The Mission of the Lummi Indian Business Council
To preserve, promote, and protect our Shelangen through vocational and higher education. By providing this award, we as a community are supporting students' goals and making an investment in our collective future.

Lummi Higher Education
Grant Award Application 2025-2026

Congratulations on your decision to pursue or continue a vocational certificate or a college/graduate degree. Education is a priority for the Lummi Indian Business Council (LIBC). In 1989, as an act of self-determination, LIBC took over the responsibility of administering the Lummi Higher Education (LHE) grant award process from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. LHE funding assists students in achieving their educational goals and meeting the growing demands of our dynamic economy. To keep up with the rising college tuition costs, LIBC has augmented those BIA funds with tribal funding to make the Lummi Higher Education grant award available. This is based on academic merit rather than financial need. Please read the directions carefully and ensure you submit a complete application. Students are responsible for providing their grades and new class schedules at the end of each term.

Applicants must meet the following requirements to qualify for an LHE Grant Award:
Eligibility Requirements:
    A. Must be an enrolled member of the Lummi Tribal.
    B. Must have attained a high school diploma or have earned a GED.
    C. Must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in an accredited institution.
    D. Must maintain good academic standing of a 2.0-grade point average or better.
    E. Must have submitted all documentation required by the LHE Scholarship Program.
    F. Must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
    G. Must submit a signed "Needs Analysis Form" to your college or university's financial aid office.
    H. Vocational students who wish to pursue a certificate program must be enrolled in an accredited institution and be able to apply for FAFSA assistance. You can receive LHE grant assistance for certificate programs that last up to 2 years. Once you complete the 2-year program, you will only be eligible for LHE financial assistance if you enroll in a 2–to 4-year degree program.
    I. To receive ongoing funding, students must progress up in advanced degrees: Vocational/Technical Certificate - Associate's - Bachelor's - Master's - Doctorate's

2025 Lummi Higher Education Grant Award
Offers Summer Quarter Funding
and Funding for Part-Time Students

Community Colleges/ Technical Colleges $6,000 per year
Full-time students   12-18 credits
Quarter system $2,000 per 3 quarters- Fall, Winter, Spring
Semester system $3,000 per semester, approx. 6 months

Four-Year Colleges and Universities $7,200 per year
Full-time students   12-18 credits
Quarter system $2,400 per 3 quarters- Fall, Winter, Spring
Semester system $3,600 per semester - approx. 6 months

Graduate School $8,400 per year
Full-time students 8 credits (determined by the institution)
Quarter system $2,800 per 3 quarters- Fall, Winter, Spring
Semester system $4,200 per semester - approx. 6 months

Application Deadlines:
- Fall quarter/Whole Academic Year opens May through September
- Fall funding is prioritized in the order in which documents are received.
- Winter funding is prioritized in the order in which documents are received.
- Spring funding is prioritized in the order in which documents are received.

Students applying for a Lummi Higher Education grant award are encouraged to seek outside funding to help cover the increasing cost of college fees. These external funding sources can reduce or eliminate the need for student loans.

Lummi Nation Workforce Development Office
Lummi Indian Business Council
2665 Kwina Road Bellingham, WA 98226
Kathleen V. Solomon
(360) 312-2162
LummiHigherEd@Lummi-nsn.gov

Lummi Higher Education Grant Application

Term(s) applying for:

20____ ___Fall/Academic Year   20_____ Winter/Spring

Date:	Applicant Name: (Last) (First) (Middle)		
Student ID #:	Tribal ID# Date of Birth		Phone No.
Mailing Address:		New Student: Yes:____ No: ____ Returning Student: Yes:____ No: ____	
City: State: Zip Code:		E-Mail Address:	

Optional: *Information provided will not be used in a discriminatory manner*.	Are you a Veteran? Yes:____ No:____	Are you handicapped/disabled? Yes:___No___	Marital Status	No. of dependents	Gender: Male: ____ Female____

Name of Current College or University You Will Attend: *(Name, City, State, Zip)*	H.S. Diploma or G.E.D. received: Month/Year:
Other College or University you previously attended *(Name, City, State, Zip)*	Type of Term: *(Check one)* ___Semester ___ Quarter ___ Trimester
High School or G.E.D. Center, you earned your diploma *(Name, City, State, Zip)*	Online Institution: *(Check one)*___Yes ____ No

Type of Degree you will earn while Attending College: *(Check one)*	Certificate: ____	Associates: ____ A.A./A.S.	Bachelors: ____B.A. / B.S.	Masters: ____M.A. / M.S.	Doctorate: ____Ed.D/M.D./Ph.D./J.D.

