

TRUMAN D. PICARD SCHOLARSHIP FACTS & QUESTIONS FOR APPLYING

FOR NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS
IN NATURAL RESOURCE MAJORS



BACKGROUND AND AWARD AMOUNTS

- First awarded in 1988 in honor of Truman Picard, Colville forester and member of ITC Board of Directors
- Enrolled tribal members pursuing natural resource degrees
- 603 scholarship recipients and \$1,294,000 awarded to date
- \$4,000 for college students, graduate students, and graduating college seniors applying/accepted for graduate school studying Forestry or Fire
- \$3,000 for college students, graduate students, and graduating college seniors applying/accepted for graduate school studying Natural Resources
- \$2,000 high school students studying Natural Resources, Forestry or Fire

ELIGIBILITY

- Must be an enrolled member or descendent enrolled of a federally recognized tribe or Alaska Native Corporation
- College students: Must be a natural resource major (examples: forestry, hydrology, wildlife & fisheries, natural resource management or environmental studies.)
- High school students: Must be enrolled in natural resource courses
- College seniors not eligible unless they are applying to graduate school
- All natural resources degrees accepted, but preference will be given to students whose degree or area of study directly involves management of Forest Resources.
- Award given in summer 2025 and intended to support student for fall 2025

THE PROCESS

- Members of the ITC Education Committee will review applications
- Each reviewer grades applications on a 1–5-point basis for each of 5 categories (25 points total). Scores for all reviewers are added together and candidates ranked.
- Categories are: 1) essay questions 2) resume 3) academic merit 4) financial need 5) three letters of reference

APPLY ONLINE FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP

- **Complete the form online at <https://app.ezfiledrop.com/546117/picard-2026> and upload all required documents.** No account is required. The form will not save your progress; therefore, you must have all required documents prior to starting the application. The Scholarship Selection Committee will review and rank applicants who completely address each section.
 - Your name, email, permanent mailing address, and phone number
 - Award category, school you are currently enrolled in or applied/accepted to, major category, declared major, expected graduation date, and school you will attend in fall 2026

REQUIRED MATERIALS-

I) ESSAY QUESTIONS

- This is required and is worth up to 5 points - it is a great opportunity to introduce yourself to the reviewers
- Essay - Discussing the following three (3) questions, be as specific as possible:
1) Academic interest in Forestry and/or Wildland Fire Management 2)
Commitment to education, community, and your culture 3) Financial need
- Successful applicants frequently talk not only about themselves, but their tribe and the applicant's relationship to the land, culture and how it relates to their field of study in natural resources
- Career goals and family are often also mentioned- tell the story of why you are in college and why you want assistance from an intertribal forestry group
- Discuss why you need the financial assistance and how you would use it

REQUIRED MATERIALS-

2) RESUME

- Worth up to 5 points
- There is no required “correct” format- just make it easy to read and well organized
- Highlight education and work experience. If you have natural resource work and/or volunteer experience, make sure you detail it
- If you don’t, no worries, list any work and volunteer experience
- Membership in clubs or groups, awards, etc. are all worth mentioning

REQUIRED MATERIALS-

3)THREE LETTERS OF REFERENCE

- Three letters of reference required - worth in total up to 5 points
- Letters must be signed (digital & electronic signature accepted), dated, and on letterhead (or reference the organization that the person represents). General letters of reference are ok, but need to be less than 6 months old
- Think strategically about who you will ask and give them a bit of time. When possible, get a mix of academic and work references. Personal references (friends of the family, a pastor etc.) are also acceptable, but in general solid references from instructors and employers tend to carry the most weight
- Open sealed documents, if applicable
- Reference letters will not be accepted directly from references. They should be uploaded with your online application

REQUIRED MATERIALS-

4) PROOF OF TRIBAL ENROLLMENT

- This is not a graded category, but to have your application accepted by ITC you must prove that you are a member or descendant of a federally recognized tribe or Alaska Native Corporation
- Accepted documents include a photocopy of your member or descendent enrollment card, front and back; Or completed BIA Form 4432 Verification of Indian Preference for Employment, download at <https://bit.ly/BIAForm4432>
- Proof of parent enrollment or birth certificate is not accepted; it must be a copy of the applicant's enrollment card, descendant enrollment card, or BIA Form 4432

REQUIRED MATERIALS- 5)TRANSCRIPTS AND GPA

- This is the major piece of evidence for the Academic merit (1-5 points) category
- Transcripts can be unofficial; you can print copies available to you through you College and include them in the packet
- If you have attended multiple institutions, it is always good to include all transcripts
- Provide proof of declared major, current class schedule, and GPA

REQUIRED MATERIALS-

6) FREE APPLICATION FOR STUDENT AID (FASFA)

- NOTE- ALL applicants must submit a FAFSA report to demonstrate need. You don't have to have "unmet need" in the FAFSA - just include it (reviewers rate financial need on a 1-5 scale)
- If it has not been completed, include last year's report
- **View your online FAFSA Submission Summary by logging in to <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/sign-in/landing>** to your StudentAid.gov account Dashboard, selecting your processed FAFSA submission from the "My Activity" section, and selecting "View FAFSA Submission Summary" or contacting the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243 and request a mailed copy (10–14 days delivery).

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Download the Truman D. Picard Scholarship announcement and application checklist** from the ITC website at www.itcnet.org/about_us/scholarships.html

DELIVERY OF APPLICATION

Applications are accepted by completing the online application.

- **Submission Deadline:** Applications must be submitted **before** the close of business (5:00 p.m. Pacific Time) **March 20, 2026**. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Inquiries should be directed to:

Intertribal Timber Council

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