



**Western Washington Native American Education Consortium
Spring 2024
Merit Award Application**

Merit Awards are offered to Native American High School Seniors each Spring to students planning on attending an accredited two or four-year College, Tribal College, or University, including Career Technical Institutes. WWNAEC is an organization dedicated to furthering the educational goals of Native Youth in Western Washington, therefore, recipients must be tribally affiliated or direct descendants. A minimum 2.00 GPA is required, and the student must be sponsored by a current member of WWNAEC. WWNAEC offers several awards at \$574.00--574 being the number of Federally Recognized Tribes. The number of awards is contingent on that year's fundraising efforts.

INSTRUCTIONS

An application form is attached to this announcement. In addition to the application form you must submit the following (check items off to ensure a complete application) **in one envelope if sent via USPS:**

- 1. An Official High School Transcript (if mailing it do not open the official envelope)
- 2. **Two** Letters of Recommendation from Teachers, Community Leaders, or others who know you personally, but are not related to you and can confirm your abilities and leadership qualities. Letters are required to be included with this application.
- 3. A copy of the acceptance letter to the college, university, or institute you will attend or a copy of the application or other proof of application.
- 4. Four essays- 250 **words (minimum)**. Answer **each** of the following questions:
 - A) If you had the authority to effect positive change in your school, what specific changes would you make?**
 - B) Discuss a special attribute or accomplishment that sets you apart.**
 - C) How has the Title VI Indian Education program impacted your education?**
 - D) How has Washington State's Right to Tribal Regalia Act, a law that allows traditional culturally significant items such as eagle feathers at graduation, made a positive impact on the future of Native youth and what long-lasting impact do you hope this allowance will have?**

E-SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS APRIL 19, 2024 no later than 5:00 p.m.
If sent via USPS it must be Post Marked by April 19, 2024
No Overnight Express Mail Accepted

Applications will be reviewed in late April by a multi-member panel. Award announcements will be made at the May WWNAEC General meeting. If selected, verification of Fall registration will be required. The award will be made in the Fall of 2024 and will go directly to the recipient. It is the recipient's responsibility to contact Sandra Gordon. Please remember to be complete and accurate in your application. Word count will be taken. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Good luck to all!! You have made an important decision in choosing to continue your education!

E-mail completed application to sgordon@osd.wednet.edu or send it with **all attachments in one envelope** to:

**Sandra Gordon - Native Education Program Coordinator, Olympia School District
111 Bethel Street, Olympia, WA 98506**

MERIT AWARD APPLICATION
Spring 2024

Please complete all fields. Thank You!

Last name:

First Name:

Address:

Email Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Home Telephone:

Cell Number:

Birth Date:

Tribal Affiliation:

Name of Parent or Guardian:

Name of WWNAEC Sponsor:

Name of Native Education Coordinator:
(If applicable)

School District:

Extra-Curricular Involvement (attach Word documents if needed):

Personal Interests/Hobbies:

Participation in Community:

Honors/Awards in & out of School:

Work & Volunteer Experience:

Anything else you think is important for us to know about you:

List Institutions of Higher Learning you have applied to in order of preference:

The planned area of study: