

Three Affiliated Tribes Mission Statement

The Three Affiliated Tribes will provide to the Tribe and people, maximum quality services, by being responsible, accountable, respectful, caring, and will incorporate the traditional values of our elders and ancestors

MHA Education Grant Governance

The MHA Education Grant program is operated and governed by the Three Affiliated Tribes Tribal Business Council.

MHA Education Grant Program Purpose

The MHA Education Grant program is committed to the educational pursuits and growth of all enrolled members of the Three Affiliated Tribes. The program has the responsibility to oversee all aspects of the grant and to ensure eligible students, Pre-k through college, have access to top-notch educational opportunities.

Administration and Responsibilities:

The MHA Education Grant is governed by the Three Affiliated Tribes (TAT) Tribal Business Council. MHA Education Grant program provides recommendations to the TAT Tribal Business Council Education Subcommittee relating to any changes of this document. Operational, administration, financial, and awarding aspects rest with the MHA Education Grant program.

I. Applicant Screening and Selection

1. MHA Education Grant program will consider only completed applications, including all required documents, for approval.
2. MHA Education Grant program makes approval and denial decisions based upon this document.

II. Reporting

1. MHA Education Grant program will report grant outcomes.
2. MHA Education Grant program will provide reporting and outcomes to stakeholders.

Privacy Statement

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA Statute 20 U.S.C. Part 1232g; Regulations 34 CFR Part 99.7) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. Personal and educational information provided is solely for the use of properly identifying students for disbursements of education grants. It is not to be shared with third party entities or organizations, unless lawfully required.

Application Process

1. Applicants must submit a new application, including all required documents, for each term in which they seek funding by the proper deadline date.
2. Incomplete applications and applications received after the deadline will not be considered. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure their applications are complete.
3. Complete applications, including required documents, may be submitted to the MHA Education Grant program via email or mail. Scanned documents submitted via email, must be in .pdf format and must be legible. Pictures of documents taken with a cell phone or submitted via fax will **not** be accepted.
4. Upon receipt of a completed application, MHA Education Grant staff will review and process applications in accordance with the policies and procedures herein.
5. Award, denial, or notice of an incomplete application correspondence will be sent to the student via email.
6. MHA Education Grant checks will be addressed and mailed directly to the school. Checks will **not** be mailed directly to the applicant. (Exception: Internships).

PreK-12

The MHA Education Grant for PreK-12 was created to provide financial support for MHA enrolled members seeking education opportunities at private/charter schools, learning centers, close-up group trips, and mileage assistance.

1.1 General Guidelines

- The MHA Education Grant does not fund the total cost of tuition.
- The MHA Education Grant is not a reimbursement grant.
- The MHA Education Grant does not fund Summer sessions for PreK-12.
- The MHA Education Grant does not fund after school programs.
- MHA Education Grant checks will be addressed and mailed directly to the schools/learning centers. **No exceptions**

1.2 Funding Opportunities

1. **Private/Charter Schools:** Eligible students may receive **up to** \$2,500.00 per semester.
2. **Learning Centers:** Eligible students may receive **up to** \$2,500.00 per semester. This includes PreK-12 students who also qualify for private/charter school tuition assistance.
3. **Close-up Trips:** Eligible high school students may receive **up to** \$1,500.00 to attend Close-up sessions.
4. **Mileage Assistance:** Eligible children and families residing within the Three Affiliated Tribes boundaries whose child attends a school without bus services may receive financial assistance **up to** \$500 per Fall/Spring semesters for mileage assistance. GSA mileage rates will be used to determine amounts. Applicants are ineligible to receive mileage assistance if they are already receiving the PreK-12 MHA Education Grant.

1.3 Education Grant Eligibility, Applicant Responsibilities, Requirements, and Deadlines

I. Eligibility

1. Applicant must be an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.
2. Applicant must be enrolled or attending a school or program outlined in section 1.2.
3. Pre-Kindergarten applicants must be attending an accredited professional preschool.

II. Applicant Responsibilities

1. The applicant and/or recipient shall abide by and comply with the specific policies, procedures and eligibility requirements of the MHA Education Grant as stated herein.

