

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT Incentive Scholarship Program for
Native Americans

NUMBER 347

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The 1994 General Assembly authorized a new program of incentive scholarships to provide opportunities for Native Americans who are residents of the State to attend the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. This program is separate and apart from the American Indian Legislative Scholarship Program which has operated for several years.

PURPOSE

To encourage and assist more well-prepared Native Americans in North Carolina to attend the University, the North Carolina General Assembly has established the ISPNA for Native Americans who are residents of North Carolina. The purpose of the scholarship program is to provide greater educational opportunity for Native Americans to enroll in the constituent institutions of the University. The scholarships may be for a maximum award of \$3,000 per recipient per academic year or a lesser amount reduced by (1) any amount of need-based financial aid a student may receive from Pell Grants, North Carolina Student Incentive Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, American Indian Student Legislative Grants, and (2) any pro rata reduction necessary to balance recipient commitments to the available appropriation. Awards for the 1994-95 academic year are available only to (1) entering first-time freshmen, and (2) entering first-time transfer students from North Carolina community colleges. Awards are renewable semester-by-semester as long as the recipient meets all applicable criteria listed below. Financial need is not a selection criterion. However, if the student qualifies for any of the need-based student assistance identified above, the ISPNA award is to be reduced accordingly.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be a recipient of an Incentive Scholarship for Native Americans, a student must be a Native American under this definition:

An individual who maintains cultural identification as a Native American through membership in an Indian tribe recognized by the State of North Carolina or by the Federal government or through other tribal affiliation or community recognition.

Satisfaction of this definition may be established in the following manner:

1. For an entering freshman enrolled in any constituent institution of the University, previous identification as a Native American in the records of that institution prior to selection as an ISPNA recipient will qualify for purposes of this scholarship program.
2. For an entering freshman who may have been previously enrolled and whose prior institutional identification as a Native American is questioned or who has not previously been identified by the institution as a Native American, the student will be required to supply the institution with information to support his or her claim as a Native American under the definition set forth above.

An entering freshman must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a resident of North Carolina as prescribed in the manual on student resident classification for tuition purposes;
2. Be a graduate of a high school and rank in the top one-half (1/2) of his or her class upon graduation;
3. Be accepted for enrollment and enrolled for a minimum of 15 credit hours per term at the constituent institution of the University that recommends the student as an ISPNA recipient;
4. Apply for need-based financial aid at that constituent institution;
5. Earn a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in the freshman year, of at least 2.5 in the sophomore year, and of at least 3.0 thereafter;
6. Perform at least six (6) hours per week of public service as a freshman, either to the enrolled university or in the community. Sophomore, junior and senior students will be required to perform at least eight (8) hours of service per week. Assignments would be made at the discretion of the university which would record service performed; and
7. Reflect in personal and scholastic behavior high moral and ethical standards.

A new transfer student must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a resident of North Carolina as prescribed in the manual on student resident classification for tuition purposes;
2. Hold from a community college the degree of Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Fine Arts, or a certificate in a program that articulates directly with an academic degree program offered by the constituent institution at which the student is enrolled;

3. Have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 if the student is entering with an associate degree or 2.0 if the student is entering following completion of a certification program;
4. Be accepted for enrollment and enrolled for a minimum of 15 credit hours per term at the constituent institution of the University that recommends the student as an ISPNA recipient;
5. Apply for need-based student financial aid at that constituent institution;
6. Maintain a 3.0 grade point average at the University if entering with an associate degree; or if entering from a certificate program maintain a 2.0 grade point average in the freshman year, 2.5 in the sophomore year, and 3.0 thereafter;
7. Perform at least eight (8) hours per week of public service, either to the enrolled university or in the community under assignments made at the discretion of the university which would record service hours performed; and
8. Reflect in personal and scholastic behavior high moral and ethical standards.

The program will be administrated by the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA).



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cc: Financial Aid Directors