

# Late Winter Newsletter, February 2016



School Community Relations Division  
Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department



Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians;

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

Phone (715) 284-4915

Email [SCR@ho-chunk.com](mailto:SCR@ho-chunk.com)

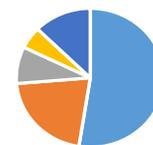
**A W-9 Form will need to be on file to reimburse any new parents, or pay any new vendors through the Pre-12 Grant Program.**

We are at the half way point in regards to Pre-K 12 Grant Applications that have been processed and completed from July 1<sup>st</sup> through Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> 2016.

So far, in this fiscal year there have been 1,538 completed applications. From October 27, 2015 to January 27, 2016 they have processed a total of 634 applications.

HCN District Pre K-12 Grant	Request Count
District 1	807
District 2	326
District 3	132
District 4	79
District 5	194
<b>Total</b>	<b>1538</b>

**HCN District Pre K-12 Grant  
Application**



■ District 1 ■ District 2 ■ District 3  
■ District 4 ■ District 5

There have been numerous inquiries as to why a proof of participation is required, and why a receipt does not prove participation. An example: A parent paid for football uniform and gear, and also paid the participation fee. The student did not participate for a medical reason. We could not reimburse the equipment since the student did not play that year. Another example: A parent purchased Basketball attire for their child, the child was ineligible to play due to poor grades. We were not able to reimburse the basketball equipment.

Please check with us if your child is in High School, prior to purchasing any equipment to see if you are eligible for any reimbursement. We have to follow the State High School Amateur Rules. For Example: like WIAA (Wisconsin Amateur Association Guidelines), MSHSL (Minnesota State High School League), and CIF (California Interscholastic Federation)

February is [National Parent Leadership Month](#). NPL recognizes the important role of parents as leaders and educators for their children.

National Parent Leadership month is dedicated to parents raising healthy children in homes and communities.

Through National Parent Leadership Month, you can teach your child leadership, responsibility, connection and playfulness, all part of healthy parenting!

This month take time to teach your kids how to feel responsible, build their confidence and have fun!

Here are the Links to more information:

- [www.kidscreations.com/blog/february-is-national-parent-leadership-month](http://www.kidscreations.com/blog/february-is-national-parent-leadership-month)
- [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5404a5.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5404a5.htm)

### **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.



### ***Import Dates to Remember:***

#### **Higher Education Dates:**

ACT Test Date / Register by Date

- April 9, 2016 / March 4, 2016
- June 11, 2016 / May 6, 2016

#### **Youth and Family College Expo**

- February 13, 2016 BRF TOB Office

#### **Pre K-12 Grant Program**

Submission Deadline for Pre K-12 Grants

- June 15, 2016
- **Computer Payment requests due to the Education Department by May 15, 2016**

#### **Family Enrichment Weekend**

Three Bears Lodge - Warrens, WI

- June 17-19, 2016

#### **Johnson O'Malley**

National Johnson-O'Malley Association Conference, Washington D.C.

- February 1-3, 2016

#### **Wisconsin Indian Education Association Conference**

Madison, WI

- April 1-2, 2016

## Difference between Johnson O'Malley and Title VII Funding

The **Johnson-O'Malley Program** is authorized by the Johnson-O'Malley Act of 1934 and the implementing regulations are provided in Part 273 of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations. As amended, this Act authorizes contracts for the education of eligible Indian students enrolled in public schools and previously private schools. This local program is operated under an educational plan, approved by the BIE, which contains educational objectives to address the needs of the eligible American Indian and Alaska Native students.

Johnson O'Malley programs offered to American Indian and Alaska Native students vary and may include such programs as culture, language, academics and dropout prevention.

Johnson-O'Malley funds under this program may not be used for capital expenditures. Eligible applicants are tribal organizations, Indian corporations, school districts or States with eligible American Indian and Alaska Native children attending their schools or public school districts that have established Indian Education Committees to approve supplementary support programs that benefit American Indian and Alaska Native students.

Eligible American Indian and Alaska Native students are enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe or at least one-fourth or more degree of Indian blood descendant of a member of a federally recognized Indian tribal government eligible for services from the Bureau. In addition, eligibility requires these children be between age 3 through grades 12, with priority given to children residing on or near an Indian reservation.