2. The applicant and/or recipient shall fulfill his/her academic obligations and comply with all applicable laws, policies, rules, regulations and procedures of the MHA Education Grant, additional scholarships, and financial assistance programs from which the applicant receives funds.
3. The applicant and/or recipient's parent/guardian shall immediately report any change in enrollment, withdrawal, and/or transfer status to the MHA Education Grant program.

III. Requirements

All required documentation must be submitted prior to approval for funds and is required for grant program auditing purposes.

Private/Charter School Applicants must provide the following:

1. Completed applications must be submitted for each semester in which funding is sought.
2. Official billing statement

Learning Center Applicants must provide the following:

1. Completed application must be submitted for each semester in which funding is sought.
2. Copies of progress reports
3. Official billing statement

Mileage Assistance Applicants must provide the following:

1. Completed applications must be submitted for each semester in which funding is sought.
2. Documentation with a breakdown of mileage and cost using GSA standards.

III. Application Deadline

There is no deadline to submit your application for the MHA Education Grant for PreK-12, however it is recommended that applicants submit their application in a timely fashion to avoid unnecessary delays. It is required that applicants apply within the semester (Fall/Spring) in which they are applying.

Dual Credit

The MHA Education Grant for dual credit was created to provide financial support for MHA enrolled members seeking Higher Education by supporting them in attaining dual credit opportunities while still attending High School.

2.1 General Guidelines

- The MHA Education Grant does not fund the total cost of tuition.
- The MHA Education Grant is not a reimbursement grant.

2.2 Funding Opportunities

1. **Dual Credit Courses:** Eligible students may receive assistance for up to six (6) credits per academic semester, up to four (4) semesters, to be used solely for tuition, books, and fees.

2.3 Education Grant Eligibility, Requirements, and Deadlines

I. Eligibility

1. Applicant must be an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.
2. Applicant must be a current high school junior or senior, in good academic standing, attending an accredited institution of higher education.
3. Applicant must receive authorization from their high school to take approved dual credit course(s).
4. Applicants are not eligible for funding to retake a course that was previously paid for by the MHA Education Grant program.
5. Applicants residing within the Three Affiliated Tribes boundaries must first apply for funding with the 477 Program prior to becoming eligible for the Dual Credit grant.

II. Requirements

All required documentation must be submitted prior to approval for funds and is required for grant program auditing purposes.

Dual Credit applicants must provide the following:

1. Completed application form.
2. Official billing statement from the college and/or educational institution which reflects costs for dual-credit course(s).

III. Application Deadline

There is no deadline to submit your application for the Dual Credit grant, however it is recommended that applicants submit their application in a timely fashion to avoid unnecessary delays. It is required you apply within the semester you are taking your course(s).

College and Beyond

The MHA Education Grant for college and beyond was created to provide financial support for MHA enrolled members seeking higher education by supporting them in attaining undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees as well as internships and study abroad opportunities.

Privacy Statement

The MHA Education Grant shall operate in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). All applicant files shall be kept confidential. The student requesting educational assistance will be the primary contact. In order for MHA Education Grant to disclose information regarding an applicant, the applicant must submit a signed disclosure statement, specifying the individuals and/or entities to receive the information.

3.1 General Guidelines

- The MHA Education Grant assists students attending an accredited institution of higher education or vocational program with Unmet Need.
- The MHA Education Grant does not fund the total cost of tuition.
- The MHA Education Grant is not a reimbursement grant.
- The MHA Education Grant does not pay student loans.
- The MHA Education Grant is a supplemental grant and should be used as a last resort of funding and not a primary source of funding.
- Applicants who qualify for other sources of funding such as: 477, Higher Education, and other private scholarship programs need to have applied for a minimum of two other resources prior to applying for the MHA Education Grant.

3.2 Funding Opportunities

1. **Undergraduate/Vocational/Graduate Education Grants:** Funds are intended to assist students with tuition, books, fees, room & board, transportation, and miscellaneous living expenses, as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Funding will assist eligible students in earning one certificate, one associate level-degree, one bachelor's degree, one graduate or professional degree, one post-baccalaureate program, and clinical rotations. If a student chooses to pursue an additional certificate, diploma or degree (ex. a second bachelor's degree), the MHA Education Grant does not apply. Funding for previously attended semesters or retroactive payments are not allowed. The grant will only fund the term in which students are applying in accordance with term deadlines.

Full-time Students may receive **up to** \$11,500.00 per academic year; **up to** \$4,500.00 per semester (Fall/Spring) and **up to** \$2,500.00 for Summer semesters.

****Note**** We understand all schools define terms differently, and funding will be determined by the applicant's institution's academic year.

Part-time Students may be eligible to receive a lesser grant amount dependent upon number of enrolled credits. For example, half-time students may receive up to \$2,250 or funded at 50% per semester/trimester/quarter. Refer to MHA Education Grant Funding Chart below.

MHA Education Grant Maximum Funding Chart Semester				
Student's Unmet need	3/4 time per Semester (9-11 hrs)	Half-Time per Semester (6-8 hrs)	Less Than Half-Time per Semester (1-5 hrs)	Amount for Fall, Spring Semester
100%	\$3,375.00	\$2,250.00	\$1,125.00	\$9,000.00
MHA Education Grant Maximum Funding Chart Trimester				
Student's Unmet need	3/4 time per Trimester (9-11 hrs)	Half-Time per Trimester (6-8 hrs)	Less Than Half-Time per Trimester (1-5 hrs)	Amount for Fall, Winter Spring, Trimester
100%	\$2,875.00	\$1,917.00	\$958.50	\$11,500.00
MHA Education Grant Maximum Funding Chart Quarter				
Student's Unmet need	3/4 time per Quarter (9-11 hrs)	Half-Time per Quarter (6-8 hrs)	Less Than Half-Time per Quarter (1-5 hrs)	Amount for Fall, Winter, Spring Quarter
100%	\$2,970.00	\$2,227.50	\$1,485.00	\$9,000.00
MHA Education Grant Maximum Funding Chart Summer				
Student's Unmet need	3/4 time per Summer (4-5 hrs)	Half-Time per Summer (3 hrs)	Less Than Half-Time per Summer (1-2 hrs)	Amount for Summer
100%	\$1,875.00	\$1,250.00	\$625.00	\$2,500.00

2. **Special Circumstances:** Funding amounts will be considered on a case-by-case basis for applicants applying for Special Circumstances which may include a student who does not meet all requirements herein or exceeds outlined funding limits. Applicants who have been approved for funding through resolution by TBC will be awarded the MHA Education Grant in accordance with the outcome of the meeting.

3.3 Eligibility, Requirements, and Deadlines

I. Eligibility

1. Applicant must be an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.
2. Applicant must be a high school graduate or have received a General Education Diploma (GED).
3. Applicant must be pursuing a certificate or degree from a regionally accredited institution.
4. Undergraduate applicants must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale. Graduate applicants must have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale.

5. Applicants must be considered full-time or part-time during the Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer semester/trimester/quarter/clock hours.

II. Requirements

All required documentation must be submitted prior to approval for funds and is required for grant program auditing purposes.

First-Time students and new applicants must provide the following:

1. Applicants must submit a new application for each semester/trimester/quarter in which they seek funding.
2. Applicant must submit a Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB).
3. Applicant must submit Letter of Acceptance.
4. Applicant must provide a current class schedule showing proof of attempted credits for that term.
5. Applicant must submit FERPA Release Authorization.
6. Applicant must complete a FAFSA for the academic year in which they apply for the grant, verified by financial aid office.
7. Applicants must apply for two (2) additional scholarships or grants, including TAT Higher Ed. or TAT 477. *Please visit mhanation.com for more information about Higher Ed. and 477.*
8. Applicant must submit a Financial Needs Analysis (FNA), showing their unmet need. Financial Needs Analysis must be completed and signed by a Financial Aid Officer, **No Exceptions**. Completed FNA will be sent directly from the institution of higher education to the MHA Education Grant program and must include the school's proper department & address for receipt of payment.

Continuing students must provide the following:

1. Applicants must submit a new application for each semester/trimester/quarter in which they seek funding.
2. Applicant must provide a current class schedule showing proof of attempted credits for that term.
3. Applicant must submit most recent unofficial college transcripts and must maintain the minimum GPA requirements to remain eligible for the MHA Education Grant program.
4. Applicants accepted or enrolled into a graduate program must provide unofficial undergraduate transcripts conferring a bachelor's degree upon entry of program.
5. Applicant must submit FERPA Release Authorization.
6. Applicant must complete a FAFSA for the academic year in which they apply for the grant, verified by financial aid office.
7. Applicants must apply for two (2) additional scholarships or grants, including TAT Higher Ed. or TAT 477. *Please visit mhanation.com for more information about Higher Ed. and 477.*
8. Applicant must submit a Financial Needs Analysis (FNA), showing their unmet need. Financial Needs Analysis must be completed and signed by a Financial Aid Officer, **No Exceptions**. Completed FNA will be sent directly from the institution of higher education

to the MHA Education Grant program and must include the school's proper department & address for receipt of payment.

Stop-out students that did not attend for one (1) semester/trimester/quarter or more must provide the following:

1. Applicants must submit a new application for each semester/trimester/quarter in which they seek funding.
2. Applicant must submit Letter of Acceptance.
3. Applicant must provide a current class schedule showing proof of attempted credits for that term.
4. Applicant must submit most recent unofficial college transcripts and must maintain the minimum GPA requirements to remain eligible for the MHA Education Grant program.
5. Applicants accepted or enrolled into a graduate program must provide unofficial undergraduate transcripts conferring a bachelor's degree.
6. Applicant must submit FERPA Release Authorization.
7. Applicant must complete a FAFSA for the academic year in which they apply for the grant, verified by financial aid office.
8. Applicants must apply for two (2) additional scholarships or grants, including Fort Berthold Higher Ed. or TAT 477. *Please visit mhanation.com for more information about Higher Ed. and 477.*
9. Applicant must submit a Financial Needs Analysis (FNA), showing their unmet need. Financial Needs Analysis must be completed and signed by a Financial Aid Officer, **No Exceptions**. Completed FNA will be sent directly from the institution of higher education to the MHA Education Grant program and must include the school's proper department & address for receipt of payment.

Students that have endured Special Circumstances (see definition in section 3.2-2) must provide the following:

Resolution by Three Affiliated Tribes Tribal Business Council (TBC)

1. Applicant must submit a completed application.
2. Applicant must submit FERPA Release Authorization.
3. Current official billing statement from the college and/or educational institution.
4. Applicants must submit the signed resolution from Three Affiliated Tribes Tribal Business Council.

Other (to be determined by the MHA Education Grant Manager)

1. Applicant must submit a completed application.
2. Applicant must submit FERPA Release Authorization.
3. Applicants must submit a letter explaining special circumstances.
4. Applicant must submit most recent unofficial college transcripts and must maintain the minimum GPA requirements to remain eligible for the MHA Education Grant program.
5. Current class schedule showing proof of enrollment.

6. Applicant must complete a FAFSA for the academic year in which they apply for the grant, verified by financial aid office.
7. Applicant must submit a Financial Needs Analysis (FNA), showing their unmet need. Financial Needs Analysis must be completed and signed by a Financial Aid Officer, **No Exceptions**. Completed FNA will be sent directly from the institution of higher education to the MHA Education Grant program and must include the school's proper department & address for receipt of payment.

III. Application Deadlines

Applications received after the term deadline will not be considered.

SEMESTER/TRIMESTER	Opening Date	Closing Date
Fall	July 15 th	October 15 th
Spring	November 15 th	February 15 th
Summer	April 15 th	June 15 th

QUARTER	Opening Date	Closing Date
Fall	July 15 th	October 15 th
Winter	November 15 th	February 15 th
Spring	May 15 th	July 15 th
Summer	June 15 th	September 15 th

3.4 Education Grant Probation, Termination, and Reinstatement and Applicant Responsibilities:

I. Academic Probation

- Students who drop below a cumulative 2.0 GPA will be allowed to receive funding for one additional term and must demonstrate a cumulative 2.0 GPA or higher at the end of the term.

