

Section VII - Middle School/Junior High

1. Eligibility:

- (A) The Tribal Education Program is for the specific purpose of financially assisting all eligible enrolled Tule River Tribal members and first generation direct descendants of the Tule River Tribe. All requests must allow at least 21 days processing time. Applicant(s) must be:
 - 1. Maintain enrollment in a state accredited regular public or private middle school or junior high school and must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA or proficiency level basic and 90% attendance.
 - 2. Tribal Certification:
 - a. Enrolled member and first generation direct descendants: It is the applicant's parent/guardian responsibility to provide tribal documentation.
 - b. Burden of proof lies with the parent/guardian, and the Committee assumes no responsibilities for improper or incomplete applications.
- (B) Demonstrate special needs that are relative to the student(s) enhancement
- (C) All requests must allow at least 21 days processing time.
- (D) School Sponsored Sports funding will be available upon verification of placement on team.

2. Funding Application Process:

- (A) A written request listing item(s) student needs assistance with must be submitted by parents/guardians. An itemized statement or estimate from the vendor and school verification of all cost to the student will be submitted with Tribal documentation, grades and attendance. Student will also include current mailing address and phone number. See #8, Incentives, page 28.

3. Notification of Award:

- (A) TEP staff to notify applicants within seven working days, as to the receipt, approval or disapproval of their request.

- (B) Notification to applicants approved for funding of their request will specify the amount of the award and special conditions, if applicable.

4. Payment of Award:

- (A) Payments will be made to the vendor/school (if applicable), unless payment has already been made by the student. If payment has been made, receipts will be submitted and student's parent/guardian will be reimbursed up to the maximum amount allowed. Payments made for field trip meals and souvenirs will be issued prior to field trip made payable directly to the student. Student's eligible for the field trip allowances are not required to submit receipts.

5. Progress Evaluation:

- (A) Students will maintain enrollment and must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA or proficiency level basic and 90% attendance.

6. Academic Probation and Suspension:

- (A) All students will be required to submit an official transcript or report card of each term of academic progress to the Tribal Education Program no later than six weeks after term ends.
- (B) It is the student's parent/guardian's responsibility to inform the Education Department in writing of undo hardship that may cause interruption in academic studies, or any changes in class schedule. The Committee will take the hardship into consideration and make the final determination if student provides pertinent documentation.

7. Appeal Process:

- (A) All students who have not been funded from other sources, or denied Tribal Education Program (TEP) funding, have the right to appeal in person to the Committee. The Committee will take into consideration the student's circumstances as well as their:
 - 1. Prior educational assistance.
 - 2. GPA or proficiency level basic.
 - 3. No less than 90% attendance.
- (B) Final decision of appeal process will be determined by the Tule River Tribal Council.

8. Incentives:

- (A) Graduation incentives will be available when student(s) submit a copy of their diploma, tribal documentation, grades and attendance to the Education Department. All graduation incentive requests need to be submitted within 12 months of graduation date. Incentive is as follows:

Middle School/Junior High Diploma: \$250.00

- (B) Honor roll and grade point incentives will be given once each academic year.

9. Conclusion:

- (A) If it is found that the parent/guardian has, or is receiving **non-reported** duplication of services or assistance, or has given false information, TEP funding will cease immediately. Reimbursements of funds expended by TEP are to be refunded immediately. Further funding will not be available. Notification for reimbursement will be made in writing by TEP staff and/or Tribal Attorney as per Tribal Resolution #57-89 and amendments. Once payment(s) have been received Tribal Council/staff has the responsibility to notify TEP staff of payment so the balance owed can be adjusted through Fiscal Office reports.

Approved Items for Funding Assistance:

The following is a list of items that are approved. Items not listed but in the same category will be allowed. All approved items must be sponsored by the school the student is attending and student must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA or proficiency level basic and 90% attendance in order to be eligible for approved items listed below.

- School trips and student must be involved in fundraising activities for specific trip. Students will be allowed spending money depending on each trips itinerary for all meals and souvenirs as followed:
 - Breakfast up to \$10.00
 - Lunch up to \$10.00
 - Dinner up to \$20.00
 - Souvenirs up to \$50.00
 - Not to exceed \$500.00 per student per academic year.
- Yearbook, up to \$45.00.
- Sports equipment for after school sports (e.g. shoes, bags, etc. up to \$150.00 per sport.
- Band Instrument rental, if continued after one year, then purchase.

Academic Enrichment:

Provide funding for educational services to assist students to achieve or attain grade level standards in reading, math, science and social sciences. Provide certificates, movie passes, gift certificates, etc. for academic improvement, independently of the other incentives that are given to students. This is for the students who cannot attend the incentive luncheons, awards or special attendance assemblies due to learning limitations that can or cannot be overcome. Pay for professional services, if necessary to assist students in overcoming any learning obstacles they have that affects their grades and may cause retention that is not offered in the school, (i.e. professional tutoring, or referral to the Tule River Indian Study Center).