**Title VII's** purpose is to support the efforts of local educational agencies, Indian tribes and organizations, postsecondary institutions, and other entities to meet the unique educational and culturally related academic needs of American Indian and Alaska Native students. Title VII can meet direct assistance for —

- (1) the unique educational and culturally related academic needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives;
- (2) the education of Indian children and adults;
- (3) the training of Indian persons as educators and counselors, and in other professions serving Indian people; and
- (4) research, evaluation, data collection, and technical assistance.

Following are the websites that provided the above information:

Title VII - <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg98.html>

Johnson O'Malley - <http://www.bie.edu/JOM/index.htm>



## Higher Education Information:

College Summer Camps for grades 1-12 that your student might be interested in:

 <http://precollege.wlearn.com/>



## FAFSA Information:

Taxes and Federal Aid: What parents Should Know?

**What is federal aid?** Federal aid is financial assistance for eligible students to pay for education expenses at eligible post-secondary schools.

**How do I help my student apply for financial aid?** The free application for federal student aid is the first step and must be completed at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). The application is free and there is free help online at the website, you may also get help by calling the toll free number (800)-433-3243. The earliest you may apply for the 2016-2017 academic year is January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Submit as early as possible, check with the school your child will be attending for their financial aid deadlines and for any additional requirements the school may have to apply for financial aid. The FAFSA is used to apply for federal student aid, and is also used by many schools and scholarship foundations for information for nonfederal aid.

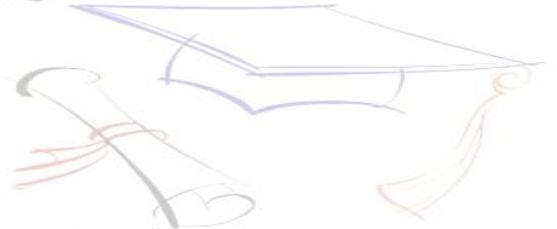
### **What information is needed to complete the FAFSA?**

Gather the following information before beginning to complete the FAFSA:

- Social Security Number and Driver's License
- Prior year income tax forms
- **Parents Income tax forms are needed unless the student:**
  - Is 24 years of age or older.
  - Is married.
    - Married students will also need their spouses documents
  - Has a child for which the student provides more than 50% of their care.
  - Is a veteran.
  - Is a ward of the court, orphan, or out of home placement.
  - Has already completed a bachelor's degree and is pursuing a graduate degree.
- Current Bank statements and records or per capita, trust fund accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual funds and other investments \**Ho-Chunk Nation Children's Trust Fund should be claimed on the FAFSA as either an asset or current bank account funds.*
- Business or farm records, if applicable.

**Ho-Chunk Higher Education will be hosting FAFSA filing assistance events at various locations after April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Information will be forthcoming. Stay posted to the Education page Facebook, and/or higher education page for more information and/or contact us at (800)362-4476.**

# Scholarships



## **Scholarship websites:**

*(Remember that scholarships are free money, that will help pay for college!)*

Scholarship website both specific to Native American students and general scholarships:

<http://www.careeronestop.org/> : This website has a scholarship search tool, job search tool and career exploration assistance and resources.

<http://www.aigcs.org/> : American Indian Graduate Center: This website is a gateway for applying to scholarships for American Indian students, as well as other resources and opportunities such as employment and internships.

<http://www.americanindianservices.org/> : scholarships and other opportunities for students.

<http://www.collegefund.org/> : Scholarships and other opportunities for students such as leadership development.

<http://www.aicpa.org/Career/DiversityInitiatives/Pages/smas.aspx> : Scholarships for minority accounting students.

<http://www.aises.org/>: This website provides scholarship and other opportunities to Native American students in engineering, science, and other related technology areas.

Other Scholarship Search Engines:

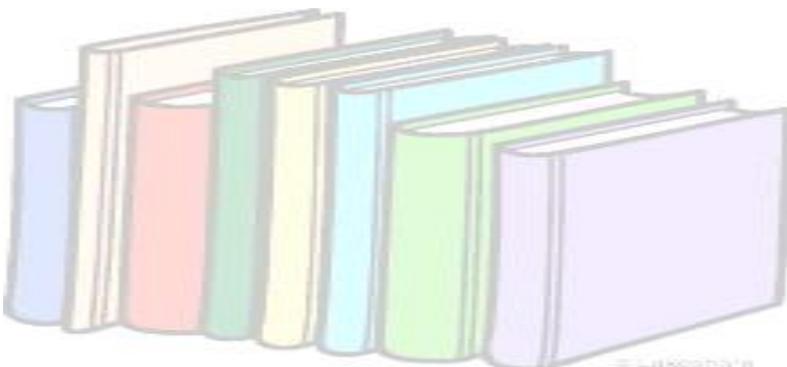
<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

<http://www.college-scholarships.com/>

<http://www.fastweb.com/>

Important: Beware of sites that request an application or processing fee. You should never have to pay a fee, or provide bank account or credit card information to apply for a scholarship.

