# SCHOLARSHIP
# PROGRAM UPDATE

April
2024

## New Application
with Express Eligibility

**EXTENDED DEADLINES**

**SIMPLIFIED REQUIREMENTS**

**FASTER PAYMENTS**

**NEW SUMMER AWARD**



THE CIRI FOUNDATION

# THE CIRI FOUNDATION

The mission of The CIRI Foundation is to promote individual self-development and economic self-sufficiency through education and to maintain pride in culture and heritage among Alaska Natives who are original enrollees of Cook Inlet region and their descendants.

The major goal of The CIRI Foundation is to encourage the education and career development of The Foundation's Alaska Native beneficiaries through post-secondary and CTE scholarships, grants, research and other education projects.

A second goal is to perpetuate and enhance the heritage of Cook Inlet region's Alaska Native people through programs that foster appreciation and understanding by the general public.

As part of its mission, The CIRI Foundation strives to support continued living traditions through selected heritage publications and media productions that enhance appreciation and understanding of Alaska Native cultures among all people.

The CIRI Foundation is funded by earnings from its endowments, with Cook Inlet Region, Inc. as the principal contributor, supplemented by other private donations.

The CIRI Foundation, a separate 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has helped fulfill one of CIRI's major corporate goals: "to improve the lives of its shareholders."

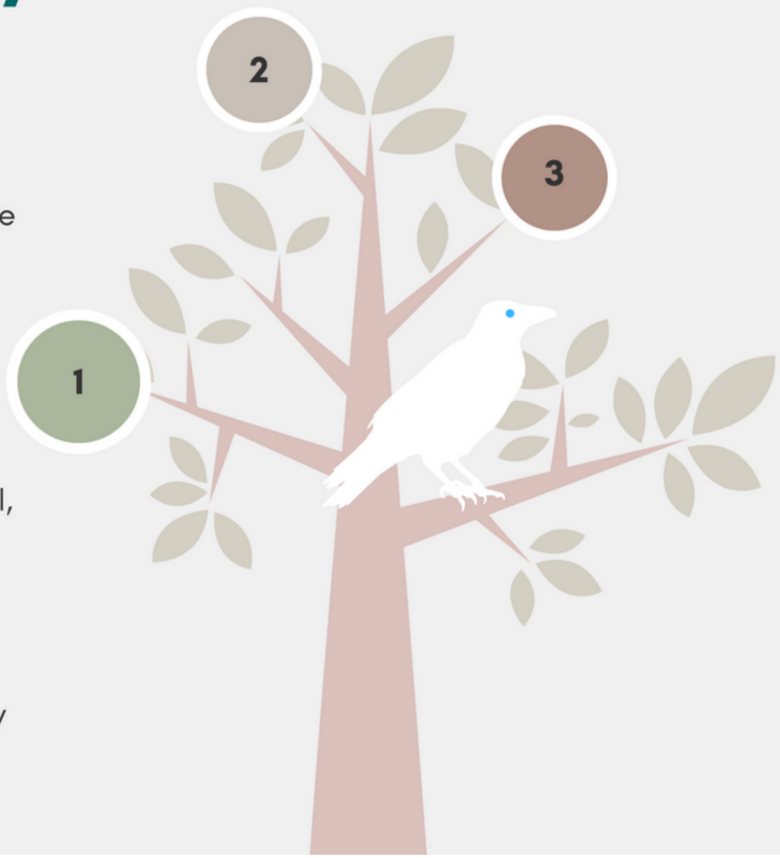
## TCF Eligibility

### CIRI Lineal Descendant

Eligibility extends to lineal descendants of CIRI's original shareholders, encompassing biological and legally adopted children, grandchildren, and subsequent generations. This includes all lineal descendants, whether by birth or legal adoption, at any generational level, recognizing them equally. Incorporating adopted descendants emphasizes the value of legal and familial relationships, transcending biological ties.

### CIRI Original Shareholder

Individuals who were granted original shares under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. This acknowledges the foundational shareholders of CIRI, directly allocated shares at its inception, highlighting their crucial role in the corporation's history and ownership.




### CIRI Voting Shareholders

Raven Fund eligibility is for voting CIRI shareholders who acquired their shares through inheritance or as gifts, differentiating from lineal descendants of original shareholders. This emphasizes the inclusion of those who, by receiving shares, gain voting rights and contribute to CIRI's governance and strategic direction.

# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**Full-Time Scholarships**: We will begin accepting applications for our full-time scholarships each April 1 through June 30, offering support for students dedicated to full-time study.

**Part-Time Scholarships**: We will also accept applications for our part-time scholarships from April 1 through June 30 and October 1 through December 31. The scholarships are calculated per credit hour to provide flexibility and support for students balancing studies with other commitments.