II. Funding Termination

- Students who earn below a cumulative 2.0 GPA for two consecutive semesters or withdraw two consecutive semesters will be ineligible to receive funding for all MHA Education Grant funding opportunities. This aligns with federal PELL standards pertaining to Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).

III. Reinstatement Requirements

- Students must provide transcripts which demonstrate they have successfully earned a minimum of 12 credits per semester/trimester/quarter with a term 2.0 GPA or higher or provide favorable academic suspension appeal letter from a school official.

IV. Responsibilities of the Applicant

1. The applicant and/or recipient shall immediately report any change in enrollment, withdrawal, and/or transfer status to the MHA Education Grant program.
2. The applicant and/or recipient shall notify the MHA Education Grant program of his or her graduation date and certificate or degree to be conferred.
3. The applicant and/or recipient is responsible for understanding his/her rights and responsibilities regarding financial assistance and/or scholarships including the responsibility to be informed of policies herein.

3.5 Continuing Education Units Funding Opportunities

1. **Continuing Education Units (CEU's):** Eligible individuals who are required to pursue CEU's after formal education may receive a grant award to cover the cost of required CEU courses.
2. Applicants that would like to enhance their education or vocational training in their field, but applicant's desired courses are not considered CEU's, may apply for funding through Special Circumstances. (See section 3.2-2) Applicant must first apply for funding through 477 or WIOA. If denied, must provide denial letter with application for consideration.

3.6 Eligibility, Requirements, and Deadlines

I. Eligibility

1. Applicant must be an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

II. Requirements

All required documentation must be submitted prior to approval for funds and is required for grant program auditing purposes.

1. Applicants must submit the proper completed and signed application. Incomplete Applications will not be accepted.
2. Applicants must submit an official billing statement along with application in order to be eligible for funds.

III. Application Deadlines

Applications are to be submitted prior to the start date of CEU course.

Old Bill

Old Bill: Eligible Stop-out students who have not attended school for one (1) semester/trimester/quarter and are not able to gain admission or register due to an outstanding bill, may receive a **one-time** grant up to \$4,500 to pay an outstanding debt.

I. Eligibility

1. Applicant must be an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.
2. Applicant must be attempting to apply at an accredited college or university but are unable to due to outstanding educational debt.

II. Requirements

All required documentation must be submitted prior to approval for funds and is required for grant program auditing purposes.

1. Applicants must submit a completed application for the semester/trimester/quarter in which they seek funding.
2. Applicant must submit FERPA Release Authorization.
3. Applicants must submit a current official billing statement from the institution of higher education.
4. Applicants must submit the most current unofficial transcript or grade report from the last school attended and must have maintained the minimum GPA requirements.
5. Applicants must provide documentation showing inability to register due to outstanding debt.

III. Application Deadlines

Applications received after the term deadline will not be considered.

SEMESTER/TRIMESTER	Opening Date	Closing Date
Fall	July 15 th	October 15 th
Spring	November 15 th	February 15 th
Summer	April 15 th	June 15 th

QUARTER	Opening Date	Closing Date
Fall	July 15 th	October 15 th
Winter	November 15 th	February 15 th
Spring	May 15 th	July 15 th
Summer	June 15 th	September 15 th

Internships

Internships: Eligible full-time students may receive a **one-time** grant up to \$4,500 to assist with expenses related to internships. Award amounts are based upon financial need.

4.1 Eligibility, Requirements, and Deadlines

I. Eligibility

1. Applicant must be an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.
2. Applicant must be in good standing at an accredited college or university.
3. Applicant must be accepted into an internship and be able to provide a Letter of Acceptance.

II. Requirements

All required documentation must be submitted prior to approval for funds and is required for grant program auditing purposes.

