

Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority

SIGA First Nations Scholarship
Awards Program



About Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA)

Sharing Success... through the provision of superior gaming operations services.

Since being incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1996, SIGA has become a catalyst in the Saskatchewan economy. By combining gaming with traditional First Nations hospitality, our patrons are treated to a truly unique entertainment experience.

As a non-profit organization, SIGA's gaming operations are a revenue source for the Provincial Treasury, Saskatchewan's First Nations and for Community Development Corporations (CDCs) situated in six casino locations. The CDCs distribute this money to charitable and not-for-profit community organizations. SIGA is responsible for the daily management and operation of accounting and auditing systems, the conduct of casino activities, the procurement and maintenance of gaming equipment and the casino's game delivery, in addition to security and surveillance.

SIGA operates six properties: Bear Claw Casino (White Bear), Dakota Dunes Casino (Whitecap Dakota First Nation/Saskatoon), Gold Eagle Casino (North Battleford), Northern Lights Casino (Prince Albert), Painted Hand Casino (Yorkton) and Living Sky Casino (Swift Current). SIGA casinos entertain over three million guests annually. The organization is currently ranked in Saskatchewan's top 40 companies with annual revenues of \$190M and net profits of \$60M. In 2007, SIGA was named "Business of the Year" by SaskBusiness Magazine and won the ABEX Award for job creation in 2008.

Being a responsible corporate citizen is important to SIGA. The organization invests \$2.25M annually to the First Nations Addiction Rehabilitation Foundation and is committed to Responsible Gaming through public awareness, education and training programs. SIGA also provides in excess of a million dollars in financial support to hundreds of community groups and initiatives in Saskatchewan annually through our Community Relations Sponsorship Program. SIGA is committed to developing, fostering and reaffirming partnerships in the community. Our vision speaks to "Sharing Success" and by giving back to the community, all people will benefit.

As the largest employer of First Nations people in this province, we currently employ approximately 2,100 employees (65% First Nations). In addition, SIGA employs 80% First Nations within the organization's management positions.

SIGA is a technology-driven, progressive organization with a wide range of career opportunities available. We take pride in being a preferred employer, and aspire to attract the best and brightest to become part of our family. As a First Nations organization employing First Nations people, SIGA has adopted principles to encourage balance, while incorporating the traditional aspects of First Nations culture. The principle of Tâpwêwin

advocates *speaking with precision and accuracy*. For SIGA from a business perspective, it means we must be accountable and conduct business with integrity, honour and discipline. Miskâsowin represents the value of *finding one's sense of origin and belonging*. This fundamental goal is to bring about a positive sense of origin and belonging in a predominantly First Nations employee base, leading to confident, productive and fulfilled employees. *Living together on the land* is the fundamental value conveyed by the word Wîtaskêwin. SIGA's vision statement, "Sharing Success," speaks to the concept of sharing the land or, in today's terms, sharing resources. This value inspires us to give back to the communities where we live and work.

SIGA believes its greatest asset is its people and by investing in employees, SIGA will position itself as the *'employer of choice'*. SIGA is committed to providing high quality support services for all its employees through career planning, training and development.



SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program

SIGA Scholarship Application Form Included

In carrying out our mandate to create employment and generate strong financial returns for First Nations people, the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA) has established the SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program. This program develops First Nations professionals by assisting with the post-secondary education of outstanding First Nations students in selected fields.

Type of Scholarship available

- Two (2) \$5,000 Scholarships are for students in Information Technology; a Commerce program (majoring in Human Resources, Accounting, Finance or Marketing); or Hospitality and Tourism Management.
- Two (2) \$2,500 Scholarships are for students in Communications or Electronics.
- Ten (10) \$1,000 Scholarships are for students in any chosen field.

Selection Criteria

The SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program provides an opportunity for First Nations students within the province to successfully obtain certification from a recognized post-secondary institute.

To be eligible for a scholarship award, the applicant must:

- be First Nations
- be a Saskatchewan resident
- preference may be given to candidates enrolled in a full-time program at a recognized institute within the province of Saskatchewan

Required Information

It is critical for applicants to include all information required to be eligible for the SIGA Scholarship Award. Applications may be refused if incomplete documentation is provided or if the application is submitted past the deadline date.

- Complete the SIGA Scholarship Award Application
- Letter of acceptance to a recognized institute
- Most recent transcripts of educational program
- Updated resume and cover letter

- Three (3) character and/or work reference letters
- Essay (Include career goal/objective and reason(s) why you should be selected (Limit to 500 words). Applicants are encouraged to discuss and provide samples of their participation within the community, volunteer activities and how they balance family, employment and education).

Mail completed package to:

Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority
Attention: SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Committee
250 – 103C Packham Avenue
Saskatoon, SK
S7N 4K4

Deadline for Application

The SIGA Scholarship Award application must be postmarked no later than July 31 of each year. The scholarship applications are not retained past the award year. Candidates must apply for scholarships for each year of study.

