

Spring Newsletter, May 2015



School Community Relations Division Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

The school year is almost over!

The Spring Newsletter shares some important information. Feel free to call or email your questions or concerns. We are here to help!

A few reminders:

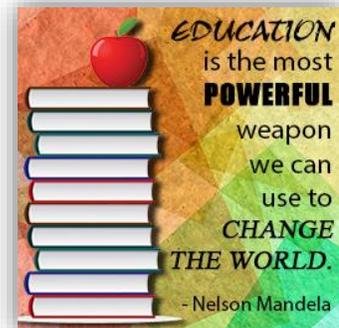
- * **Pre K-12 Grant Applications take 3-6 weeks to process.** This countdown starts once all paperwork has been submitted.
- * **Computer Requests** are due to the Education Department by **May 15th** of the current fiscal year.
- * **Pre K-12 Grant Applications** are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. The Fiscal Year Deadline is June 15; however the program has a set budget. This means once the funds are gone, no other requests can be processed. Grant applications are due to the Education office by **June 15th** of the current fiscal year.

Sincerely,

Nehomah Thundercloud, ext. 1030
School Community Relations Division Manager
Nehomah.Thundercloud@Ho-Chunk.com

Our Mission Statement

The Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department's **School Community Relations Division** shall assist Native American students and their families to access programs and services provided by their local school districts, Ho-Chunk Nation, and/or Johnson O'Malley to promote academic excellence and perpetuate and preserve the cultural values, history, and language. In doing so, the School Community Relations Division shall safeguard the interests of the students, families, and communities.



Upcoming Events

District Meetings

School Community Relations will attend HCN District Meetings in May and August to provide information

ACT Test Date / Register by Date

June 13 / May 8

May 15, 2015

Submission Deadline for Computer Grant requests

June 15, 2015

Submission Deadline for Pre K-12 Grants

June 19-21, 2015

Family Enrichment Weekend
Wausau, WI

Technology and Youth: Protecting your Children

From www.cdc.gov

Technology and youth seem destined for each other. They are both young, fast paced, and ever changing. In the last 20 years there has been an explosion in new technology. This new technology has been eagerly embraced by young people and has led to expanding knowledge, social networks, and vocabulary that included instant messaging, blogging, and text messaging.

New technology has many potential benefits for youth. With the help of new technology, young people can interact with others across the United States and throughout the world on a regular basis. Social networking sites like Facebook and Instagram also allow youth to develop new relationships with others, some of whom they have never met in person. New technology also provides opportunities to make rewarding social connections for those youth who have difficulty developing friendships in traditional social settings or because of limited contact with same-aged peers. In addition, regular Internet access allows teens and pre-teens to quickly increase their knowledge on a wide variety of topics.

However, the recent explosion in technology does not come without possible risks. Youth can use electronic media to embarrass, harass, or threaten their peers. Increasing numbers of adolescents are becoming victims of this new form of violence – electronic aggression (cyberbullying). Research suggests that 9% to 35% of young people report being victims of this type of violence. Like traditional forms of youth violence, electronic aggression is associated with emotional distress and conduct problems at school.

Kids who are cyberbullied are often bullied in person as well. Additionally, kids who are cyberbullied have a harder time getting away from the behavior.

- Cyberbullying can happen 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and reach a kid even when he or she is alone. It can happen any time of the day or night.
- Cyberbullying messages and images can be posted anonymously and distributed quickly to a very wide audience. It can be difficult and sometimes impossible to trace the source.
- Deleting inappropriate or harassing messages, texts, and pictures is extremely difficult after they have been posted or sent.

Cell phones and computers themselves are not to blame for cyberbullying. Social media sites can be used for positive activities, like connecting kids with friends and family, helping students with school, and for entertainment. But these tools can also be used to hurt other people. Whether done in person or through technology, the effects of bullying are similar.

Kids who are cyberbullied are more likely to:

- Use alcohol and drugs
- Skip school
- Experience in-person bullying
- Be unwilling to attend school
- Receive poor grades
- Have lower self-esteem
- Have more health problems

PreK-12 Grant Opportunities & Information

Award/Honor Blanket for High School Graduates:

Pendleton honor blanket in recognition of the achievement of graduation from High School

- Pre K-12 Grant application and a copy of student's diploma
- Must be submitted within 4 months of the graduation date

Educational Computer Software

Educational computer software is available for purchase or reimbursement

**JOM IECs with
Graduation Events:**

***Be sure to plan these
before students
graduate. Once they
graduate they are
not eligible for
services.***

Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA)

It has come to our attention there were changes made to the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) amateur status rules. Before, our program was allowed to reimburse the parent's expenses for equipment and fees however that has changed.

According to WIAA Eligibility, students may not be reimbursed for any award: salary, cash, or merchandise such as shirts, jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, jerseys, warm-ups, equipment, balls, duffel bags, backpacks, watches, rings, billfolds, coupons, gift certificates.