In addition, the majority of colleges offer *institutional scholarships* which you apply for through the financial aid office at the school.



# Get on track for college

## A Step-by-Step guide

- Grades Pre K-12:
  - Routinely completing homework will help to develop the good study habits needed to be successful in college.
  - Make a point to try new things by getting involved in extra-curricular activities, such as clubs, sports, volunteering, pow-wow, etc.
    - Colleges look for students that are successful academically, and who are involved in their community.
  - Attend Events and sign your students up for pre-college camps that will help your student learn about college programs and explore their interests.
  - Explore different colleges using the College Navigator tool found at: <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/> Here, you can search a variety of schools based on what is important to you, your needs, interests, and preferences for your academic career.
- Junior year:
  - Register for and take the ACT Exam.
    - It is recommended to take the exam twice in your Junior year.
  - Plan college visits and campus tours.
    - College visits and tours can be scheduled by calling the campus's Admissions Office, or they can often be scheduled online.
    - Ho-Chunk Nation Higher Ed. Division offers a number of group college visits for students.
- Senior year:
  - Fall Term: You've done your research, it's time to get those college applications in!
    - Plan to apply to your top 4 colleges during the fall term of your senior year.
      - Pay close attention to the applications, fill in all the blanks, and write your entrance essay separately.
      - Consider asking your English teacher, or Guidance Counselor to proof-read your essays before submitting your applications.
  - Spring Term: Once your taxes, and **your parent's taxes\*** are filed, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at: <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>
    - See the "Taxes and Federal Aid: What Parents Need to Know" section for more detailed information.
  - Spring Term: Apply for scholarships! Ask your Guidance Counselor for a list of scholarships you can apply for.
  - Spring Term: You will receive acceptance/denial letters from the colleges you completed applications to prior to graduating high school.
    - After you decide which college to attend, and submit the necessary paperwork indicating you plan to attend, the college will send you information on registering for New Student Orientation, housing options, meal plans, and everything else you need to get started

\*\*Feel free to reach out to the Higher Education Division at any point for more information- PH# (800)/362-4476, or e-mail at [higher.education@ho-chunk.com](mailto:higher.education@ho-chunk.com) .

# Johnson O'Malley Areas

## ❖ *Brook Funmaker - School Community Relations Areas*

### BRF/Neillsville/AC-H-M/Blair-Taylor JOM Program:

Meetings occur the second Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at the TOB from 11:30 pm – 12:30 pm. A meal is provided.

Events to look forward to:

- The IEC will be planning a Parent Information Fair in early May.
- The IEC sponsors the Mini Powwow at the Black River Falls schools in the spring.
- IEC sponsors a Senior Banquet at the end of the year.

### Wittenberg-Birnamwood/Wausau/ DC Everest/Antigo/ Tigerton JOM Program:

Like the Wittenberg-Birnamwood/Wausau/DC Everest/Tigerton JOM Facebook page. Updates and meetings are posted on the Facebook page. Meetings usually occur once a month.

Events to look forward to:

- Local Native American Cultural Exhibit. Crafts begin on Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm and bring a dish to pass for the potluck. The Exhibit presentation will be on Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm located at TAU in Wittenberg with snacks provided.

### Stevens Point JOM Program:

Like the Stevens Point JOM IEC Facebook page. Updates and meetings are posted on the Facebook page. Meetings usually occur once a month.

Events to look forward to:

- JOM Students will be collaborating with the UW-Stevens Point AIRO student organization during Native American week in early spring.

## ❖ *Jessica McMillan – School Community Relations Areas*

### Pittsville/ Nekoosa/ & Port Edwards

Meeting Dates are March 29, May 16, and June 20. They are not meeting the following month which are February, April, and July. There meetings are at 5pm. They met at the Nekoosa Public Library.