College Classification: *(Check one)*   ____Freshmen ____ Sophomore ____ Junior ____ Senior ____ Graduate ____ Post - Graduate

Certificate/Undergraduate: Major:	Anticipated Date of Completion/Graduation: Month / Year:
Graduate Students ONLY: Program or Department Accepted Info:	Anticipated Date of Graduation Month / Year:

My Enrollment Status will be: *(Check one)*

_____ Part-Time   _____ Undergraduate Full-Time   _____ Graduate Part-time   _____ Graduate Full-Time

Less than 12 credits   12 credit hours or more   less than 8 credit hours   8 credit hours or more

Date Received	Status Code	Term award	Award Amount	Fall Credits	Fall Grades	Winter Credits	Winter Grades	Spring Credits	Spring Grades	Check Mailed	Initial	Initial

Document Checklist- New Students

In addition to completing and signing this application, the Lummi Higher Education (LHE) Grant Program requires applicants to provide the following information:

_____ **Letter of Acceptance**
   Include a letter from your institution confirming your acceptance into a program or college.

_____ **High School Diploma and Transcripts/Equivalency Documentation**
   A copy of your High School Diploma or GED, along with a copy of your transcripts

_____ **250 Word Essay (minimum)**
   Please write a 250-word essay introducing yourself and outlining your plan to give back to the Lummi community. In a few sentences, describe your career goals and professional aspirations. Also, explain how your chosen degree will help you achieve your objectives.

_____ **Lummi Tribal Enrollment Verification**
   A copy of the enrollment card or Certificate of Indian Blood is required.

_____ **Financial Needs Analysis Form**
   Please request that the FNA form be completed by the College/University Financial Aid Office. The information must be sent directly from the College/University Financial Aid Office. This form must be submitted at the beginning of each academic year, before the Fall term.

_____ **Lummi Higher Education Funding Agreement**
   Please read and initial each section of the funding agreement and sign at the bottom of the page.

_____ **College Registration/Schedule**
   Students' Registration/Schedule must indicate the number of credits or units of your courses and the term. (Class schedules must be submitted with your name, degree, and student ID.)

_____ **College Grades/Transcripts**
   Report records or transcripts must show grades and grade point average (GPA) from previous term(s). Transcripts should be submitted at the end of each term.

_____ **Scholarship Verification Form**
   Students should apply for at least two outside scholarships for each academic year.

_____ **Release of Information. All NWIC students must sign a FERPA**
   (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) allowing the LHE office to review education records.

LHE annual applications are accepted between
May 15 – September 30
Grant priority will be given to the student's applications that are completed first.
To be considered, applications must be completed in full. Incomplete applications will not be considered. The deadline for annual verification is September 30th

Document Checklist – Returning Students

In addition to completing and signing this application, the Lummi Higher Education (LHE) Grant Program requires returning applicants to provide the following information:

____ **500 Word Essay**
Compose a 500-word essay that reflects on your educational journey. Consider how you have grown over the past year and your accomplishments. Share your plan to give back to the Lummi community. In a few sentences, describe your career goals and professional aspirations. Finally, explain how your chosen degree will empower you to realize these objectives.

____ **Financial Needs Analysis Form**
Please request that the FNA form be completed by the College/University Financial Aid Office. The information must be sent directly from the College/University Financial Aid Office. This form must be submitted at the beginning of each academic year, before the Fall term.

____ **Lummi Higher Education Funding Agreement**
Please read and initial each section of the funding agreement and sign at the bottom of the page.

____ **College Registration/Schedule**
Students' Registration/Schedule must indicate the number of credits or units of your courses and the term. (Class schedules must be submitted with your name, degree, credits, and student ID.)

____ **College Grades/Transcripts**
Official Transcripts must reflect grades and grade point average (GPA) of previous term(s).
(Transcripts must be submitted at the end of the quarter.)

____ **Degree audit or student advising worksheet**
This document includes your remaining degree requirements and tracks coursework you have completed toward your degree. It also consists of the courses you plan to enroll in for the upcoming term. This worksheet provides an overview of your progress and will be reviewed to ensure timely degree completion.

____ **Scholarship Verification Form**
Students should apply for at least two outside scholarships for each academic year.

____ **Release of Information**
All NWIC students must sign a FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) form allowing the LHE office to review education records.

LHE annual applications are accepted between May 15 – September 30

To be considered, applications must be fully completed and submitted to the LHE manager each year. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Students are responsible for turning in grades and new class schedules at the end of each term.
The annual LHE application deadline is September 30, 2025

Lummi Higher Education Award Funding Agreement

The Lummi Higher Education (LHE) Grant is an investment in the future. This is a reciprocal relationship; the following agreement is requested from you:

Initial each section after reading:

_____ I understand that if I am eligible, I will receive an LHE scholarship through the financial aid office at my college. This grant award is to help cover my educational expenses while I am enrolled in a college/university and maintaining a **2.00 GPA** or better**. I also acknowledge that I am responsible for submitting a transcript and my new class schedule at the end of each term; if I fail to submit these documents by the deadline, I may lose my LHE Grant Award.**

_____ I further understand that if I fail to maintain **a 2.00 GPA**, I will be placed on **academic probation.** If I fail to meet a 2.0 GPA for two consecutive quarters, I will be placed on **grant suspension**. To **re-establish** eligibility, I must complete one full-time term with other resources.

_____ I further understand that it is my responsibility to **notify** the LHE office if I **withdraw** for any reason or **drop out** before the end of the academic quarter or semester and **receive 0.0 GPA and 0 credits** for the grading period. I will be placed on **permanent** academic probation and may be required to reimburse all awarded funds for that funding term.

