

Siksika Nation Post-Secondary Student Support Program

Background

The objective of the Siksika Post Secondary Student Support Program (S.N.P.S.S.S.P.) is to assist Siksika Members in gaining access to post secondary education and to graduate with the qualifications and skills needed to pursue individual careers.

On April 1, 1991 the Siksika Nation took control of the Post Secondary Grants Administration Program from the Dept. of Indian Affairs.

COMMITTEE

A post secondary committee was formed to work with the post secondary director to develop and enforce guidelines and policies that would ensure the educational needs of Siksika Members are met. The committee is accountable to Chief and Council.

The post secondary committee consists of one or more Siksika Council members, one Elder, one Band members who resides off reserve and a community member from the following five areas of the Reserve: West End; Chicago; North Camp; Washington/Shouldice and Poor Eagle Flats, Cluny/South Camp ; and Crowfoot and Gleichen.

The post secondary staff consists of a director, education counselor, career-guidance counselor and an administrative assistant.

VISION STATEMENT

To strengthen, encourage and protect the post secondary educational opportunities for the Siksika Nation.

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

In accordance with the mission statement set forth by the Chief and Council we, the Siksika Post Secondary Committee resolve that:

Our purpose, being a part of the educative body for the people of the Siksika Nation, is to ensure that we improve the quality of life in the area of intellectual well-being. Our commitment to this aspect of the mission statement will fulfill our role to the Siksika Nation.

I. STUDENT APPLICATION

Receiving Applications

Applications for financial support received by the S.N.P.S.S.S.P. must include as a minimum:

- A completed application form issued by the S.N.P.S.S.S.P.
- Documentary proof that the applicant is a Siksika Nation member
- Documentary proof of acceptance into an approved post secondary program of studies: registration; fees, transcripts; and verification of dependents.

Applications lacking any of the above documentation will be cancelled after the following deadlines: **AUGUST 15** (Sept. entry); **DECEMBER 15** (Jan. entry); and **JUNE 15** (July entry).

The S.N.P.S.S.S.P. office may request additional documents or information.

Application deadline: June 15th annually.

Applications received prior to the above date will be prioritized according to the S.N.P.S.S.S.P. student priority categories.

Applications received after the above deadline date must be held until it can be determined if funds are available after processing the first batch of applications.

II. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to apply under the S.N.P.S.S.S.P. an applicant must have met university or college entrance requirements and have been enrolled or accepted for enrolment in a post secondary institution for a program of studies that is a minimum of eight months in duration.

Student Priority Categories

If support for the number of eligible applicants exceeds the budget, applications will be deferred according to the rules set out in the S.N.P.S.S.S.P.'s operating guidelines. These will be made in accordance with the following student priority categories:

1. Continuing students
2. Deferred students
3. New post secondary students
4. New U.C.E.P.P. students
5. Students returning to studies
6. Students suspended for academic reasons

III. TUITION SUPPORT

Tuition support includes students' fees for registration, tuition and books which are listed as required by the post secondary institution.