#### Officers:

Chair: Heather Redcloud-[hbomb244@yahoo.com](mailto:hbomb244@yahoo.com)

Vice Chair: Carmen Redcloud-[muvn\\_on\\_06@yahoo.com](mailto:muvn_on_06@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Hilary Rucinski- [Hilary.Rucinski@Ho-Chunk.com](mailto:Hilary.Rucinski@Ho-Chunk.com)

### WI Rapids

Meetings Dates are February 1, March 7, April 4, May 2 and June 6 and No meeting in July. There meetings are held at the McMillan Library at 6pm upstairs in the conference room.

#### Officers:

Chair: Ainge Higdon-[angiehigdon123@gmail.com](mailto:angiehigdon123@gmail.com)

Vice Chair: Earl Lemieux-[Earl.Lemieux@Ho-Chunk.com](mailto:Earl.Lemieux@Ho-Chunk.com)

Secretary: Kathreen Pidgeon-[ssgt pigeon@yahoo.com](mailto:ssgt pigeon@yahoo.com)

### Eau Claire

Meeting dates February 10, March 9, April 13, May 11, and the location is Flynn Elementary, 1430 Lee St., Eau Claire, WI 54701 meeting will be in the cafeteria, enter through door #3.

#### Officers:

Chair: Angel Littlewolf- [jaliasmama@yahoo.com](mailto:jaliasmama@yahoo.com)

Vice Chair: N/A

Secretary: Shannon Mason Young- [smasonyoung@ecasd.us](mailto:smasonyoung@ecasd.us)

### ❖ *Melissa Porter – School Community Relations Areas*

#### La Crosse

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:30, at the 3 Rivers House. Contact Henry Greengrass for more info, [henry.greengrass@ho-chunk.com](mailto:henry.greengrass@ho-chunk.com)

#### Osseo/Fairchild

Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. Location and time are determined at the meeting. Contact Denise Redbird for info, [denise.redbird@ho-chunk.com](mailto:denise.redbird@ho-chunk.com)

#### Tomah

Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 5:30, at the Tomah Youth & Learning Center. Contact Savannah Shegonee for more info, [savannah.shegonee@ho-chunk.com](mailto:savannah.shegonee@ho-chunk.com)

### ❖ *Chavo Stumblingbear – School Community Relations Areas*

#### Dane County I.E.C.

First Monday's of the month at Hawthorne Library starts promptly at 6. A light meal or potluck always takes place.

#### Officers:

Chair- Laura Redeagle [danecountyjom@gmail.com](mailto:danecountyjom@gmail.com)

Vice Chair- Carol Schumacher [CShumac1998@live.com](mailto:CShumac1998@live.com)

Secretary/Treasurer- Denise Thomas [dns.thms@gmail.com](mailto:dns.thms@gmail.com)

#### Baraboo/Reedsburg/Sauk Prairie/WI Dells/Mauston/Adams-Friendship

Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at House of Wellness starting at 6pm.

#### Officers:

Chair- Patricia Reyes [Patricia.Reyes@Ho-Chunk.com](mailto:Patricia.Reyes@Ho-Chunk.com)

Vice Chair- Thomasa Chavez [Mossy1996@Yahoo.com](mailto:Mossy1996@Yahoo.com)

Secretary- Kimberly Crowley [Crowley\\_Kimberly@yahoo.com](mailto:Crowley_Kimberly@yahoo.com)



# ANNUAL JOURNEY OF HOPE CONFERENCE & YOUTH CONFERENCE!

Location: TBD

SAVE THE DATE:

OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup>  
2016



**HO-CHUNK HEALTH & WELLNESS TEAM/YOUTH SERVICES**

**HEALTHY IS A HO-CHUNK TRADITION**

*Explore sites throughout the  
Ho-Chunk Nation with new eyes*



*Learn cultural practices for taking care  
of the land...*



*...and water. Work alongside  
professionals from the HCN and UW.*



*Photos from 2015 Goja Howaite Hi*

## Save the date!

The Ho-Chunk Nation is teaming up with Earth Partnership for a second annual culture and environment summer program.

Goja Howaite Hi  
July 11-15,  
2016

Let Regina Funmaker ([Regina.Funmaker@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Regina.Funmaker@ho-chunk.com)) know if you want to be a part of it!

For more information, check out [arboretum.wisc.edu/learn/eps/ias/](http://arboretum.wisc.edu/learn/eps/ias/)

   
earth partnership  
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