	<input type="checkbox"/> A direct lineal descendant of an Original Enrollee of Eklutna, Inc.
2	<b>I am a direct lineal descendant of this Original Enrollee of Eklutna, Inc:</b>	Name (Last, First, M.I.)	
3		Relationship	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Great-Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Great-Great-Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Great-Great-Great-Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____	

### B. PERSONAL DATA

4	Name (Last, First, M.I.)	Other names used, if any
5	Mailing Address <i>(correspondence will be mailed here)</i>	E-mail address <i>(correspondence will be emailed here)</i>
6	City	State
	Zip Code	Tel No.
7	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:
8	<b>Are you related to a current Board member of The CIRI Foundation (not Cook Inlet Region Inc.)?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>(specify who and your relationship to them)</i> _____	

**Submit your application to:  
The CIRI Foundation**

3201 C Street, Suite 506, Anchorage, AK 99503  
 Tel (907) 793-3575 // Toll-Free (800) 764-3382 // Fax (907) 793-3585  
 Website: [www.thecirifoundation.org](http://www.thecirifoundation.org) // Email: [tcf@thecirifoundation.org](mailto:tcf@thecirifoundation.org)  
 Updated 5/1/2024



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

**C. APPLICATION CATEGORY AND DEADLINE**

	<b>Merit Scholarship Deadlines</b> <i>(For full-time/part-time degree-seeking students)</i>	<b>Career Training Education Grant Deadlines</b> <i>(For Education training education/certificate-seeking students)</i>
9	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>June 30</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>December 31</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Always Open</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
10	Have you applied before? <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> yes <i>If yes, when?</i> _____	

**D. EDUCATION & RELATED ACTIVITIES**

	<b>Check ALL that apply -AND- enter date of completion (mm/dd/yyyy)</b>
11	<input type="checkbox"/> I am currently in high school – date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I am a high school graduate – date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I have a general education diploma (GED) – date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I have a vocational training/certificate – date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I have a 2-year associate’s degree – date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I have a 4-year bachelor’s degree –date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I have a master’s degree or Ph.D. – date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I am currently in college: <input type="checkbox"/> freshman <input type="checkbox"/> sophomore <input type="checkbox"/> junior <input type="checkbox"/> senior <input type="checkbox"/> graduate <input type="checkbox"/> certificate <input type="checkbox"/> M.D. <input type="checkbox"/> Ph.D. <input type="checkbox"/> I have not been enrolled in the past five years
12	Recent community/volunteer activities, honors, awards, accomplishments (if none, put n/a):   

**E. EDUCATION PLANS**

13	Name of School		<input type="checkbox"/> Check this box if your program is online, distance-delivery, study abroad, or correspondence.				
14	Financial Aid Office Address		Tel No.				
15	City	State	Zip Code				
16	<b>Current degree program</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 2-year associate	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-year bachelor	<input type="checkbox"/> master	<input type="checkbox"/> doctorate	<input type="checkbox"/> vocational training / certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> other:
17	<input type="checkbox"/> Declared major / field of study: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Undeclared						
18	Expected date of completion/graduation: _____						
19	My most recent term grade point average (GPA) is: _____ (If GED, put 2.5)					Students must have a term GPA of 2.0 or above to be eligible for funding.	
20	Date semester/term/program begins (mm/dd/yyyy): Date semester/term/program ends (mm/dd/yyyy):						
21	I will be enrolled <input type="checkbox"/> <u>part-time</u> -or- <input type="checkbox"/> <u>full-time</u> for the term dates noted above on line 20.						
22	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>I understand that if I receive a scholarship or grant award, I am expected to complete the courses and credits for which I received the award (check box.)</b>						

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Updated 5/1/2024

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



**H. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

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- First time Applicants (at least 300 words) – Describe your education and career goals. How do you currently, or plan to, contribute to a positive Alaska Native community? Explain your reasons for these goals and how your degree program fits with your education and career plans. You may attach your personal history and a summary of accomplishments.
- Repeat Applicants (at least 300 words) – Update your education and career goals. How do you currently, or plan to, contribute to a positive Alaska Native Community? 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?

**I. 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, TCF/CIRI/or related publications, and to Eklutna, Inc. for reporting purposes.

