



HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT AWARD APPLICATION

ELIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Enrolled member of the Nooksack Indian Tribe
2. High school graduate or earned a GED
3. Enrolled, or accepted for admission in an accredited institution in the United States
4. Must maintain good academic standing of a 2.0 grade point average or better
5. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
6. Submit a NEEDS ANALYSIS from the college or university's financial aid office

APPLICATION DEADLINES: Applications completed in full received prior to the deadline will receive priority funding. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Priority will be given to applicants who have met all the deadlines.

- Fall Quarter/entire academic year
 - July 1 Priority funding
- Fall Funding Deadline
 - September 1
- Winter Quarter
 - December 1
- Spring Quarter
 - March 1

Return completed and signed applications to:

Nooksack Indian Tribe

Education Department

PO Box 157

Deming, WA 98244



DOCUMENT CHECK LIST FOR **NEW STUDENTS**

In addition to completing and signing this application, the Nooksack Higher Education Grant application requires applicants to provide the following information:

_____ **Letter of Acceptance** (include a letter from your college/university informing you that you have been accepted into a program or college.

_____ **High School Diploma and Transcripts/Equivalency Documentation** (copy of your HS diploma/GED and transcripts)

_____ **250 word essay** (minimum) Write a 250 minimum word essay introducing yourself and stating your educational and career goals, and how this scholarship will help you achieve your goals.

_____ **Nooksack Tribal Enrollment Verification**

_____ **Financial Needs Analysis Form.** Request the form to be completed by College/University Financial Aid Office. Information must be sent directly from the college/university Financial Aid Office. This form must be submitted at the beginning of each academic year.

_____ **Nooksack Higher Education Funding Agreement** Please read and initial each section of the funding agreement and sign at the bottom of the page

_____ **College Registration/Schedule** Students registration/schedule must reflect the number of credit hours of their courses and term. (Schedules must be submitted each quarter).

_____ **College Grades/Transcripts Official transcripts** must reflect grades and grade point average (GPA) of previous term(s). (transcripts must be submitted at end of each quarter).

_____ **Degree audit or student advising worksheet** This document includes your degree requirements and tracks completed coursework towards degree completion

_____ **Scholarship verification form.** Students must apply for a minimum of two outside scholarships for each academic year.

_____ **Release of information.** All students must sign a FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) allowing the Nooksack Higher Education to review your educational records.



DOCUMENT CHECK LIST – RETURNING STUDENTS

In addition to completing and signing this application, the Nooksack Higher Education Grant requires returning applicants to providing the following information:

_____ **500 Word Essay.** Write a 500-word essay reflecting on your education journey. How have you strived to meet your goals over the past year. What have you accomplished. What has your student journey been like? What are you most proud of? What will you do different to make this a better quarter? What barriers have you encountered? What will you do to combat those barriers?

_____ **Financial Needs Analysis Form** Request the form to be completed by your College/University Financial Aid Office. Information must be sent directly from the College/University Financial Aid Office. (This form must be submitted at the beginning of each academic school year).

_____ **Nooksack Higher Education Funding Agreement.** Please read and initial each section of the funding agreement and sign at the bottom of the page.

_____ **College Registration/Schedule.** Students Registration/Schedule must reflect the number of credit hours of their courses and term. (Schedules must be submitted each quarter).

_____ **College Grades/Transcripts.** Official Transcripts must reflect grades and grade point average (GPA) of previous term(s). (Unofficial transcripts must be submitted at the end of each quarter).

_____ **Degree audit or student advising worksheet.** This document includes your degree requirements and tracks completed coursework towards degree completion.

_____ **Scholarship Verification Form.** Students must apply for a minimum of two outside scholarships for each academic year.

_____ **Release of Information.** All students must sign a FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) allowing the NIT Education Office to review education records.



P.O. Box 157 ■ 5016 Deming Road ■ Deming, WA 98244
Administration: (360) 592-5176 ■ Fax: (360) 592-2125



**Nooksack Indian Tribe
Higher Education Award Funding Agreement**

Initial each section after reading:

_____ I understand that if I am eligible, a Nooksack Higher Education award will be made available to me through the financial aid office at the college that I attend. I also understand that this award is to assist my educational expenses while I am enrolled in a college/university and maintaining a 2.0 grade point average or better. I further understand that I am responsible to submit a transcript at the end of each term and class schedule at the beginning of each term; if I fail to submit those documents by the deadline, I may lose my NIT Higher Education award.

