

Scholarships

Educational scholarships are available to income eligible participants in an amount up to \$350 per semester for required tuition, fees, books, supplies, tools, and uniforms for currently enrolled classes. Tuition and fees will only be allowed for students who do not receive financial aid or other financial assistance and will be paid directly to the college or university.

Reimbursement for books, supplies, tools, and uniforms for currently enrolled classes will be provided directly to the student upon receipt of class schedule and bookstore receipts within the **same month as the start of the semester**. Failure to meet this deadline may result in loss of this service.

Please note that we cannot reimburse for books and supplies when purchased using financial aid or other financial assistance.

Supportive Services

Limited funds are available to assist eligible participants with a one-time financial assistance payment for unexpected expenses such as emergency car repair or other needed services, so they may remain enrolled in a college or university. Students must request these funds in writing and include justification and verification of need. Funds will be distributed on an as-needed basis and may only be received one time during the academic year. Once funds are depleted, this service will not be available.

Failure to meet any of these guidelines may result in loss of service.

Addressing correspondence to the SUNS Program

To ensure accurate delivery of mailed correspondence, please include your name and the last four (4) digits of your social security number on all documents and remit to the following address.



NC Commission of Indian Affairs
Attention: SUNS Program
1317 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1317

Emailed correspondence should include **SUNS Program** in the subject line of the email. Please include your name, the last four (4) digits of your social security number and telephone number in the body of the email.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact:

Kimberly Hammonds
Economic Development Director
919-807-4440
kimberly.hammonds@doa.nc.gov

The SUNS Program is proudly sponsored by the Economic Development Program.

For more information on this program visit:
ncadmin.nc.gov/Commission-of-Indian-Affairs/SUNS

The SUNS Program is contingent upon availability of program funds.
Terms & conditions subject to change or end without notice.

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Image(s): Pexels - Todd Trapani

SUNS PROGRAM

Overview & Guidelines

Making College Dreams A Reality
2019-2020



NC DOA
Department of Administration



SUNS PROGRAM: Overview & Guidelines

The Supporting Undergraduate Native Students Program, also known as SUNS, is designed to provide financial assistance to income-eligible American Indian students enrolled full-time in an accredited North Carolina-based community college or university and assist them in pursuit of their educational goals.

During the fall and spring semesters, the SUNS Program provides incentive payments, scholarships and supportive services based on the following guidelines.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Gross Income Limits

Family Size*	Income
1	\$15,613
2	\$21,138
3	\$26,663
4	\$32,188
5	\$37,713
6	\$43,238
7	\$48,763
8	\$54,288

Total gross household income must be at or below the amount listed. Amount subject to change as required by the funding agency.



**A family is defined as two (2) or more persons related by birth, marriage, and/or adoption who reside together and are considered one family unit. However, if the student is determined "independent" at the time of the SUNS Program application approval, they would be considered a household of one.*

In addition to gross household income requirements, SUNS Program participants must:

- Maintain full-time enrollment (12 credit hours or more) in a North Carolina-based accredited community college or university, unless they are a senior and will graduate during the 2019-2020 academic year.
- Submit a copy of their official class schedule within the same month as the start of each semester.
- Maintain a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) or greater throughout the program. Participants must submit a copy of their transcript or grade report within the same month as the end of the semester.
- Notify the SUNS Program of any changes to their telephone number, address or academic status (i.e., add, drop, enroll less than 12 credit hours or official withdraw from the semester) within the same month as the change occurred.
- Submit all required documentation.
- Attend Annual Academic Success Workshop.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

Incentive Payments

Academic excellence incentive payments are awarded to students who have a cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher at the end of the academic year (May). Incentive payment amounts will vary depending on the number of students eligible and the amount of funding received.

To receive **graduation incentive payments** students must provide verification of graduation with at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA and degree awarded within the **same month as graduation**. Incentive payment amounts will vary depending on the number of students eligible and the amount of funding received.

Semester completion incentive payments are awarded in an amount up to \$125 per academic term for students who have a 2.0 GPA or higher. To receive reimbursement, students must provide a copy of their transcript or grade report within the **same month as the end of the semester**.

Travel incentive payments will be given to students participating in the Annual Academic Success Workshop in May. Eligible students will receive up to \$100 to assist with any travel expenses incurred.

