**Policy Title:** Native American Legacy Award Program

**Effective Date:**
5/31/2011
Revised: 6/18/2013

**Policy Owner:**
Vice President for Diversity
Vice President for Enrollment and Access

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**Policy Purpose and Effect**

**PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY**

The purpose of this University Policy is to authorize an award program (“Program”) for non-resident students who are (i) members of federally-recognized or state-recognized Native American Tribes, with historical ties to Colorado, or (ii) transferees from a Tribal College or Tribal University (provided that the student is also a registered member of a federally recognized tribe). A student who qualifies with either of these two criteria, and who cannot be classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes, will be eligible for this Program award.

**APPLICATION OF THIS POLICY**

This Policy applies to Eligible Students (as defined below) who enroll as non-resident, degree-seeking undergraduate or graduate students who are members of Native American tribes that are officially recognized under federal law or under the laws of any state in the United States, for Fall semester of FY 2011-12, or any semester thereafter. Students who are currently enrolled at the University, and who otherwise qualify as Eligible Students under this Policy, are eligible for this Program effective as of Fall semester, 2011-12, but shall not be entitled to any additional refund, discount or compensation for any prior term in which they were enrolled.

**EXEMPTIONS**

This policy does not apply to students enrolled in Continuing Education programs or other courses for which tuition is assessed without regard to residency, to Professional Veterinary Medicine students, to online students, or to any student who is not classified as a non-resident for tuition purposes in the semester for which the scholarship award is requested.
DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS POLICY

- Eligible Student means an active, full-time undergraduate or graduate, degree-seeking, non-resident student who establishes by evidence satisfactory to the University that he or she is either (i) the student is a registered member of a Federally-recognized or state-recognized Native American Tribe with Historical Ties to Colorado, or (ii) a transferee from an accredited Tribal College or Tribal University who is a registered member of any federally recognized tribe and who has at least 30 completed, transferable course credits. The student must be an admitted student enrolled in a full-time degree-seeking program on Colorado State University’s main campus for the fall or spring terms. CSU Online students are not eligible.

Federally-recognized Native American Tribes with Historical Ties to Colorado (or “Legacy Tribe”) means: (i) any of those tribes designated by the Colorado Commission on Indian Affairs as having a legacy of occupation in Colorado United States Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as eligible to receive services from the agency; and (ii) any other tribe with whom the University has a valid agreement at the time of enrollment to the effect that the tribe’s members will qualify for the tuition rate authorized under this Policy.

NAGPRA means the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and its implementing regulations.

State-recognized Native American Tribe means a tribe that is officially recognized under the laws or regulations of a state. Refer to the National Conference of State Legislatures list of Federal and State Recognized Tribes (see References, below).

POLICY STATEMENT

Colorado State University embraces the goal of supporting and creating diversity in our student body by recruiting Native American students. The objective of this policy is to recognize and promote the importance of our land grant institution to Native American tribes with an historical relationship to Colorado. CSU currently has agreements with several federally-recognized Indian Tribes that provide for tuition rates lower than the current base, non-resident rate for qualifying student members of those tribes. In order to avoid the necessity of entering into and repeatedly renewing such agreements with numerous tribes, CSU intends, through this policy, to join a number of institutions of higher education across
the country who offer differential tuition more favorable than standard non-resident rates to Native Americans.

CSU currently participates in a multilateral compact with other western states, the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program, which provides a reciprocal tuition benefit to students of member states. This policy is a natural extension of the philosophy underlying the University’s commitment to WUE, specifically as applied to potential students who identify with a Native American tribe that is a federally recognized tribe with historical ties to Colorado. Undergraduate students who qualify for this program may not simultaneously receive WUE funds, nor the CSU President’s Scholarship, Provost’s Scholarship, or Dean’s Scholarship awards.

1. The Colorado Commission on Indian Affairs (CCIA), in cooperation with the National Park Services NAGPRA Grants Program, maintains a list of Tribes with a legacy of occupation in Colorado (the “Tribal Contacts List”) that identifies Indian Tribes with whom the state and its agencies typically maintain governmental relations and agreements. CSU should align its policy with these relationships, as well as those with other Tribes that historically have had agreements with CSU regarding tuition rates, but be flexible enough to respond to changes in these underlying relationships over time. Therefore, this Policy will apply to the Legacy Tribes named in the Tribal Contacts List, and any other Tribes with whom CSU currently has a valid agreement respecting tuition rates when this Policy is adopted, subject to such modifications as may be determined necessary and appropriate from time to time by the President (or the President’s authorized designee), after consultation with the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) and the Vice Presidents for Diversity and Enrollment and Access (VPD and VPEA).

POLICY PROVISIONS

1. Pursuant to this policy, CSU will provide a Native American Legacy Award to the Eligible Student when first enrolling at CSU in an annual amount equal to $500 no less than the difference between the base nonresident and resident tuition costs at the time of the enrollment, and assuming and assuming (i.e., the student will be assessed an amount equal to the applicable resident tuition rate plus $250 per semester)ing full-time status. The amount of the scholarship award will be set by the University on an annual basis. For summer session and less than full-time enrollment, the amount will be prorated based on the number of credits taken. The scholarship award will be credited against the student’s tuition and is not payable in cash, nor will the student’s final tuition...
rate amount, including all scholarships, awards and stipends, be reduced below zero. (Note: students in this program will not be considered Colorado residents and are therefore ineligible for a Colorado Opportunity Fund stipend under existing Colorado law).

2. Graduate students who are non-residents may also be eligible for this program award. The Graduate School offers a Tuition Premium to students with Graduate Research Assistantship, Graduate Teaching Assistantship, and Fellowship Grant Trainee appointments, to pay the non-resident portion of the student’s tuition for the first year of enrollment. Eligible students receiving such Tuition Premiums may receive this award only to the extent that it does not exceed the actual cost of tuition after the Tuition Premium is applied.

A. Responsibilities and Procedures

3. The Vice President for Enrollment & Access (VPEA), through the Office of Admissions, the Department Office of Student Financial Aid Services and the Registrar’s Office, will be responsible for working with the CSU Native American Cultural Center, the Office of the General Counsel, and the Vice President for Diversity (VPD) to identify those Tribes that meet the requirements of this Policy for its members to be Eligible Students each semester, and to establish the procedures, forms and requirements for applicants seeking to qualify for the tuition rate authorized herein.

4. The student is responsible for self-identifying as a Native American of a federally-recognized or state-recognized Tribe at the time of application for admission and submitting supporting documentation at least 15 business days prior to the academic term for which the scholarship award is requested. Scholarship Awards will not be awarded retroactively.

5. The Department of Business & Financial Services shall be responsible for managing the assessment of tuition at the rate specified in this Policy to students who timely qualify for that rate as determined in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

The President shall be responsible for approving any changes to the list of Legacy Tribes whose members may be Eligible Students under this Policy.

REFERENCES AND CROSS-REFERENCES
Tribal Contacts List, Colorado Commission on Indian Affairs  


- National Conference of State Legislatures, list of Federal and State Recognized Tribes

APPROVALS

Approved on May 31, 2011 by Anthony A. Frank, President

Revision 1.01 approved June 18, 2013 by Amy L. Parsons, Vice President for University Operations

Revision 2.00 approved on _____________________ by Lynn Johnson, Vice President for University Operations