1. Applicants must submit the proper completed and signed application, including budget form. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
2. Applicant must submit FERPA Release Authorization.
3. Applicants must apply for any financial assistance offered through internship program such as travel scholarships, stipends, etc.
4. Submit creative **Personal Statement** which is not to exceed 500 words. Use your statement to tell us about yourself describing the following:
 - a. your goals for this internship experience in the selected location
 - b. how you are uniquely qualified to receive funding
 - c. how our funding will help you reach your stated goals.
 - d. if applicable, your background and/or how you have overcome adversity as a traditionally under-represented student. Traditionally under-represented students in an internship include, but are not limited to, students identifying as a racial/ethnic minority, first-generation college student, student with financial need, veteran status, and/or a student who has demonstrated a history of overcoming adversity such as a physical, mental health, or learning disability.
5. Applicant must provide a Letter of Acceptance for the internship program.
6. Applicant must submit most recent unofficial college transcripts which show applicant is in good standing.

RETURN REQUIREMENT:

At the conclusion of the internship experience, selected recipients agree to submit a one-page statement and photo about their experience, including how it has affected them personally, professionally, and academically, and how it supported their endeavors. Once submitted, these

items become property of the MHA Education Grant and excerpts may be used in any/all MHA Education Grant electronic and printed publications.

III. Application Deadlines

Applications are to be submitted **no later** than one month prior to the start of applicant's internship.

5.1 Definitions:

Academic Term: Duration of one semester, one quarter, one trimester, or Summer session required for a specific institution.

Academic Year: Duration of two semesters, three quarters, and two trimesters, including appropriate summer session required by a specific institution.

Accredited Institution: A school in which all academic and vocational programs have been reviewed by the proper private accreditation groups in the U.S. and have been determined to meet the minimum standard.

Charter School: A public school that is run independent of a school district and may receive funds from private sources.

Continuing Education Unit: A continuing education unit or continuing education credit is a measure used in continuing education programs to assist the professional to maintain their license in their profession.

Continuing Student: Student who is currently enrolled in college or vocational school and has received the MHA Education Grant in previous semesters.

Credit Hour: A unit of measurement referring to the amount of credit a student receives for completion of one (1) or more courses per academic term. Credit Hours are measured differently according to whether the institution the student is attending is on the semester, quarter or trimester system.

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid is used by the federal government and schools to determine a student's eligibility for grants, awards, loans, and scholarships.

FERPA: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

Financial Needs Analysis: Form completed by Financial Aid staff that verifies a student's financial aid status, awards, and unmet need.

First-Time (New) Student: A student who is entering college or vocational school for the first time and has never previously attended.

Full-time Student: Undergraduate students enrolled in 12 or more credits in a single semester/quarter/trimester or 6 credit hours in the Summer. Graduate students enrolled in a minimum of nine (9) credit hours or number of credit hours as defined by institution's policy in a single semester/quarter/trimester.

Full-Time Status Clock Hour programs: 450 clock hours (or 13 weeks) out of 900 clock hours (26 weeks) in an academic year for Fall/Winter/Spring or 225 clock hours for Summer

Graduate Student: A student who has earned a bachelor's degree and is pursuing an advanced degree level such as a masters, professional degree (M.D. or J.D), or PhD.

Learning Center: Institution which provides supplemental and personalized instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, study skills, homework support, and test preparation.

Needs-Based Award: Grants or scholarships awarded based upon student's financial needs as determined by the FAFSA.

Part-time Student: enrolled in less than 12 credits in a single semester/quarter/trimester or less than 3 credit hours in the Summer.

Private School: A school supported by a private organization or private individuals rather than by the government.

Special Circumstance: Special Circumstances may include a student who does not meet all requirements for the MHA Education Grant, exceeds outlined funding limits, or applicants who have been approved for funding through resolution by TBC.

Stop-out Student: Student who has withdrawn or sat out for one semester or more and re-enrolls at a later date.

Undergraduate Student: A student who has completed high school or a GED and is working toward a certificate, associate's degree, or bachelor's degree.

Unmet Need: The difference between financial aid (PELL, scholarships, work-study, and grants) awarded and financial need (student budget and cost of attendance). The amount that remains after all financial has been awarded.

Cost of Attendance (COA)-Student Resources (PELL, scholarships, etc.) = unmet need