

# Financial Aid and College Preparation Resources for Native Americans

## Native Americans & College

Research has found that American Indians and Alaska Natives have a much lower rate of college completion than the population as a whole.

Why go to college? A degree or certificate from a college or trade school is a great advantage, leading to a much wider choice of occupations and, therefore, more likelihood of a fulfilling career and a chance to make a difference in your community.



In this fact sheet, we suggest some places to find information about preparing for college and paying for college.

Federal  
**Student  
Aid**

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## Information From the U.S. Department of Education

### For Students

At [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov), you can do the following:

- Explore colleges to help you decide where to go.
- Learn about financial aid offered by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Get information about repaying student loans.
- And more! We hope you enjoy taking a look around. (And don't forget to check out the links we've compiled for you on page 2 of this fact sheet.)

### For Parents

Use [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) to help you prepare for your child's college education:

- Learn about college savings plans and education tax credits.
- See what classes your child should take in high school.
- Find out about PLUS loans so you can help your child pay for college.

### For Counselors and Other Mentors

Explore our resources just for you at [FinancialAidToolkit.ed.gov](https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov):

- Plan a financial aid night and download PowerPoint presentations, handouts, videos, and other resources to enhance your outreach.
- Find a TRIO program (Upward Bound, Talent Search, etc.).
- Order free publications (including our "We have a bright future" poster for Native students).
- Find free in-person or online training.

## Information From Other Federal Agencies and From Nonprofit Organizations

### Government Scholarships:

- Bureau of Indian Education scholarships—[www.bie.edu/ParentsStudents/Grants/index.htm](http://www.bie.edu/ParentsStudents/Grants/index.htm)
- Morris K. Udall Scholarship Program—[udall.gov](http://udall.gov)
- Indian Health Service Scholarship Program—[www.ihs.gov/scholarship/index.cfm](http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/index.cfm)
- Scholarship for Service program—[www.sfs.opm.gov](http://www.sfs.opm.gov)
- NIH Undergraduate Scholarship Program—[www.training.nih.gov/programs/ugsp](http://www.training.nih.gov/programs/ugsp)
- Harry S. Truman Scholarship—[www.truman.gov](http://www.truman.gov)
- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship—[www.iie.org/en/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program](http://www.iie.org/en/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program)

### Other Education Resources that Might Interest You:

- U.S. Department of Education Office of Indian Education—[www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oie/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oie/index.html)
- Resources for tribal college students—[students.aihec.org/Pages/Students\\_Home.aspx](http://students.aihec.org/Pages/Students_Home.aspx)
- American Indian College Fund—[www.collegefund.org](http://www.collegefund.org)
- American Indian Graduate Center—[www.aigcs.org](http://www.aigcs.org)
- American Indian Education Foundation—[www.aiefprograms.org](http://www.aiefprograms.org)
- National Indian Education Association—[www.niea.org](http://www.niea.org)
- American Indian Science and Engineering Society—[www.aises.org](http://www.aises.org)
- Tribal Education Departments National Assembly—[www.tedna.org](http://www.tedna.org)

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