Building on a 50-year legacy, AIGC will continue to be the premier national resource in funding and empowering the next generation of Native leaders across all sectors, by meeting the unmet need of every Native American student.

We provide financial support for American Indians and Alaska Natives seeking higher education, and support them in attaining undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees.

We partner with Tribes, the federal government, foundations, corporations, and individuals to ensure the growth and sustainability of scholarships.

**OUR MISSION**

**OUR VISION**

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**CORE VALUES**

Excellence
Empowerment
Respect
Impact
It’s Personal

AIGCS Scholar, Mattea May Grant
Fort Belknap Indian Community

AIGCS Scholar, Grey Johnson
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
2019 at a Glance

Average Unmet Need
$22,552

Total Amount Awarded
$14,551,821
For fiscal year 2019

Average Award Amount
$10,408

Native Scholars Funded
1,340
Consolidated AIGC/AIGCS Student Data for academic year 2018-2019

- 47% Undergraduate
- 31% Masters
- 14% Doctoral
- 8% Professional

Consolidated AIGC/AIGCS Student Data

AIGC Scholar, Alice Van Gunten
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Jade Herman
Rosebud Sioux Tribe

True to her field of study, American Indian Graduate Center Scholar Jade Herman evokes leadership in everything she does. As the Director of Planning and Events for the Office for the President at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, Jade serves as the university’s Tribal liaison, the primary coordinator for large-scale STEM outreach, coordinates special events, and provides development support to the president. She also serves as the chair for the Non-Faculty Exempt Employee Council, sits on the SD Mines Alumni Association Board of Directors and represents SD Mines on the Ranch A Restoration Foundation Board.

Honored as the American Indian Graduate Center 2018 Student of the Year at the National Indian Gaming Association Tradehow and Convention, Jade holds a Bachelor of Science from the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology and a Master of Science in administrative studies from the University of South Dakota. She is also pursuing a Doctoral Degree in interdisciplinary leadership from Creighton University in Nebraska.

Bo Shimmin
Acoma Pueblo

Music is more than a passion for American Indian Graduate Center Scholar Bo Shimmin, who received a 2019 English Teaching Assistantship from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program and is currently serving in Italy. However, this is not the first accolade this bright young scholar has received – he was also a recipient of American Indian Graduate Scholars administered Gates Millennium Scholarship.

Bo graduate with a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from DePauw University in Spring 2019, where he sang in a co-ed acapella group and took to the stage for the university’s Opera and Theater productions. He also ventured abroad to continue his education in Milan, Italy where he studied music and performed with a local jazz choir. Bo’s talent continued to flourish as he was asked to join the Southern Illinois Music Festival and Ad Astra Music Festival in Kansas this past summer.
Alumni Highlight

Javier I. Kinney
Yurok Tribe

To elevate his career as an attorney and top executive for the Yurok Tribe, American Indian Graduate Center Alumnus Javier I. Kinney has welcomed global opportunities like the Woodrow Wilson Public Policy and International Affairs National Fellowship. In 2004, he was conferred a Juris-Doctorate from Suffolk University Law School in Boston after being inspired from his fact-finding missions in the Imataca Forests in Venezuela. Javier has also traveled abroad with Indigenous delegations and other missions to Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia, Mexico, Jamaica, Hungary, Norway, Brazil and Canada.

Since 2018, Javier has served as the Executive Director for the Yurok Tribe – the largest Tribe in California – where he oversees and manages the operations of his Tribal government. He specifically advises Yurok Tribal leaders on business decisions, policy, legal, cultural and financial matters. Kinney also serves on the Yurok Justice Advisory Board and is an advisor to the Yurok-based Hoh-Kue-Moh Corporation, a Tribal non-profit organization.

“We know that the future is our hands. We drive our own narrative by taking action consistent with our inherent cultural knowledge, as well as pursue formal educational processes to be successful.”
- Javier Kinney
Fawn Sharp
Quinault Indian Nation

American Indian Graduate Center Alumna Fawn Sharp is no stranger to incredible accomplishments. In October 2019, Fawn was named the 23rd National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) President – and she is only the third woman to hold the position. Fawn received her J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law in 1995, and also holds an advanced certificate in International Human Rights Law from Oxford University. She also graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Gonzaga University in Spokane Washington at the age of 19.

Throughout her illustrious career she has held numerous leadership positions. She is currently in her fourth term as President of the Quinault Indian Nation. She has served as Vice President of NCAI and former Northwest Area Vice President of NCAI for four years. She is a former president of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, as well as a former chairperson of the National Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform.

“This is a new day and a new chapter and I’m so looking forward to spending this next chapter of my leadership and calling to serve all of Indian Country.”
- Fawn Sharp
Students attended five universities:
- University of Wisconsin Madison
- Oklahoma State University
- Texas A&M
- Colorado State University
- Midwestern University

American Indian Graduate Center believes empowerment begins with education and we are committed to providing the unmet financial need of every Native student by finding available funding sources and developing programs to provide higher education opportunities.