_____ I understand that LHE does not provide funding for **repeat classes or F grades. Repeated classes or F grades will be subtracted** from the total award amount in the following term, if funds are not returned from the school. I understand I may **appeal** the decision before the Lummi Nation Higher Education Board (LNHESB).

_____ I understand that I must **submit documentation** verifying my application for at least two outside scholarships for each academic year in which I am requesting funding as a full-time student.

_____ I agree to provide a **degree audit** at the end of the first year for students and at the end of the third year for bachelor students.

_____ I acknowledge that Lummi Higher Education is not responsible or liable for the **repayment** of any student loans I may borrow.

_____ I understand that all awards are subject to the availability of funds.

Release of Information:

_____I consent to the Lummi Higher Education Grant Program releasing any information, which may include name and award amount(s) received to the college/university I attended while receiving the LHE Program Grant Award, as well as to the Lummi Indian Business Council upon request. **Additionally, I give permission to the college or university listed on this application to share** any information related to my financial aid, student account, or registration and degree status with the Lummi Higher Education Grant Program.

_____All of the information provided above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

 I understand that any information I provide is subject to federal review. I consent to releasing this and any other relevant details to my agency, College/University Financial Aid Officer, and the Lummi Nation Higher Education Scholarship Board, as applicable. This information will be used to determine my aid and fulfill the LHE Grant Program requirements.

_____

               Student Signature   **Date**

**All-Northwest College Students must also complete the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which allows information sharing between NWIC and Lummi Higher Education. **

Student Financial Needs Analysis

2665 Kwina Road Bellingham, WA 98226
email: LummiHigherEd@lummi-nsn.gov

I, (Print Name) _____, hereby authorize the release of my
student financial information to the third party indicated above.

_____

_____   _____   _____
Student Signature   Social Security Number   Academic
Year

STUDENT BUDGET   STUDENT RESOURCES

Tuition and Fees   _____   Student Contribution   _____
Books and Supplies   _____   Parent Contribution   _____
Room and Board   _____   Other _____   _____
Personal Expenses   _____
Child Care   _____
Other _____   _____
              TOTAL $_____   TOTAL $_____

COLLEGE AID	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	TOTAL
Pell Grant	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
State Need Grant	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Scholarships	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Loans	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
				TOTAL	$_____

Comments: TOTAL BUDGET $_____

                                                   FEWER RESOURCES $_____

                                                   FEWER AWARDS   _____

_____   UNMET NEED $_____
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

_____
REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE   TITLE   ☐ Tentative Award   ☐ Final Award

_____
PRINTED NAME   PHONE #

Lummi Higher Education Grant Award-Scholarship Verification Form
(Undergraduate-Full time)

The Lummi Higher Education Grant Award program's goal is to assist students in obtaining their college degrees with as little debt as possible. With the increasing cost of attendance at most colleges and universities, students will likely be required to seek funding in addition to tribal funding to pay for the cost of attending college.

The LHE program requires students to apply for at least two outside scholarships. This will allow students to receive "free" money that can be used toward their college expenses and may reduce or eliminate the need for student loans.

I _____, hereby agree to submit documentation verifying that I have applied for a minimum of two outside scholarships for each academic year I am requesting funding.

I agree that before the first day of classes for the academic year for which I receive funding I will provide documentation showing that I have applied to a minimum of two outside scholarships before the first day of the academic year.

The following items are acceptable forms of verification:

- Scholarship Award Letter
- Scholarship Denial Letter
- Scholarship Submission Confirmation Page

I understand that if **I do not provide** the above-required information, **I may not** receive Tribal funding for the 2025-2026 academic year.

I, the undersigned, have read, understand, and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the Scholarship Application Requirement.

Student Signature_____Date_____

See the attached sheet of Scholarship Websites.
For more information and resources, contact the Lummi Higher Education Manager at
LummiHigherEd@Lummi-nsn.gov

Scholarship Websites

"Here are a few of the many scholarship sites available."

: http://www.thewashboard.org

TheWashBoard.org connects Washington students of all types with Washington scholarship providers…. for FREE for Washington State Residents. Whether attending in-state or out, you can save time by entering your profile once and letting TheWashBoard.org find the scholarship opportunities that fit your profile.

http://www.collegefund.org/student-resources

The American Indian College Fund has helped thousands of Native American Indian college students with information on college preparation and help to get the affordable education you deserve.

http://www.theresamike.org

The Theresa Andrea Mike Scholarship Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides scholarships for Native Americans. It was established by the Mike Family in memory of their daughter, Theresa.

http://www.aigcs.org

American Indian Graduate Center was established in 1969 to assist American Indian college graduates who wanted to continue their education at master's, doctorate, and professional degree levels.

https://www.cobellscholar.org

Cobell Scholarship opportunities are accessible online. You can learn more about the availability of Cobell Scholarship funds, deadlines, eligibility, and all related forms necessary to complete. Indigenous Education, Inc. Scholarships administers the application process.

http://www.americanindianservices.org

American Indian Services

AIS scholarship assists Native Americans with financial support to attend college.