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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Updated 3/1/2023



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

**Release of Information Consent Form**

The CIRI Foundation (TCF) applicant information is kept confidential. As a courtesy, TCF will share documents and information with specific written consent from the applicant.

**Information will not be released to another party, including parents or family members, without a specific written consent from the applicant submitted with each application on file at The CIRI Foundation.**

**IMPORTANT**

**It is the student’s explicit responsibility with every application submitted to notify and follow up with TCF about documents to be shared.** Documents needed to complete The CIRI Foundation application may differ significantly from documents needed to complete Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) or other scholarship applications. TCF will not assume responsibility for ensuring the completion of other applications.

Ultimately, it is the student’s responsibility to verify that the requested documents to be shared are the most current and available in their TCF file, and that they are shared with the specified parties.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, authorize The CIRI Foundation to release and receive any and all information or records pertaining to my educational progress, including but not limited to grades, transcripts and/or scholastic achievements.

I authorize the release of my TCF Application information to:

AND/OR \_\_\_\_\_ *Name/Relationship (parent/guardian, organization, etc)*

AND/OR \_\_\_\_\_ *Name/Relationship (parent/guardian, organization, etc)*

I understand that this release of information will be in effect and honored during the application period for which it is being considered. To revoke this privilege, I must provide a written statement indicating that the release of information is no longer given to the party (ies) previously granted permission.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Updated 5/1/2024



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

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

*An application must be received by The CIRI Foundation on or before the stated application deadline in order to receive consideration. The following documents will be required in order for your application packet to be considered complete.*

**Application.** The Eklutna, Inc. Merit Scholarship and Grant Application completed, signed, and dated. *If any information that you have provided to The CIRI Foundation for award consideration changes after you have submitted your original application, you must immediately update that information with The CIRI Foundation.* Award decisions are made based on the information provided on your application and accompanying materials, if your application is late or remains incomplete, it may not receive award consideration.

**Proof of Eligibility.** (First-time applicants only)

- **Original Enrollees.** Submit an official written statement from Eklutna, Inc. which verifies proof of enrollment.
- **Descendants of Original Enrollees.** Submit (a) birth certificate/s (and/or adoption decree, if a legally adopted descendant) to demonstrate your relationship as a Native descendant to an original enrollee of Eklutna, Inc. and (b) an official written statement from Eklutna, Inc. which verifies proof of enrollment of your parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, etc.
- **Name Change.** If your name has been legally changed since you last submitted an application or is different than on your original birth certificate, submit a copy of an official document to demonstrate the name change has taken place.

**Transcripts and/or Certificates of Completion.** A copy of your transcripts or certificate of completion for the most recent schooling you have had. In addition to transcripts/certificates, if you have been out of school five (5) or more years, also submit a paragraph explaining your learning experiences and work achievements during that period of time.

**Statement of Purpose.** Give specific and detailed responses on a separate sheet of paper. Your statement of purpose is important and evaluated carefully by the Education Awards Committee according to the following categories: clarity of goals, correct use of English language, relationship to community, and overall quality. *A statement of purpose is required with each application.*

**Letter of Acceptance.** **Scholarship** applicants must submit a copy of their final letter of acceptance into an associate's, bachelor's, or graduate degree program that indicates their degree program and declared major. **Grant** applicants must submit proof of enrollment or registration confirmation from the school or organization for the course/s or program that they plan to take. *If you decide to attend a different school or program than what you indicated on your original application, please immediately notify The CIRI Foundation by email or in writing.*

**Course/Seminar Descriptions.** Grant applicants must submit a copy of each course or seminar description. (e.g. either a copy of the course descriptions from program/course catalog or registration confirmation that reflects course title, term/semester/dates enrolled, number of credits, and name of instructor).

**Photograph.** A photograph of yourself (optional). *Please note that your photograph becomes the property of TCF and may be used in TCF publications (print or electronic) as appropriate. You can submit this via email at [tcf@thecirifoundation.org](mailto:tcf@thecirifoundation.org)*



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

## APPLICATION GUIDELINES

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The Eklutna, Inc. Merit Scholarships and Career Training Education Scholarship are devoted to the concept of developing its most important resource, its people, by supporting their self-determined vision of academic and/or career attainment goals. Program purposes are to encourage academic achievement, professional preparation for careers, further employment and skills, and to provide for other related educational supported programs. The Eklutna, Inc. Merit Scholarships and Career Training Education Scholarship are administered by The CIRI Foundation on behalf of Eklutna, Inc. through a donor agreement.