In memory of Jane Wilson Hooper (Choctaw-Chickasaw) and Col. Philip L. Hooper, the Wilson-Hooper Veterinary Medicine Assistance Program is for students with a love for animals who possess the desire and ability to pursue a Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or Veterinary Technology (Associate of Applied Science Degree) degree at an accredited college or university. The program places importance on academic excellence to ensure top-qualified students are providing exceptional veterinary care to animals.

Eligibility:
- Pursuing a degree in Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or Veterinary Technology (Associate of Applied Science Degree)
- Enrolled full-time in a nationally accredited college or university in the U.S.
- Enrolled or a descendant of a federally-recognized American Indian or Alaska Native group
- Must maintain a B average or higher (3.0 on a 4.0 GPA scale)
- Awards are merit-based with the opportunity for multi-year funding

Program Highlight:

Wilson-Hooper Veterinary Medicine Assistance Program

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PROGRAM IMPACT

$28,000

awarded for the 2018-2019 academic year

Students attended five universities:
- University of Wisconsin Madison
- Oklahoma State University
- Texas A&M
- Colorado State University
- Midwestern University

Students represent seven Nations:
- Chickasaw Nation
- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- Cowlitz Indian Tribe
- Knik Tribe
- Muscogee Creek Nation
- Navajo Nation
- Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe

AIGC Scholar, Nicki Jordan
Ahtna Athabascan

Graduate and Professional students funded
Partner Highlight

Accenture
American Indian Business Leaders
AMERIND Risk
APIA Scholars
Blue Stone Strategy Group
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Bureau of Indian Education
CNIGA
Hispanic Scholarship Fund
National Native Scholarship Providers (AICF, AISES, IEI, AIGC)
NIKE N7
REDW
Salish Kootenai College
Sandia National Laboratories
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
United Negro College Fund
United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY)
Wells Fargo

Board Highlight

Holly Cook Macarro
President
Red Lake Band of Ojibwe

Walter Lamar
Vice President
Blackfeet, Wichita

Aurena M. Martin
Secretary, Treasurer
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Joel M. Frank, Sr.
Member
Seminole Tribe of Florida

Stacy Leeds
Member
Cherokee Nation

Ernie Stevens, Jr.
Member
Oneida Nation of Wisconsin

Dana Arviso
Member
Navajo Nation

Hud Oberly
Member
Comanche, Osage, Cadilo

Steve Stallings
Emeritus Board Member
Rincon Band of Luisito Indians

Staff Highlight

Angelique Albert
Executive Director
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Tom Donelan
Controller

Erin Griego
Director of Administrative Services

Sara LaBarge
Director of Marketing & Strategic Partnerships
Menominee Nation

Christa Moya
Director of Financial Aid & Student Services
Navajo Nation

Dr. Corey Still
Director of Scholarship Operations
United Keewaiwah Band of Cherokee Indians

Lboroex Abeita
Marketing & Communications Specialist
Isleta Pueblo, Navajo Nation

Shirley Jaramillo
Development Officer
Oglala Lakota Nation

Lindsay Mahaney
Marketing & Communications Specialist

Michael Bates
Academic Advisor
Cherokee Nation

Gabriel Bell
Campus Engagement Manager
Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes

Josh Lucio
Scholarship Operations Manager
Zuni Pueblo

Marvlinse Vallo Gabbard
Scholarship Operations Manager
Acoma Pueblo

Vina Chavez
Accounting Assistant
Navajo Nation

Lakota Coriz
Scholarship Operations Assistant
Kewa Pueblo & Assiniboine

Janelle Cronin
Development Assistant
Navajo Nation

Adriann Francis
Administrative Services Assistant
Pueblo of Laguna & Mojave

Felicia Garcia
Receptionist
Acoma Pueblo
American Indian Graduate Center has awarded $15 million in scholarships annually and more than $200 million throughout our 50-year legacy. But despite decades of success, there is still work to be done. In 2019 alone, the collective unmet need of our scholarship recipients totaled over $25 million and beyond that there is an additional 90% of Native students who were unable to receive funding at all.

Your generous contributions allow us to continue advocating for students from college to career. Every dollar donated goes to support our scholars on their higher education journey and gives them the advantage to better their lives and give back to their Tribal communities. One year of data indicates an accumulated impact of scholarship recipients employed in the workforce amounts to $349.4 million in added income to the U.S. economy. For every dollar you invest in Native education with American Indian Graduate Center, our community as a whole will receive a cumulative value of $16.90 in benefits.

Support American Indian Graduate Center in our efforts to fulfill the unmet financial need of every Native student pursuing higher education today, tomorrow and for the next 50 years.

Final Impact Statement

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*2018 American Indian Graduate Center Economic Impact Statement
CELEBRATING
50 YEARS!
American Indian Graduate Center’s
50th Anniversary Gala
A nation of scholars
March 25th, 2020 @ 6pm
the Coasterra
San Diego, California

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT:
aigcs.org/AIGC50