

## The Pokagon/Bison Scholarship

### Purpose:

To provide each graduate of New Buffalo Area Schools (School Code 11-200) an opportunity to attend post-secondary education.

To use revenues as a result of a compact between the state of Michigan and the Pokagon Indian Tribe for these scholarship funds

The New Buffalo Board of Education will determine available amounts from this "payment in lieu of taxes" distributed through the Local Revenue Sharing Board on an annual basis. If the compact changes or ceases to exist, this scholarship fund may be modified or terminated.

### Eligibility:

1. All students who graduate from New Buffalo Area Schools (NBAS), are residing in the district, and have been NBAS students 9 -12 grades, or longer. (Enrollment in grades nine through twelve and residency must be continuous.)
2. Enrolled and attending a post-secondary degree or certification program at any accredited institution.

If requirements are not met in items a – c below, a student will be ineligible and an appeal process will be required:

- a. Must maintain a 2.0 grade point average or be achieving adequate progress in a certification program.
  - b. Complete a minimum of six credit hours per term.
  - c. If the GPA drops below 2.0, or fails to meet the credit requirement, a student may appeal to be reinstated if he/she is able to bring their GPA back to at least a 2.0.
  - d. Ineligible students may appeal to the Pokagon/Bison Scholarship Board, its Appeals Committee, or designee for probationary status.
3. All students enrolled during 2009-2010 are eligible for a scholarship regardless of residency and if they are continuously enrolled in grades 9-12. Beginning with 2010-2011, new non-residents will not qualify.

### Extent of Benefits:

The scholarship will be granted on the basis of length of attendance and residency in the NBAS district.

1. \$5,000/year maximum for five years within a ten year period, not to exceed \$25,000.
2. Military exception: number of military years within the ten year period will not be deducted from total.
3. Enrolled by grade 5 or before and then continuous enrollment: 100%  
Enrolled by grades 6, 7, or 8 and then continuous enrollment: 90%  
Enrolled by grade 9 and then continuous enrollment: 80%

### Terms of Scholarship:

This scholarship program provides up to five (5) years of post-secondary educational expenses (per the scale above). The student must complete a minimum of six (6) credit hours per term. Individual summer school classes will be covered as long as the class applies toward the degree or certification program in which the student is enrolled and is taken at their designated school. A special permission form must be completed and approved in order to take summer classes at other than the current school of enrollment.

The post-secondary education must be completed within 10 years of the date of high school graduation. Exceptions to this requirement are granted for military service (equal to one additional year for each year of active military service).

### Documentation Requirements:

Scholarship recipients must submit:

- a Pokagon/Bison Scholarship application form,
- a Pokagon/Bison Scholarship acceptance form, and
- a transcript from the previous term indicating at a minimum: classes taken, grades and credit hours for those classes and cumulative GPA. (Provisions may be made to have this submitted by the post-secondary institution.)
- All changes to contact information as they occur. This includes home and school addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses.
- A Pokagon/Bison Scholarship transfer form if changing educational institution, and
- A Pokagon/Bison Scholarship summer school exception form in order to take classes at a different educational institution.

### Distribution of Scholarship Funds:

All funds will be paid directly from an invoice. Funds will be paid a maximum of three times per year.

Any refunds due to the scholarship will be paid directly to the Pokagon/Bison Scholarship.

### Exceptions:

No exceptions to the above requirements will be allowed unless approved by the Pokagon/Bison Scholarship Board, its Appeals Committee or their designee.

Appeals are initiated by contacting the Bison/Pokagon Scholarship Executive Administrator. Student will be responsible for requesting appeal process.

APPLICATION FOR THE POKAGON/BISON SCHOLARSHIP

(Must be submitted to the Administrative Office by graduation.)

I am requesting funding from the Pokagon/Bison Scholarship plan.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The following is my qualification information:

I was enrolled in NBAS in these grades: \_\_\_\_\_

I have been a resident of the New Buffalo school district during:

Grades: \_\_\_\_\_ and during these years: \_\_\_\_\_

As a non-resident, I was enrolled during the 2009-2010 school year: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of graduation from New Buffalo Area Schools: \_\_\_\_\_

The schools listed below are the colleges/universities that I am considering for enrollment and use of the Pokagon/Bison Scholarship. List your choices in order of preference. You only are required to list one.

School 1: \_\_\_\_\_

School 2: \_\_\_\_\_

School 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Undecided: \_\_\_\_\_

My signature below indicates that I have read and understand the terms of this scholarship and the information I have provided above concerning residency and enrollment in the New Buffalo Area Schools district is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the Board of Education will determine funds available on an annual basis and that these scholarship funds may be modified or terminated. Any false information/statements will make this application null and void.

Student (Student must sign.): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different than above)

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