**CONTACT INFORMATION.** Your permanent mailing address and contact information must be kept current with The CIRI Foundation. The Foundation mails time-sensitive correspondence related to your application status to this address.

**DEADLINES.** Completed applications and other required information must be received by The CIRI Foundation on or before the deadlines indicated in order to receive full consideration. When the application deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a TCF holiday, applicants are encouraged to fax, email, or hand deliver applications **on or before the deadline**, as the deadline remains the same:

- Merit Scholarship Application: *June 30, December 31*
- Grant Application: *Rolling Deadlines*
- All scholarship and grant application deadlines are determined by the Administrator of this Program.

**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.

**ELIGIBILITY.** Eligible applicants for the Eklutna, Inc. Merit Scholarships and Career Training Education Scholarship are Alaska Natives who are original enrollees to Eklutna, Inc. formed pursuant with the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, and their direct lineal descendants, natural or legally adopted (children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and so on).

The scholarship and grant applicants:

- Must have a minimum 2.0 term GPA or better
- Must be a part-time or full-time student enrolled in a degree program at an accredited or otherwise approved post-secondary college or university, or accepted to a college/university/institute if a scholarship applicant, **or**
- Must be enrolled part-time or full-time in a technical skills certificate or degree program such as (but not limited to) craft/trade, automotive technology, office occupations and computer technology which prepares the student for employment, **and**
- The college/university/institute must be accredited or otherwise approved by a recognized agency.

**PROOF OF COMPLETION.** A copy of final, official grade transcripts or certificate of completion must be submitted to The CIRI Foundation by scholarship, grant and fellowship recipients upon completion of each semester/term/quarter or the Career Training Education Scholarship/career upgrade program at the conclusion of a course or courses for which the award applies. Award recipients are expected to complete the courses and credits for which they received their award at a minimum 2.0 term GPA or better (on a 4.0 grading scale). This must happen before another Eklutna, Inc. scholarship and grant application will be considered. Per The CIRI Foundation's Infraction Provision Policy (pg. 3, section F), failure to complete the terms of an award will jeopardize an applicant's future scholarship and grant funding eligibility.

**AWARD USES.** The Eklutna, Inc. scholarship and grant funds are for tuition, student registration fees, course-required books/supplies, and personal expense.



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

## TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

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**Merit Scholarship. *Deadline: June 30 or December 31.*** Merit Scholarships are offered for the entire academic year or by single term. Please apply for the option that best meets your needs.

**Academic Year Scholarship.** Scholarships are awarded for the entire academic year at the June 1 deadline only for students who are attending the same school for the entire academic year and plan to be either full-time or part-time for the entire academic year. Academic year applicants must re-apply at each June 1 deadline. If awarded for the academic year, applicants will be asked to submit final Fall grades and an updated course schedule for Spring mid-year.

**-OR-**

**Semester Only Scholarship.** An applicant can apply for a single semester scholarship if they wish. A semester scholarship applicant (Fall only or Spring only) must re-submit an application at each deadline to be considered for funding.

**Career Training Education Scholarship. *Deadlines: Open Rolling Deadline***

**SCHOLARSHIP & GRANT.** The Eklutna, Inc. Merit Scholarships and Career Training Education Grants offer the following awards based on available funding:

- **Merit Scholarship – Academic Year:** Up to \$1,500 for full-time students for the academic year. Up to \$1000 for part-time students for the academic year. Must re-apply at June 1 deadline
- **Merit Scholarship - Semester Only:** Up to \$750 for full-time students for the academic year. Up to \$500 for part-time student for the academic year. Must re-apply at each deadline; June 1 and December 1
- **Career training education grants:** Up to \$1,000 per calendar year. May apply at each deadline until grant cap is reached for calendar year.