Selection of Recipients

The SIGA Scholarship Awards selection committee will ensure that each application is given a fair and consistent assessment through an open and transparent review process. Based on the application, the selection committee will focus on the following:

- commitment to the chosen field
- level of community participation within cultural events through volunteer and charity involvement
- the individual's needs by reviewing financial status

Personal information will be separated from the application. The selection committee will review the results and determine winners based on selection criteria. Scholarship winners will be notified by October 31 of each year.

Questions?

Any questions you have can be directed to: Corporate Affairs

By phone: (306) 477-7777

By email: siga@siga.sk.ca



Application Form

Personal Information:

Mr./Mrs./Ms. First Name Last Name Initial M/F

Mailing Address

Street Address City/Town Province Postal Code

Permanent Address

Street Address City/Town Province Postal Code

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Telephone

Cell / Business

E-mail Address

Marital Status: Single Married Other

DECLARATION AND CONSENT:

I HAVE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS, AND HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION FOR THE SIGA FIRST NATIONS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM, AND DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

I certify that the information given on this application is accurate and complete. I understand that should I, in any way, provide SIGA with false information or facts, my application may be rejected. I acknowledge that the information provided on this application will determine my eligibility for financial need-based assistance administered by Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority. If any of the information provided on this application should change, I understand that it is my responsibility to advise the SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program of any such changes. I will notify the SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program if I withdraw before completing my studies.

I understand that the personal information I have provided on this form will be used by SIGA and the SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program for administrative purposes

only in administering the SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program. I authorize the SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program to request and receive information pertaining specifically to my academic performance and enrollment status. I authorize the release and exchange of personal information by and between the SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program and any provincial or federal government departments, boards or institutions to verify the information I have provided. I agree to allow my personal information (including my photograph) to be released publicly if I receive a scholarship.

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| Signature | Date |

For internal tracking purposes only

Application # _____ **Date Received:** _____

Please ensure Application # is also recorded on page 2 of the application form.
Remove page 1 of the application form and store in a separate, secured area.

For internal tracking purposes only

Application # _____ **Date Received:** _____

Please ensure Application # is also recorded on page 1 of the application form.

Which Scholarship are you applying for?

Please check one:

Two (2) \$5,000 Scholarships are for students in:

___ Information Technology

___ Commerce program (majoring in Human Resources, Accounting, Finance or Marketing)

___ Hospitality and Tourism Management

Two (2) \$2,500 Scholarships are for students in:

___ Communications

___ Electronics

Ten (10) \$1,000 Scholarships are for students in any chosen field:

___ Identify Major:

First Nation Declaration

I am: First Nation* Status (Treaty Card Number)_____
 Non-Status

Please identify your Tribal Council: _____

Band: _____

*As defined by section 16 (II) of The Interpretation Act, *AN ACT RESPECTING THE INTERPRETATION OF FEDERATION OF SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN NATIONS ENACTMENTS*, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, October 2007, p.4.

Program of Study

Name of Institution _____ Program/Field _____

Length of program (years) _____ Start Date _____ Expected Graduation Date _____

Check one: Diploma Undergraduate Masters Doctorate

Personal Financial Information:

What is your anticipated earnings during the school year, including financial assistance (i.e. student loan, band funding (if applicable), other scholarship(s), etc.): \$ _____

Number of dependants: _____

Please briefly describe your need for financial assistance:

Tuition: \$ _____

Rent: \$ _____

Utilities (Sk. Power, Sk. Energy, Water, phone, etc): \$ _____

Transportation (Bus pass, gas, parking): \$ _____

Childcare: \$ _____

Groceries: \$ _____

Misc: \$ _____

Other (please explain): _____

Please attach your essay:

- Include career goals/objectives and reasons why you should be selected (limit to 500 words).
- Applicants are encouraged to discuss and provide samples of their participation within the community, volunteer activities and how they balance family, employment and education.

How did you hear about the SIGA First Nations Scholarship Awards Program?

Newspaper Friend/Colleague Band Office School Other_____

Are you interested in exploring career opportunities with SIGA? Yes No

_____ Co-op

_____ Internship

_____ Employment upon Convocation

_____ All of the Above

Checklist of required documents:

Please ensure you have included all requirements of the SIGA Scholarship Program. Incomplete applications will not be considered. It is your responsibility to ensure your application is complete.

Completed package includes:

- Completed SIGA Scholarship Award Application form
- Letter of acceptance to a recognized post-secondary institute
- Most recent transcripts of educational program
- Updated resume and cover letter
- Three (3) character and/or work reference letters
- Essay (Include career goal/objective and reason(s) why you should be selected (Limit to 500 words). Applicants are encouraged to discuss and provide samples of their participation within the community, volunteer activities and how they balance family, employment and education).

Send complete application package to:

Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority
Attention: SIGA Scholarship Committee
250 – 103C Packham Avenue
Saskatoon, SK
S7N 4K4



*The SIGA Scholarship Award application must be postmarked no later than **July 31** of each year.

