

Shoalwater Bay Higher Education Policy

Shoalwater Bay Education Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's Education Department and Education Committee to provide our members with the highest quality educational opportunities possible. The Education Department and Committee strives to deliver services to all members fairly and equitably.

Available Assistance

- Tuition
- Scholarships will be awarded for a maximum of 5.5 years but must submit a renewal application annually.
- Books

Additional Assistance

- Student Living incentive: Students may earn additional money by achieving the following:
GPA 4.0-3.6= \$400, 3.5-3.0 =\$200, 2.9-2.5 =\$100 more per month during their College career.

Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for funding under the Shoalwater Bay Higher Education Program, all students must:

- Be an enrolled member of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe; for a minimum of 2 years.
- Complete and return the Higher Education Program application;
- Submit verification of High School diploma or GED;
- Attend an educational institution that is nationally accredited and eligible for Title IV grants (Federally Funded Financial Aid).
- Submit a signed registration form and acceptance letter from the community college, or university you plan on attending;
- Apply for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually; Submit results (Student Aid Report-SAR) to the Higher Education Program within 30 days of application. Students who fail to submit the SAR within 30 days of application will be ineligible for assistance from the Higher Education Department until the SAR is received.

Student Requirements

- Applicants who fail to provide any of the documents described above will not be eligible for assistance until all such documents are received.
- Federal Pell grants must be applied towards tuition costs before Higher Education funds are used. Failure to do so may result in the student having to reimburse the Higher Education Program for tuition that should have been paid by the Pell grant before receiving further assistance.
- All students are required to turn in grades no later than two weeks after the end of the quarter/semester; and class schedules no later than two weeks prior to the start of the next quarter/semester to the Higher Education Department. Failure to do so will delay processing of future assistance from the Higher Education Department.
- Students must carry a 12 credit minimum and a 2.0 GPA each quarter to remain eligible for assistance. Failure to do so will result in academic probation for the following quarter; failure to maintain these requirements during probation will result in suspension until the student pays for a quarter on their own and provides proof of completion.
- Students may only be on academic probation for a maximum of two times during their entire educational career.
- Students who drop classes, or withdraw from school must immediately send the Higher Education a copy of the add/drop form or a signed copy of the withdraw form. Students who drop classes or withdraw from school after the tuition reimbursement deadline will be responsible to repay the costs of the tuition to the Higher Education Department before receiving further assistance.
- Students who receive an I (incomplete) will be required to repay the Higher Education Department for the incomplete course before receiving further assistance.
- Students may be funded for up to 5.5 years; students who need to go beyond this limit must apply for an extension from the Education Committee.
- Students must sign a release of information with the college/university allowing the Shoalwater Bay Education Department to access their academic information.

ALL AWARDS ARE DEPENDENT ON AVAILABLE FUNDS.

Funding priorities

Scholarship awards will be based on the following:

- Merit (GPA) = 15 points
- Community Service = 15 points
- Extra-Curricular activities = 15 points
- Achievements/Leadership = 15points
- Essay = 15 points
- 3 letters of recommendation =15 points(2 from school staff-not from family)
- Location = 15points

Applications will be reviewed in order by the date received, and awarded points according to the above criteria. (An application that is missing required documents will not be considered until it is complete.)

Application reviews will be done annually prior to Fall quarter. All applicants wishing to be considered for funding must have their complete applications submitted not later than May 30th for the review process. Any applications received after May 30th will not be considered.

Essays topics include: Statement of Need, Future plans/goals, and how you plan on using your education for the betterment of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe. This essay should be a maximum of one page double spaced.

Appeal process

- A student who has completed a grant application and is denied or is unsatisfied with the level of funding or other decisions made by the Higher Education Department may, within ten days of receiving notice, appeal the Higher Education Department's decision. The appeal should be in writing, addressed to the Higher Education Committee, and will explain the reason(s) why the applicant is appealing the decision. Within ten days of receiving the appeal the Higher Education Committee will set a date to review the case. This review must occur within thirty days.

Shoalwater Bay Higher Education Committee

P.O. Box 130

Tokeland, WA 98590