**Mid-Year Applications**: Recognizing the ongoing nature of academic pursuits, we accept mid-year applications from October 1 through December 31. The award is prorated to half the entire academic year's amount for these applicants, accommodating the academic calendar's flow.

**Summer School Scholarships**: Scholarships are available for those enrolled in summer sessions to support continuous learning. This allows students to accelerate their studies or catch up on credits. Don't forget to add these awards to the equation for lifetime limit tracking.

**Competitive Awards**: Mark your calendars - the deadline for competitive award applications is June 30. These awards are for those who demonstrate exceptional achievements or potential, adding an extra layer of support for their ambitions.

**Career Technical Education Scholarships, Certificate Programs, and Jumpstart Initiative**: We're proud to offer flexible and diverse opportunities through our Career Technical Education Scholarship, Certificate programs, and Jumpstart initiative for individuals seeking specialized training and skills development. These programs cater to various career paths and industries, ensuring you're well-prepared for the future.

- **Rolling Application Process**: To accommodate your CTE schedule, we offer rolling monthly deadlines, allowing you to apply when it fits best into your year. This flexibility ensures you can always seek support for your educational goals.
- **Encouraging Diverse Ambitions**: Understanding our applicants' varied aspirations, we welcome submitting multiple applications within a single calendar year, within the maximum annual award limits. This policy supports your quest for diverse learning opportunities, enabling you to enhance various skills and career paths as needed.
- **Focused Support for Vocational and Technical Training**: These scholarships are exclusively designed for non-degree programs, including career technical education and certificates, explicitly targeting individuals in our Jumpstart program. This focus ensures we dedicate resources to vocational training and technical skill advancement, which are crucial for immediate employability and specialized expertise.
- **Non-Stackable Awards**: To ensure fair distribution of resources, awards from the General Scholarship and the CTE Scholarship cannot be combined simultaneously. Completing the coursework funded by the initial scholarship is necessary before qualifying for additional funding, promoting equitable support, and encouraging academic success.
- **Year-Round Support**: We invite eligible students to apply for funding that supports their educational journey throughout the entire academic year, including summer, fall, winter, and spring terms. This all-encompassing support is designed to provide seamless assistance for your studies, ensuring no interruption in your progress toward completing your education.

## 2024 UPDATES

**NEW APPLICATION WITH EXPRESS ELIGIBILITY**
Request a new account in the application portal. Established TCF Recipients and CIRI registered descendants will quickly gain access.

**EXTENDED DEADLINES AND FASTER PAYMENTS**
We've tripled the time we accept degree-seeking applications and implemented rolling deadlines for Career Technical Education scholarships.
Your application must be completed to submit it.
Applications are processed and awarded in the order they are received so the sooner you apply, the sooner your check is cut.

**SIMPLIFIED REQUIREMENTS AND NEW SUMMER AWARD**
Now offering year-round scholarships.
No letters of recommendation or budget required.
Minimum Term GPA 2.0

**Questions? Call 907-793-3575**



## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

**CTE Program Enrollment:** Applicants are required to actively participate in a technical skill training program that culminates in the award of a certificate, certification, or professional license.

**CTE Institutional Recognition**: Eligibility hinges on the program offered by an institution that holds accreditation or is otherwise officially recognized for its educational standards.

**Academic Accreditation Requirement**: The chosen institution for study must meet accredited status, ensuring the quality and recognition of the educational program.

| ***REQUIREMENTS*** | **General Scholarship Program** | **Career Technical Education Scholarships** | **Jumpstart Program** | **Raven Fund** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Educational Level** | High school diploma or GED | High school diploma or GED | High school diploma or GED | N/A |
| **Program Enrollment** | Degree programs (Associate to Doctorate) or prerequisite courses | Technical skill training programs (certificate, certification, or license) | Concurrent enrollment in high school and post-secondary education | Voting shareholders of CIRI who inherited or were gifted shares |
| **Academic Achievement** | Minimum term GPA of 2.0 | Minimum term GPA of 2.0 (Equivalent to 2.5 GPA for prior CTE coursework) | Minimum term GPA of 2.0 | N/A |
| **Application Deadlines** | Academic Year, Summer, and Fall: June 30 Spring/Winter : December 31 | Rolling Monthly: Last day of each month | Rolling Monthly: Last day of each month | Deadlines may vary - contact TCF for more info |

**REGISTER AS A DIRECT DESCENDANT OF AN ORIGINAL CIRI SHAREHOLDER**

**Don't wait until application time - establish your eligibility early and pave the way for a stress-free application process.**

## NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

**Award Confirmation**:
If your application for a scholarship is successful, we will notify you via email. This message will include detailed instructions on how to access your account and officially accept your award. We are excited to potentially support your educational journey and look forward to celebrating your achievements.

**Ineligibility Notification**: Should your application not meet the required criteria, we will also communicate this decision through email. While we understand this may be disappointing, we encourage you to review the feedback provided, as it may offer valuable insights for future applications or alternative opportunities.

**Documentation Discrepancies:** Individuals who do not submit the required transcripts or schedule will receive a cancellation notification.

**No Incomplete or Late Applications**

# REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

TO GIVE YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION THE BEST REVIEW POSSIBLE, WE NEED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FROM YOU.

- ☑ **Proof of Enrollment:** Those aiming for the Career Technical Education Scholarship or Jumpstart should provide evidence that they're signed up for certification or technical courses.
- ☑ **Schedule of Classes**: We need to see your current class schedule, which shows how many credits you're taking.
- ☑ **Current Transcripts:** Please send us your latest transcripts showing your most recent classes. We're okay with unofficial copies.
- ☑ **Acceptance Letter**: If you're applying for the General Scholarship or Jumpstart programs, you need to include an acceptance letter that includes your chosen major.

**Statement of Purpose**

- *Who Needs This*: It's required for anyone applying for the first time, students who have changed their majors, or those going for a competitive award.
- *What to Write*: Your statement should be a minimum of 500 words. Make it clear and to the point, explaining your educational goals, career plans, and why you've chosen your specific field of study.

These documents play a crucial role in evaluating your application. They showcase your academic achievements, commitment to your education, and readiness for the program you are applying to. Please ensure all documentation is current and accurately reflects your academic and professional status.

To help you have a smooth review process, we need all necessary materials and documentation submitted by the specified deadline. We recognize, however, that circumstances may sometimes prevent the timely submission of certain documents. We're here to support you through these challenges by providing the following accommodations.

- **Schedule and Transcripts Exception:** You don't have to worry if your class schedule or transcripts are unavailable by the deadline. Complete our class schedule attestation form and upload it to the section of your application for your class schedule. This step ensures we can evaluate your application, even without these documents, keeping your eligibility intact.

- **Payment Release for Exceptions:** We support your educational journey and responsibly release funds. We will hold the payment until we receive and authenticate the documents you've put on the attestation form, which are part of your complete application package. This verification process is crucial, as it confirms your ongoing eligibility for our program and ensures we're supporting your success at every step.







# TCF DEADLINES

## FUND YOUR FUTURE

**NEW: Apply early so we can process your application faster and get the approved funds to your school sooner.**

- **General TCF Scholarship**: Apply April 1 through June 30 ☑
- **Mid-Year Scholarship**: Apply October 1 through December 31 ☑
- * **Career Technical Education Scholarship**: Last day of every month ☑
- **Raven Fund Awards:** Varies - contact TCF ☑




APPLICATION MUST BE **COMPLETE** TO SUBMIT

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Share Your Story with TCF

TCF HOMEPAGE

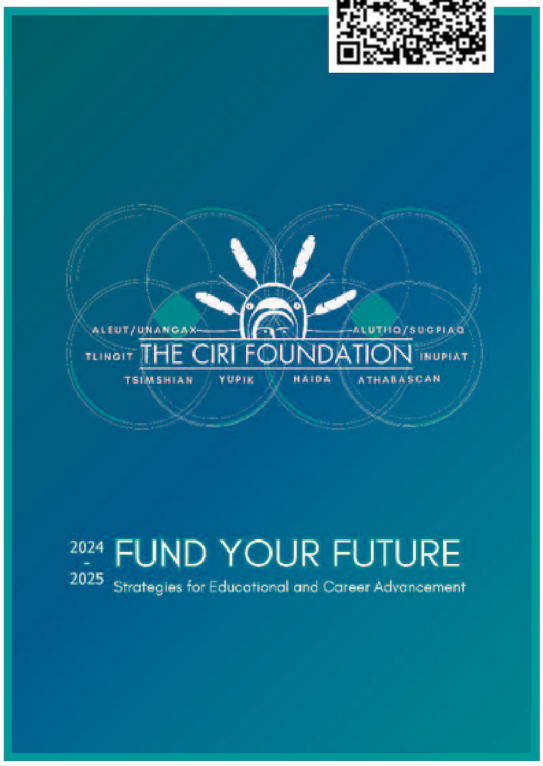
# COMMUNICATION AND RESOURCES

**Please be sure to stay connected with TCF:**
If you have any questions, updates, or communication about your scholarship application, here is how to reach TCF.

**Office Address:**
The CIRI Foundation
3201 C Street, Suie 506
Anchorage, AK 99503
Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Phone:** 907-793-3575
**Email:** tcf@thecirifoundation.org
**Text Messaging**: Sign up at www.thecirifoundation.org.

We're here to help you on your educational journey and look forward to hearing from you. Whether you have questions, need guidance, or wish to share your achievements, our team is dedicated to providing the support you need.



# CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Lifetime Limits:** Our scholarships span various educational needs, from undergraduate studies to specialized certifications, all under financial ceilings to ensure broad support:

- **Undergraduate and Graduate Limits**: The cap for undergraduate study is $36,000 per individual, while graduate students can receive up to $48,000 to support their education.
- **Incorporating Jumpstart and Technical Certifications**: Funds allocated for Jumpstart or technical certification training count within these lifetime limits.
- **Beyond Master's Degree Support**: Financial aid for studies beyond a Master's, including doctoral or specialized programs, is considered case-by-case, reflecting our commitment to meet scholars' unique educational aspirations.

**Maintaining Your Scholarship**: To keep your scholarship, you'll need to keep your GPA at 2.0 or higher and complete all courses that are part of your scholarship agreement.

**When Life Changes**: Notify us immediately—to avoid a pause in your scholarship—if you shift from full-time to part-time study, change educational institutions, alter your class schedule significantly, or withdraw from courses.

**Special Considerations and Appeals**: Life happens. We understand. For circumstances like medical emergencies or significant life events that impact your studies, a process is in place for appeals—details and timelines are available upon request. Temporary leaves of absence are considered, including for medical withdrawals, with decisions made on a case-by-case basis. Documentation from your institution, not medical forms, will be required.

**Mid-Year Academic Check-In:** To ensure continued support, we'll need your fall term transcripts to verify completed coursework and GPA, plus your upcoming course schedule showing credit hours.

## WHAT IF DOCUMENTS ARE MISSING?

The processing of your application and ongoing scholarship support require timely document submission. Failure to meet deadlines may result in:

- A pause in scholarship support for a term if documents are late.
- Holding disbursements for competitive awards until all required documents are received and verified.

This approach ensures our support adapts to your academic journey and any unforeseen challenges, fostering a productive partnership aimed at achieving your educational goals.



# CODE OF CONDUCT

As scholarship recipients, you are not just beneficiaries of financial support but also ambassadors of our foundation's values. We anticipate that you will embody a high standard of conduct and professionalism in your academic journey and in all interactions with faculty, staff, and fellow students. Adhering to these principles is key to cultivating a culture of respect and support within the educational community.



## Commitment to Class Attendance

Your presence in all classes funded by the scholarship is not just expected but essential. Regular attendance not only reflects your dedication to your studies but also maximizes the investment in your future made by the scholarship.

## Academic Integrity

A minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 must be maintained to uphold the scholarship. This standard highlights the importance of continuous effort and commitment to academic excellence.

## Professionalism in Interactions

Whether you're engaging with staff of The CIRI Foundation, educators, or peers, professional and respectful conduct is paramount. This includes avoiding derogatory language and inappropriate actions. Such professionalism lays the groundwork for a productive and positive learning environment.

## Honesty in Application

The integrity of your scholarship application is crucial. It should accurately represent your financial needs and educational ambitions. Ethical application practices ensure that our support is directed to those who genuinely benefit from it, fostering trust and fairness within our scholarship community.

By embracing these guidelines, you contribute to a respectful, supportive, and enriching educational atmosphere, paving the way for your own success and that of future scholars.

# HOW TO APPLY

## TCF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- [ ] **Create Your Account**: To register in our new and improved scholarships and grants portal, go to www.thecirifoundation.org and click the "Sign Up" button. *All applicants need to create a **NEW** account.*

- [ ] **Set Up Your Profile**: Log in and you'll be prompted to set up your profile, entering essential information such as your contact details. Ensure your email is correct so you receive all updates on your application.

- [ ] **Complete the Eligibility Form**: Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "+ Get Started" to open the eligibility form. Complete and submit it; TCF's scholarship team will assess your eligibility and email you with your status or to request more information.




- [ ] **Access Your Application**: Upon eligibility confirmation, we'll email you a link to the application portal. Next, you will need to reset your password.

- [ ] **Start Your Application:** Select the scholarship to begin. This portal's design is intuitive, similar to the eligibility portal, for ease of use. Update your profile here as needed, and begin your application by clicking "+ Get Started."




- [ ] **Complete and Submit**: Follow application prompts. You can save and return to it at any time. Once complete, hit "Mark Complete," then the green "Submit" button. You'll receive an email to confirm your submission.




DON'T FORGET




- [ ] **Staying Connected**: **Open communication is vital.** Please keep your email and phone number current and watch for communications from TCF. Active applicants and recipients are highly encouraged to sign up for text messages from our homepage to keep current with scholarship program information.




- [ ] **Ask TCF:** Do you have questions or need help? Contact us at tcf@thecirifoundation.org or call 907-793-3575. Let's connect - TCF's scholarship team is ready to help.