

**2026 American Indian Student
Education Award Application and
Valedictorian & Salutatorian
Information**



**Southern California
Tribal Chairmen's Association, Inc.**

**Education Award Application
Deadline date is postmarked by Friday, April 10, 2026**

Education Award Application Information

PURPOSE OF AWARD

The purpose of this Education Award is to assist the student in paying education expenses. A minimum of four (4) Native American Students will be chosen and given an award with amounts ranging from \$500 to \$5,000.

Who is Eligible to apply:

1. Native American High School students invited to the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association 2026 High School Graduation Ceremony.
2. Be recognized as a part-time/full-time candidate at an accredited institution of higher learning(university, college, community college, or trade/vocational school).
3. Overall Academic Grade Point Average (GPA) preference is a 3.0, however all are encouraged to apply.
4. Chosen applicants must be present at the High School Graduation Ceremony to receive award.

Education Award Application Information

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

The application must be completed in its entirety

A completed application requires all documentation listed below (Items 1 – 6).

An incomplete application may be disqualified

A COMPLETED EDUCATION AWARD APPLICATION LIST:

1. Completed Education Award Application Form
2. If an enrolled member or a descendant from a SCTCA consortium reservation provide documentation of tribal enrollment/affiliation
3. Documentation as a candidate to an accredited institution of higher learning
4. Provide a high school transcript
5. One letter of recommendation of your community service & volunteerism from one of the following: teacher, advisor, coach, tribal government representative or civic leader
6. A one or two page (typed, double-spaced) "Education and Tribal Community Commitment Essay"
 - a) Describe your chosen field of study and how you will use higher education to better your life and your tribal community
 - b) Describe what positive actions you have done for your peers and elders in your tribal community

Please include the required six items in a single envelope

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN SELECTION:

A Valedictorian and Salutarian will be selected from the Education Award Applicants

The student with the highest academic (GPA) rank is the determining factor in the selection of the Valedictorian.

The student with the second highest academic (GPA) rank is the determining factor in the selection of Salutarian.

THE VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN ARE REQUIRED:

To be present at the 2026 Southern California Tribal Chairmen's High School Graduation Ceremony.

Must appear at the podium to accept the award & are welcome to speak at the podium the evening of the High School Graduation Ceremony. Quotes from the Valedictorian and Salutarian Tribal Commitment Essay and a senior picture will be featured in the printed program.

This application form is available at www.sctca.net

Completed Education Award applications must be either emailed or postmarked and mailed

to the following address no later than, **April 10, 2026**

MAILING ADDRESS

Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association

Attention: Resource Center - Education Awards

P.O. Box 1470

Valley Center, CA 92082

If you have any questions on the Education Award application please contact Crystal

Lara 760-742-8606 ext 144

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm or email hsgc@sctca.net

Education Award Application Form

Deadline date postmarked by April 10, 2026

1. Name of Applicant:

LAST FIRST MIDDLE

2. Applicant's mailing & e-mail address:

MAILING ADDRESS E-MAIL ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP CODE

3. Phone Number

() ()
DAYTIME EVENING

4. Sex: Male Female

5. Date of birth _____
MONTH/DAY/YEAR

6. Check the box for the type of information you enclosed to verify your tribal enrollment or eligibility for tribal enrollment

- Copy of tribal enrollment document. Proof of Descendant (ex: letter from tribe, BIA family tree, parent enrollment card with birth certificate)
- Copy of official letter from the tribe.

7. Reservation /Affiliation:

NAME OF RESERVATION

8. School /Accredited institution of Higher Learning that you plan to attend for the upcoming academic year:

NAME OF SCHOOL CITY STATE DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMER

9. Field of Study: _____

Education Award Application Form

Deadline date postmarked by April 10, 2026

10. Degree/Certificate sought:

11. Expected graduation date:

12. Part-time: Yes

Full-time: Yes

13. Attach documentation that you are a candidate to an accredited institution of higher learning.

14. Indicate the official start date of the upcoming term:

15. Provide a high school transcript.

16. Provide an "Education and Tribal Community Commitment Essay".

One or two pages typed & double spaced.

A) Describe your chosen field of study and how you will use higher education to better your life and your tribal community.

B) Describe what positive actions you have done for your peers and elders in your tribal community.

17. Community involvement and volunteerism:

A. Describe your participation in community service and volunteerism below

B. Attach a letter of recommendation of your community service & volunteerism from one of the following: teacher, advisor, tribal government representative or civic leader

NOTE: Court-appointed community service does not qualify for these points
