COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBE
TUITION ASSISTANCE

Free & Reduced Colleges
Updated 10.30.26

Free College Tuition for Native Americans:

Fort Lewis College
Location: 100 Rim Drive, Durango, CO 81301
Admission Email: admission@fortlewis.edu
Phone: 877-352-2656 or 970-247-7184
Link: Affording FLC | Fort Lewis College | Durango, Colorado

Native American Tuition Waiver

Fort Lewis College offers a tuition waiver for enrolled citizens or the children of an enrolled citizen of an American Indian Tribal Nation or Alaska Native Village recognized by the US federal government.

⚠ **The NATW only covers the tuition costs** for undergraduate, graduate, and non-degree-seeking students.

You are responsible for all other costs associated with attendance, including books, student fees, housing, and meal plans. You cannot combine the NATW with FLC merit tuition scholarships.

Haskell Indian Nations University
Location: 155 Indian Ave., Lawrence, KS 66046
Admissions Contact: Dorthy Stites, Director
E-mail: dstites@haskell.edu
Phone: 785-749-8454
Link: Cost to Attend Haskell | Haskell Indian Nations University

Haskell's Fee structure (cost to attend):

The mission of Haskell Indian Nations University is to provide **a tuition-free education** for Native American Indians and Alaskan Natives of federally recognized Tribes.

Standard Fall and Spring Budgets, Per Student:

INSTITUTIONAL COSTS	On-Campus Living	Off-Campus Living
Tuition	$0	$0
Food Service Fee	$245	$0
Library Fee	$100	$100
Housing Fee	$180	$0
Little Nations Academic Center Fee	$5	$5
Activity Fee	$35	$35
Technology Fee	$50	$50
Athletics Events	$25	$25
Thorpe Fitness Center Fee	$25	$25
Laundry Usage Fee	$50	$0
TOTAL INSTITUTIONAL COSTS	**$715**	**$240**

Specifications: Native American youths attending Haskell from out of state only pay a flat rate of $715.00 currently (on-campus living).

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
Location: 9169 Coors Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120
Phone: 800-586-7474
Admission Email: admissions@mail.sipi.edu
Link: Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Lodge Full-Time Student – 12 Credit Hours or More

Tuition*	$0.00
Student Activity Fee	$50.00
Library Fee	$70.00
Academic Enhancement Fee	$20.00
Lodge Resident Fee	$125.00
Food Service Fee	$100.00
Textbook Fee	$145.00
Identification Fee	$5.00
IT Fee	$75.00
TOTAL FEE	**$590.00**

* Tuition provided by Bureau of Indian Education

Commuter Full-Time Student – 12 Credit Hours or More

Tuition *	$0.00
Student Activity Fee	$50.00
Library Fee	$70.00
Academic Enhancement Fee	$20.00
Textbook Fee	$145.00
Identification Fee	$5.00
Distance Ed Fee	$0.00
IT Fee	$75.00
TOTAL FEE	**$365.00**

* Tuition provided by Bureau of Indian Education

Tohono O'odham Community College (online & in-person):
Location: Office of Admissions & Records, P.O. Box 3129, Sells, AZ 85634
Satellite location: 4041 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85012
Phone: 520-479-2305
Admission Email: Admissions@tocc.edu
Link: Tohono O'odham Community College |
Courses are free for both in-person or online.

United Tribes Technical College
Location: 3315 University Drive, Bismarck, ND 58504
Phone: 701-221-1850
Email: financialaid@uttc.edu
Link: Tuition Waivers - United Tribes Technical College

Specifications: Programs include Automotive technology, Business Administration, Commercial Vehicle Operations, Computer Information Systems, Criminal Justice, Elementary Education, Environmental Engineering, Fisheries & Wildlife Biology, Health/Physical Ed, Heavy Equipment Operations, Indigenous Leadership, Paralegal, Pre-Engineering, Social Work, Sustainable Food Systems & Welding Technology.
Award: Full tuition

Native American Tuition Waiver

Great news! As of 2022, there is NO application for this waiver, and there is NO deadline. Eligible students will have the waiver applied to their financial aid awards after the census date of each semester.

Eligibility:

- Enrolled in a **federally recognized** tribe
- Full-time, degree-seeking student
- GPA of 2.0 or greater on most recent college transcript
- Not on SAP warning or suspension with Financial Aid
- Each eligible student can receive the NATW to earn one certificate program, one diploma program, one associate degree program and one bachelor degree program. If a student chooses to pursue an additional certificate, diploma or degree (ex. a second associates degree), the NATW does not apply.

