



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: ADDITIONAL FAQS

### **How can I receive more information?**

You may access information on the Cobell Scholars website.

### **Do you fund descendants of tribal members?**

IE does not make offers to descendants at this time; however, individuals proving  $\frac{1}{4}$  or more descent from multiple tribes will be considered.

**How do I convert my file to a PDF?** From Microsoft Word, click File → Export → Create PDF → Save as "First Name Last Name File Description" (i.e. Jane Doe Transcript 2016). *Note: Cobell-OASIS will not accept any files that contain special characters in the file name.*

**Do I need to be a Cobell Settlement Class Member to receive a scholarship?** No. Cobell Settlement Class membership or descendency is not required.

### **How do I know if my tribe is federally recognized?**

All eligible tribes are listed in the drop down response selection list. If your tribe is not listed, contact IE. *\*This list is compiled from the US Congressional Record.\**

**How do I verify my tribal affiliation?** All finalists will provide Indigenous Education, Inc. with a Tribal Eligibility Verification (TEV) which will be sent directly to the Tribal Enrollment office on their behalf. The enrollment officer will complete it and submit it directly to Indigenous Education, Inc for review and processing. All tribal decisions are final and will not be challenged by the Cobell Scholarship or the Board of Trustees. Applicants may choose to appeal tribal enrollment office decisions on their own.

### **How do I know if I am attending an eligible institution?**

Contact the institution directly to inquire if they are a non-profit, visit their website or contact IE.

### **Does Cobell fund online degree programs?**

Students may be offered a Cobell Scholarship if they pursue online degrees as long as it is from a non-profit institution.

### **Will Cobell fund a second Bachelor's or second Master's degree?**

Cobell scholarships cannot fund duplicates, or another degree at the same level.

### **Is there a paper application?**



IE does not produce a paper application. Students must have access to the internet to submit an application, upload required documents and to communicate with.

**My student loans have been disbursed (or I've already accepted them) and my financial aid office says I no longer have an unmet need but I haven't received my Cobell Scholarship yet. How can I still receive my Cobell Scholarship?**

If you receive *any* outside scholarship, including a Cobell Scholarship, tell your college's financial aid officers about it and ask them about your college's policy on outside scholarships reducing your student loan debt.

In most cases, the office of financial aid will contact Indigenous Education, Inc. to inquire about returning the check; however, it is preferred that scholars either:

1) Meet with the financial aid office to recalculate the Cost of Attendance if it is believed there are additional costs not already accounted for in the Financial Need Analysis, thereby creating a higher unmet need allowing you to receive the scholarship; or,

2) Contacting the financial aid office to reduce other types of aid (preferably loans). It's up to the college to decide what type of financial aid to reduce or cut if an outside scholarship arrives after loans have been accepted and disbursed. Some cut down the college's grant. Others may reduce the amount of your loan which is to your benefit - it means replacing loan dollars, which must be paid back, with scholarship dollars that you don't pay back.

*\*Note- Some colleges may apply scholarship awards toward the next semester - Indigenous Education, Inc. **does not** allow this option.*

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/grants-and-scholarships/how-outside-scholarships-affect-your-financial-aid-package>

**What can I do, or can my family help me do, to be better prepared for college?**

Going to college can be the most exciting, yet nerve-wracking experience in a person's life. Check out these links to get more advice and tips on how to make the transition as smooth as possible.

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