_____ I further understand that if I fail to maintain a 2.00 grade point average, I will be placed on academic probation. If I fail to meet a 2.00 grand point average for two consecutive quarters, I will be placed on grant suspension. In order to re-establish eligibility I must complete one full-time term on with my own resources.

_____ I further understand that it is my responsibility to inform the NIT Education office if I withdraw for any reason or dropout before the end of the academic quarter/semester and receive 0.0 GPA and 0 credits for the grading period, and that I will be placed on permanent academic probation and may be required to reimburse all awarded funds.

_____ I understand that NIT Higher Ed does not pay for repeat classes or F grades. Repeat classes and F grades will be deducted from the award amount. I further understand that I may appeal the decision before the NIT Higher Ed Advisory Committee.

_____ I understand that I must apply and submit documentation verifying that I have applied to a minimum of two outside scholarships for each academic year I am requesting funding. (full-time students and graduate students)

_____ I agree that I will provide a degree audit at the end of the first year for students and at the end of the third year for bachelor students.

_____ I understand that Nooksack Higher Education is not responsible for the repayment of any student loans I may borrow.

_____ I understand that all awards are subject to availability of funds

Signature

Date



RELEASE OF INFORMATION

_____ I provide consent to the Nooksack Indian Tribe Higher Education Grant Program to release any information (which may include name and awards amount(s) received) to the college/university attended while receiving NIT Higher Ed Program Grant Award, upon request. Lastly, I give consent to the college/university listed on this application to release any information pertaining to my financial aid, student account or registration/degree status to the Nooksack Indian Tribe Higher Education Grant Program.

_____ All of the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any information I provide is subject to federal review. I consent to the release of this and any other relevant information to my agency, College/University Financial Aid Officer, and the Nooksack Indian Tribe Higher Education Department, as applicable, in order to determine my aid and to serve the requirements of the NIT Higher Ed Grant Program.

Student Signature

Date

***Some colleges have their own FERPA Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act form which allows the sharing of information between the student, college and the NIT Higher Education Program.



STUDENT FINANCIAL NEEDS ANALYSIS

Donia Edwards, M.Ed., Education Director
 Email: dedwards@nooksack-nsn.gov
 360 966 9696 land line

I, (Print Name) _____, hereby authorize the release of my student financial information to the Nooksack Indian Tribe, Education Department.

Student Signature _____ Social Security Number _____ Academic Year _____

BELOW MUST BE COMPLETED AND SENT BY COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

STUDENT BUDGET

Tuition and Fees _____
 Books and Supplies _____
 Room and Board _____
 Personal Expenses _____
 Child Care _____
 Other _____

TOTAL \$ _____

STUDENT RESOURCES

Student Contribution _____
 Parent Contribution _____
 Other _____

TOTAL \$ _____

COLLEGE AID	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	TOTAL
Pell Grant	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
State Need Grant	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Scholarships	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Loans	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
				TOTAL	\$ _____

COMMENTS: _____

TOTAL BUDGET _____
 LESS RESOURCES _____
 LESS AWARDS _____
 UNMET NEED _____

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY _____
 REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE _____
 PRINTED NAME _____

DATE _____
 () TENTATIVE AWARD () FINAL AWARD
 Representative email _____



**NOOKSACK INDIAN TRIBE HIGHER EDUCATION
SCHOLARSHIP VERIFICATION FORM**

As a student you are encouraged to apply for scholarships. In order to receive higher education funds, you must submit verification that you applied for a minimum of two scholarships to help pay for the cost of attending college.

The NIT Higher Education Program is requiring students to apply for at least two outside scholarships so that students will have the opportunity to receive "free" money that can be used toward their college expenses and may reduce or eliminate the need for student loans.

I, _____ hereby agree to submit documentation verifying that I have applied for a minimum of two outside scholarships for each academic year I am requesting funding.

I agree that prior to the first day of classes for the academic year for which I receive funding I will provide documentation showing that I have applied to a minimum of two outside scholarships prior to the first day of the academic year.

This is a **NEW PROGRAM REQUIREMENT**. Implementation will take place in the fall of 2017. Verification will be required prior to students receiving funding beginning fall 2017.

The following items are acceptable forms of verification:

- ☐ Scholarship Award Letter
- ☐ Scholarship Denial Letter
- ☐ Scholarship Submission Confirmation Page

I understand that if I do not provide the above required information, I will not receive Tribal funding for the 2017-2018 academic year.

I, the undersigned, have read, understand, and agree to abide by the terms and conditions the Higher Education grant requirement.

Student Signature

Date