



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Temporarily Amending the Tribe's Higher Education Policies and Procedures Manual and Allocating \$500.00 per Student Relief Payment)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ("Constitution") provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council ("Council") shall exercise the power "[t]o represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decision not inconsistent with or contrary to this constitution"; and

WHEREAS, The Scholarship Review Committee was established in 1995 at the recommendation of the audit team that investigated the embezzlement of scholarship funds under previous management and normally reviews and approves scholarship awards; and

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 worldwide pandemic has affected Hon-Dah Casino's income, thus disrupting normal contributions to the Tribe's Office of Higher Education for scholarship purposes; and

WHEREAS, In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and for the purposes speeding up reviews and awards, and processing payments under the CARES Act, which has a deadline of December 30, 2020, where applicable, the Higher Education Coordinator, this day, requests that Council approve his suggested amendments to the Tribe's Higher Education Policies and Procedures Manual ("Manual"), to wit:

1. Allow the Office of Higher Education to review, approve, and make awards rather than the Scholarship Review Committee;
2. Allow currently funded students to submit their unofficial transcripts for the Fall 2020 academic term as soon as possible with the understanding that if students aren't funded for another term then they must submit their official transcript;
3. Require all students to submit their official transcripts at the end of Spring 2021 academic term;
4. Waive the Financial Needs Analysis for currently funded students with an outstanding FNA and for those students currently applying for the Spring 2021 term who don't have one on file after the November 30th deadline; and
5. Allow the Office of Higher Education to hear and render decisions to student appeals and allow students to appeal any decision of the Office of Higher Education to the Tribal Education Director who will have final say in the matter so long as the decision doesn't contradict the current Higher Education Policies and Procedures Manual not affected by this resolution.

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WHEREAS, Students have been hit especially hard by the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects, and the Council finds that a \$500.00 per student relief payment is necessary and proper, to be paid using CARES Act funds, to every college student enrolled during the Fall 2020 Semester; and

WHEREAS, The Council has reviewed the suggested amendments to the Manual and finds them to be in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the following amendments to the Tribe's Higher Education Policies and Procedures Manual, to be effective only for the Spring 2020 funding cycle:

1. Allow the Office of Higher Education to review, approve, and make awards rather than the Scholarship Review Committee.
2. Allow currently funded students to submit their unofficial transcripts for the Fall 2020 academic term as soon as possible with the understanding that if students aren't funded for another term then they must submit their official transcript.
3. Require all students to submit their official transcripts at the end of Spring 2021 academic term;
4. Waive the Financial Needs Analysis for currently funded students with an outstanding FNA and for those students currently applying for the Spring 2021 term who don't have one on file after the November 30th deadline;
5. Allow the Office of Higher Education to hear and render decisions to student appeals and allow students to appeal any decision of the Office of Higher Education to the Tribal Education Director who will have final say in the matter so long as the decision doesn't contradict the current Higher Education Policies and Procedures Manual not affected by this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs the Office of Higher Education to work with the Tribal Treasurer to effectuate this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby allocates sufficient funds from the Tribal CARES Act award to make a \$500.00 relief payment to each Tribal member student who is enrolled in an accredited college during the Fall 2020 semester.

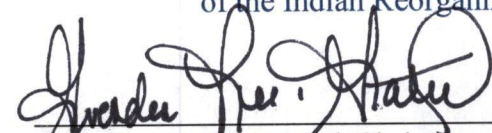
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

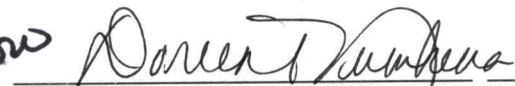
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairwoman, or in her absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

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The foregoing resolution was on **NOVEMBER 12, 2020** duly adopted by a vote of **TEN** for, **ZERO** against, and **ZERO** abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).


Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman


Date


Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary


Date