

# PGST Higher Education Scholarship FAQ's

## 1. Which application do I use for Higher Ed funding?

- If you are getting an associate or bachelor's degree, use the undergraduate new applicant application for your first term and for consecutive terms in the same year use the continuing application.
- If you are getting a master's or doctorate degree, use the graduate new applicant application for your first term and for consecutive terms in the same year use the continuing application.
- Vocational, trade schools, and certifications use the Vocational & certificate program application.
- Applications can be found here online:  
[www.pgst.nsn.us/career-and-education](http://www.pgst.nsn.us/career-and-education)

## 2. Is there a deadline?

- There is no set deadline, but you must turn your application in time to meet your institutions deadlines.
- You must turn it in early enough for the higher education program advisor to process the application and request any missing documents if needed.

## 3. What are the eligibility requirements?

- Must be an enrolled member of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe.
- Must apply for Federal Student Aid and comply with all the requirements of the distributing post-secondary education and certification funding policy.

## 4. I am a PGST descendant, am I eligible?

- The scholarship is only available to enrolled tribal members.

## 5. What is covered by the Higher Education Scholarship?

- Award will cover the remaining balance of tuition, fees, room and board, meal plan, and any fees added to the student's account, and a stipend for books and supplies. Costs of required books or supplies over the stipend will be reimbursed

## 6. How many degrees can I get through the scholarship?

- Financial Assistance will only be Approved for the First Degree at Each Level. (Associates, Bachelors, Masters, Doctorate)
- A second degree at any level would need to be approved through the appeal process and would be discretionary based on remaining budget and other relevant factors.

**7. Can I get funding for my divers' certification?**

- Yes, although the requirements and funding amount may be different. Contact the Higher Education Program Advisor for more information.

**8. Do I need to apply to FAFSA?**

- Yes, applying to FAFSA is a requirement of the application.

**9. What is FAFSA?**

- It stands for **Free application for Federal Student Aid**.
- The website is [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)

**10. Can I get help with my FAFSA application?**

- Yes. Contact the Higher Education Program Advisor to set up an appointment.  
[Sasheen@pgst.nsn.us](mailto:Sasheen@pgst.nsn.us)

**11. Can I get previous terms that I attended covered if I have a balance due?**

- No. Paying previously attended terms are not covered in the policy.
- You must apply for funding prior to your desired term.

**12. Is there anything that I should do prior to filling out the scholarship application?**

- Apply for federal student aid (FAFSA).
- Apply to the school of your choice.
- Enroll and register in classes as soon as possible. There is a form called the financial need analysis that you will need to send to the financial aid office for them to fill out that will let us know what your expected tuition and fees will be and that is determined by the total credits you have registered for. It will also notify us of any scholarship awards, grants, or tuition waivers you may have.
- Fill out a FERPA waiver which is a release of information. Check all and put the Higher education advisor's information. Contact the Higher education advisor if you need this information.
- Ask your college advisor or admissions for a FERPA waiver form.

**13. Is there funding to help me purchase a laptop?**

- Yes. We now have funding to help you purchase a laptop.

- You will need to fill out the application for assistance, provide proof of tribal enrollment, proof of at least half-time enrollment at your higher education institution, and you must have a required online component.
- Application for Higher Education Technology Assistance: [www.pgst.nsn.us/career-and-education](http://www.pgst.nsn.us/career-and-education)

**14. Am I required to apply to one “other scholarship”?**

- Yes. You must apply to at least one scholarship other than this one and provide proof.
- Use scholarship search tools such as [www.TheWashboard.org](http://www.TheWashboard.org), [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com), [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- Here is a link to a no essay scholarship [www.nitrocollege.com](http://www.nitrocollege.com)
- American Indian College Fund offers a Tribal colleges and university scholarship for those attending TCU’s and a Full circle scholarship even if you don’t attend a TCU. That website is: [www.collegefund.org](http://www.collegefund.org)
- American Indian Services Scholarship: [www.americanindianservices.org](http://www.americanindianservices.org)
- WIGA Scholarship Program: [www.washingtonindiagaming.org/scholarships/](http://www.washingtonindiagaming.org/scholarships/)
- Native Forward: [www.nativeforward.org](http://www.nativeforward.org)