Our grant is designed to assist Ho-Chunk enrolled students for educational expenses and we strongly feel that participation in extra-curricular activities and sports are important to an educational experience. The concern is that these grants will disqualify student-athletes from competition. This disqualification may also hurt the team and schools.

In addition to WIAA Rules, we found similar language in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center: #9. Any financial assistance based on athletics skills or participation (is unallowable).

We want to be a resource for our students and families, however we absolutely do not want to jeopardize our student-athletes or their teams.

We understand that each state is different. If a family would like to appeal, we will require a letter of the high school or club sport association to acknowledge their states interscholastic athletic associations and the NCAA amateur athlete requirements and that our program does not interfere with it.

WIAA Eligibility Overview for Athletes

<http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Eligibility/EligOverview-Athletes.pdf>

For questions or concerns, please contact School Community Relations Division Ho-Chunk Education Department at **(715)284-4915** or **(800) 362-4476**. Or email **SCR@Ho-Chunk.com**

PRE K-12 GRANT PROGRAM

Purpose is to provide educational grants for Ho-Chunk Nation enrolled children to meet basic educational needs and to assist in ensuring they have the opportunity to fully participate in educational related experiences and unique educational opportunities.

** The Ho-Chunk Nation is the "payer of last resort", therefore applicants must seek assistance from their area Johnson O'Malley Program prior to applying for the Pre K-12 Grant Program.

** Here are two of the 34 grants sponsored by the Pre K-12 Program.

** More information can be found in the guidelines on the Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department website: ho-chunknation.com/prek-12

CAMP FEES

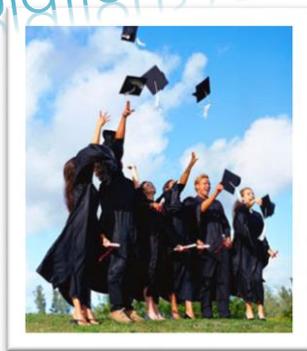
Description: Assistance is available for payment or reimbursement of the fees for student participation in camp(s).

Program Limit: Spending money or any other expenses other than the camp fee is not covered by this program.

HO-CHUNK LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION FEE

Description: This program is designed for students who want to learn the Ho-Chunk language and have access to a fluent speaker. The fluent speaker must provide an 8 week curriculum with measurable standards. Each speaker will need to be approved by Traditional Court. All curriculum standards will need to meet the HCN Language Division basic fluency curriculum proposal. Once granted, the speaker will provide a schedule for the 8 weeks and show attendance of 3-5 hours per week, per student.

Congratulations Graduates!



CONTACT INFORMATION

School Community Relations Specialists can be reached in the Ho-Chunk Education Department at **(715)284-4915** or **(800) 362-4476**. Or email **SCR@Ho-Chunk.com**

WWW.Ho-ChunkNation.com

Ho-Chunk Education Department School Community Relations Division

(715)284-4915 or (800) 362-4476

Email: SCR@Ho-Chunk.com

WWW.Ho-ChunkNation.com

Brook Funmaker, ext 1201 // Angela Marek, ext 1149 // Melissa Lowe, ext 1177// Jessica McMillan, ext 1188
Hannah Myers, ext 1135 // Chavo Stumblingbear, ext 1034 // Nehomah Thundercloud, ext 1030

Pre-College Grants with PreK-12 Program College Prep Expenses; College Visits

College Prep Expenses: Assistance is available for reimbursement of the costs associated with the preparation for secondary school. These costs include the cost of ACT and SAT examination fees, ACT and SAT prep materials and tutoring.

College Visits: Assistance is available for payment or reimbursement of costs for a High School Junior or Senior in public or private/parochial school to visit a college where they plan to apply. In order to qualify for this grant, a student be register to take the ACT or SAT.

Contact: Pre K-12 Grant Specialist for more information on how to utilize these programs. (715)284-4915 or (800) 362-4476.

SCR@Ho-Chunk.com

[Facebook.com/HCN.Education](https://www.facebook.com/HCN.Education)



School Community Relations
Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department

FROM HIGHER ED: Has your high school student registered to take the ACT?

The ACT: The American College Testing (ACT) score is a **key factor colleges consider when reviewing an application**. It tests knowledge in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. The test is timed and will take 3 ½ hours.

How we help: The **College Access Program** through Higher Ed provides REIMBURSEMENT for the ACT registration fee; ACT Prep Courses; and up to four (4) college application fees.

TIP: Plan to **take the ACT twice**, beginning Jr. year. Start applying to colleges the fall of Sr. year.

Contact: **Pre-College Advisors** will answer questions about the College Access Program and help make an academic plan. (800) 362-4476

EducationAdvisors@Ho-Chunk.com

[Facebook.com/HCN.HigherEd](https://www.facebook.com/HCN.HigherEd)

[Facebook.com/HCN.Education](https://www.facebook.com/HCN.Education)

