



The Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship

The Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship (ECS) is an annual award administered by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). This scholarship is meant to aid American Indian students in their pursuit of higher education opportunities. Awards generally range from \$1000-\$5000 per academic year, but may vary.

Scholarship Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe
- Be accepted into an accredited college or university in the state of Minnesota
- Be pursuing an associate, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree, or be pursuing a diploma or certificate in a career-specific program
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 if applying as an undergraduate
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 if applying as a graduate
- Not be related to a current MDE employee

Applicant Requirements

To be considered for this scholarship, the following six items must be included in your submission. If any items are missing, the application will be eliminated from consideration.

- 1) A completed application.
- 2) Unofficial school transcripts.
 - Transcripts must reflect your career cumulative GPA.
 - If you are now or have ever been an undergraduate or graduate student, your transcripts must reflect all higher education coursework at every institution of attendance.
- 3) Proof of tribal enrollment.
 - We accept copies of tribal enrollment papers as well as tribal IDs. If either item reflects a name that you no longer legally use, proof of the name change may be requested.
- 4) Academic letter of reference.
 - This letter must reflect your academic performance, leadership activities, and connection to the American Indian community. Letters should be typed and signed.
- 5) Personal or professional letter of reference.

- This letter must speak to your character, your leadership qualities, your connection to the American Indian community, and your community involvement. Letters should be typed and signed.
- 6) Personal Essay.
- Essays must be 400-500 words and must clearly articulate educational and professional goals, and explain the impact you want to have within the American Indian community at large.

Submission

The scholarship is open from March 1 to May 31 annually. Submissions received after the May 31 close date are not eligible for consideration.

The six required applicant items must be submitted together in one email.

Submit items to: MDE.EthelCurryScholarship@state.mn.us

Note: MDE is in the process of relocating. Do not mail items.

Award Announcement

Applicants will receive a scholarship notification in late July or early August.

Program Contact

Office of American Indian Education

MDE.EthelCurryScholarship@state.mn.us

About Ms. Ethel Curry

Ethel Curry was born in Hixton, Wisconsin, in 1888. In 1914, she graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in mathematics and biology. Post-graduation, Ms. Curry was accepted into two medical schools, but due to her health, she was not able to attend either institution. She instead spent nearly 40 years working as a surgical secretary at the esteemed Mayo Clinic.

According to her niece, Jeanne Angel, Ms. Curry lived simply and frugally, without television or telephone. She was a lifelong scholar with a lively, inquiring mind and an independent spirit, and she was a warm and sociable person who held a deep compassion for American Indian people. Her tremendous wealth was attained through investments in Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (3M).

Ms. Curry died in 1995 at the age of 107. It is due to her extreme generosity that the Minnesota Department of Education is able to provide this valuable scholarship opportunity to American Indian students.



The Ethel Curry American Indian Leadership Scholarship Application

Applicant Information

Name

First

Middle

Last

Date of Birth

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Email Address

Telephone Number

Tribe of Enrollment

Educational Information

College/University

Address

Select Degree Program:

Diploma/Certificate
Masters

Associates
Doctorate

Bachelors

Status in School:

Part-time (6-11 credits)

Full-time (12+ credits)

Major

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) at the time of application

Applicant Statement

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is accurate and complete. I understand that the information contained in this form will be treated confidentially. I certify that I am not related to a current Minnesota Department of Education employee. I understand that this scholarship is annual and competitive, and that the completion of this application is not a guarantee of funding.

Name

Date