Reduced College Tuition for Native Americans:

For Cowlitz who are California residents

University of California – Berkeley
Location: 200 California Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720
Contact: Dominic Allred, Native American Admission Counselor
Email: domallred408@berkeley.edu
Phone: 510-642-3175
Link: Native American Opportunity Plan | UC Admissions

Specifications: The UC system has a tuition support program called the UC Native American Opportunity Plan (NAOP). One of the eligibility requirements is the student must be a California resident for tuition purposes. NAOP is a financial aid plan and has no bearing on the admission process to any UC campus. It is important for people to be aware that at this time NAOP is currently a five-year pilot plan that started in 2022. There is anticipation that NAOP will become a permanent fixture of financial aid in the UC system after the five-year pilot, however, we have yet to receive a guarantee from the UC Office of the President.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)
Location: 4505 S. Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89154
Phone: 702-895-3011
Link: Native American Fee Waiver | Financial Aid & Scholarships | UNLV

Native American Fee Waiver
The Nevada Board of Regents provides a waiver of certain fees related to registration to a Native American student who is a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe or nation or who is certified by the enrollment department of such tribe or nation or by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as being a descendant of an enrolled member of such tribe or nation regardless of member status, and who meets certain residency and other eligibility requirements.

Eligibility Requirements

The student must meet all of the following:

1. Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Institution Enrollment
   - Currently enrolled in an NSHE institution
2. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
   - Complete the FAFSA for each year the fee waiver is requested unless exclusively enrolled in dual credit courses.
3. Minimum GPA Requirement
   - Have earned a minimum 2.0 semester GPA during the prior fall/spring semester or summer term of attendance.
4. Proof of Tribal Membership or Descendancy
   - Provide proof of membership or proof of descendancy of an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe or nation.
5. Residency Criteria
   - Meet one of the following:
     a. In-State Resident
        - Classified by an NSHE institution as an in-state resident for tuition purposes.
     b. Native American Tribe or Nation Membership
        - Be a member or descendant of an enrolled member of a federally recognized Native American tribe or nation, all or part of which is located within the boundaries of Nevada (verification with proof of membership or descendancy).

c. Resident on Tribal Land in Nevada
- Resident on tribal land, all or part of which is located within the boundaries of Nevada, whether the student's actual residence was located within or outside of the boundaries of Nevada and has been a resident for not less than one year (additional documentation required).

Continuing Requirements

To remain eligible for the fee waiver, the student must meet all of the following:

- Complete the FAFSA each year for which the fee waiver is desired unless the student is exclusively enrolled in dual credit courses.
- If applicable, maintain at least a minimum 2.0 semester grade point average (GPA).
  - A student with less than the required 2.0 GPA may reinstate eligibility by subsequently enrolling without the fee waiver, meeting the GPA requirement, and submitting a new fee waiver form. The fee waiver will then be reinstated for the immediately subsequent term or semester.

For Cowlitz who are Oregon residents

Portland State University
Location: 1825 SW Broadway, Portland, Or 97201
Phone: 503-725-3511
Admissions Email: admissions@pdx.edu
Link: Indigenous, Native American, First Nations, and Alaska Native Student Community & Resources | Portland State University
Specifications: Undergraduate, graduate, and post-baccalaureate students who are enrolled members of any one of the U.S. Federally Recognized Tribes will pay the equivalent of resident (in-state) tuition regardless of state or country of residence.

Oregon Institute of Technology
Location: Via the Portland & Klamath Falls locations
Main Phone: 800-422-2017/541-885-1000
Contact: Ka'iulani Hedlund
Contact Phone: 541-885-0183
Contact Email: kaiulani.hedlund@oit.edu
Link: Oregon Tech offers in-state tuition for all Native American students | Oregon Tech
Specifications: Enrolled members of any one of the U.S. Federally Recognized Tribes will pay the equivalent of resident (in-state) tuition regardless of state or country of residence.

Free College Courses for Native American High School Students:

For High School Students
Northwest Indian College "Running Start" Program (with WA state public high schools)
Location: Online or via the Nisqually, Muckleshoot, S'Kallam, Port Gamble, Tulalip, Swinomish & Lummi campuses)
Admissions Contact: Justin Aceveda
E-mail: runningstart@nwic.edu or jaaceveda@nwic.edu
Phone: 360-392-4243
Link: Admissions - Northwest Indian College
Specifications: Tuition for college level courses is free. Students pay the cost of fees, books, and supplies.