## SCHOLARSHIP AND Career Training Education Scholarship DEADLINES

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### MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS – ACADEMIC YEAR

**Purpose:** Merit scholarships for applicants with academic promise.

**Eligibility:** Original enrollees and/or direct lineal descendants (natural or legally adopted) children, grandchildren, etc. of an original enrollee of Eklutna, Inc. Must have a term 2.0 GPA or better and accepted or enrolled full-time in a 2-year or 4-year undergraduate degree or graduate degree program. The award is distributed in one lump sum at the beginning of the Fall term. At the end of the Fall term, applicants are expected to submit their final Fall grades and updated course schedule for Spring.

**Amount:** Up to **\$1,500 (full-time) or \$1000 (part-time)** received during an academic year.

**Duration:** One academic year only. Must re-apply each June 1 deadline.

**Deadline:** June 1

### MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS – PER SEMESTER

**Purpose:** Merit scholarships for applicants with academic promise.

**Eligibility:** Original enrollees and/or direct lineal descendants (natural or legally adopted) children, grandchildren, etc. of an original enrollee of Eklutna, Inc. Must have a term 2.0 GPA or better and accepted or enrolled full-time in a 2-year or 4-year undergraduate degree or graduate degree program. The award is distributed in one disbursement per application.

**Amount:** Up to **\$750 (full-time) or \$500 (part-time)** received per term/semester.

**Duration:** One per term/semester only. Must re-apply each deadline.

**Deadline:** June 1 and December 1





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

## CAREER EDUCATION TRAINING GRANTS – PER CALENDAR YEAR

**Purpose:** To promote preparation for successful careers in a specialized technical skills field.

**Eligibility:** Original enrollees and/or direct lineal descendants (natural or legally adopted) children, grandchildren, etc. of an original enrollee of Eklutna, Inc. Must have a high school diploma or GED; a 2.0 grade point average; must be accepted or enrolled part- or full-time in a technical skills certificate or degree program such as (but not limited to) craft/trade, automotive technology, office occupations and computer technology which prepares the student for employment; must be prepared to demonstrate the availability of employment upon completion of the training

**Amount:** Up to **\$1,000** received during a calendar year.

**Deadline:** Rolling Deadline

**SELECTION CRITERIA.** Selection of scholarship and grant recipients is based upon several criteria: timely submission; completeness of the application; GPA; rigor of course work; grade level; degree program; personal financial contribution; financial amount needed; employment preparation; statement of purpose; community service.

**DEFINITIONS.** *The following terms used throughout this application and guidelines document are defined for clarity:*

**Academic year:** Begins August 1 and ends on July 31 the following year (12 months).

**ANCSA:** Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

**term grade point average:** Your term grade point average (GPA) reflects your most recently completed coursework. TCF considers your term high school GPA up until you have completed one term of post-secondary education; from that point forward, TCF will only consider your post-secondary education term GPA (i.e., the GPA reflecting any undergraduate or graduate-level coursework, whichever is most recent).

**Full-time student:** Taking at least 12 undergraduate credit hours or 9 graduate credit hours during a semester or term OR as defined by the school (official verification must be submitted).

**Graduate degree programs:** Master degrees such as Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Master of Teaching (M.A.T.); and doctorate degrees such as Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Doctor of Education (Ed.D), etc.

**Lineal:** [adjective] Descending in a straight unbroken line from parent to child from an ancestor; as, a lineal descent or a lineal descendant.

**Lineal descendants of original enrollees:** Direct Lineal descendants who are the natural or legally adopted children, grandchildren, etc. of an original enrollee of Eklutna, Inc. pursuant to ANCSA.

**Original enrollees:** Alaska Natives who originally enrolled to Eklutna, Inc. pursuant to ANCSA. *Inherited or gifted shares do not qualify as original enrollment.*

**Part-time student:** Taking 11 or less undergraduate credit hours or 8 or less graduate credit hours during a semester/term/quarter or as defined by the school (official verification must be submitted).

**TCF:** The CIRI Foundation.

**The Foundation:** The CIRI Foundation.

**Undergraduate degree programs:** 2-year associate of arts degrees (A.A.) and 4-year degrees, including bachelor of arts (B.A.), bachelor of science (B.S.), bachelor of fine arts (B.F.A)