

# **Financial Aid**

## **Financial Aid Philosophy**

The primary purpose of student aid is to provide financial resources to students who would otherwise be unable to pursue post secondary education. At IAIA, every effort is made to meet the demonstrated need of all students.

IAIA awards financial aid based on demonstrated financial need, except when funds are specified for recognition of special talents. However, when aid is not need based and represents a significant portion of institutional assistance, IAIA makes every effort to redirect funds to assist students with a demonstrated financial need. In addition, IAIA continually monitors need-based financial aid awards, so students do not exceed their documented need.

IAIA recognizes that the student and the student's family (for dependent students) bear the primary responsibility for financing the student's post-secondary education. Financial assistance is meant to supplement the student's or the family's financial contribution.

IAIA provides assistance for students to look for, obtain, and make the best use of all available financial resources. In addition, IAIA protects the confidentiality of the economic circumstances of students and their family. Student records are confidential. Information will only be released with written consent from the student.

## **Nondiscrimination Policy**

IAIA does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, handicap, national or ethnic background in its admissions or educational policies, financial aid, in employment, or in accordance of rights, privileges and activities generally made available at this educational institution.

## **Needs Analysis: Determining Eligibility for Financial Aid**

The amount of financial aid a student can receive is based on a student's federally determined financial need. A student's financial need is defined as the total Cost of Attendance (COA) minus the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

COA includes the following elements: tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, and reasonable personal expenses. For students with children, COA may include daycare expenses. The school determines COA. However, federal law determines the elements of COA.

After a student applies for federal student aid, the information reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used to determine the student's EFC.

The EFC is based on income, assets, expenses, size of family, age of parents, number of working parents, number of students in college (excluding parents), and extraordinary circumstances.

At IAIA, a student's financial aid package, or a student's sources of available aid, may include the following:

- Federal Pell Grant,
- Federal Supplementary Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG),
- Federal Work Study,
- New Mexico State Aid, and
- Private Scholarships.

## **Federal Student Aid**

Federal Student Aid is administered by the U.S. Department of Education. Applying for Federal Financial Aid is free. The free application is called the FAFSA. The FAFSA must be completed to determine a student's need. There are three common types of Federal Financial Aid—grants, loans, and work-study.

### **Types of Aid**

**Grants** are financial aid funds that do not have to be repaid. Grants are based on need, cost of attendance, and enrollment status. There are two types of Federal Grants—the Federal Pell Grant and the FSEOG. FSEOG funds are limited and are awarded to students with exceptional financial need in accordance with federal guidelines. New Mexico Student Supplemental Incentive Grants are targeted to New Mexico residents and are supplemental to other forms of financial aid.

**Loans** are borrowed funds that must be repaid with interest. There are two main loan programs—Federal Stafford Loans and Perkins Loans. IAIA chooses not participate in Federal Loan Programs.

**Work-study** is a form of self-help. Work-study enables students to earn money while in school to help pay for educational costs. Students who are interested in work-study positions must contact the Placement Office and the Financial Aid Office.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

In order to receive Federal Student (Title IV) Aid, a student must meet all of the following criteria:

- Demonstrate Financial Need,
- Have earned a high school diploma or General Education Development (GED) Certificate, pass a test or meet standards approved by the U.S. Department of Education, or have

completed high school education in a home school approved by the applicable state,

- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a regular student in an eligible program,
- Be enrolled at least half-time,
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen,
- Have a valid Social Security Number,
- Meet Satisfactory Academic Progress at the attending school,
- Certify that you will use Federal Student Aid only for educational purposes,
- Not have borrowed in excess of aggregate or annual Federal Student Loan (Title IV) limits,
- Not be default on a Federal Student Loan (Title IV loan)
- Not owe a repayment for a Federal Student Grant (Title IV grant), and
- Comply with the Selective Service registration.

In addition, students who are convicted under federal or state law of the sale or possession of illegal drugs are suspended from eligibility. The period of ineligibility varies. If you have questions about drug conviction eligibility suspension, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

### **Native American Born in Canada**

Students with at least 50% Native American blood who are born in Canada have certain unique rights under the Jay Treaty of 1794 and are eligible for Title IV financial assistance.

### **International Students**

International students are not eligible for Title IV funding.

### **Students with Degrees**

Students with previous baccalaureate degrees are not eligible for the Federal Pell Grant. However, they may apply for jobs in the work study program.

## **Applying for the FAFSA**

There are four different ways to apply: FAFSA on the Web, completing (and mailing) a paper FAFSA, Renewal FAFSA, or completing a paper FAFSA and bringing it to the IAIA Financial Office to enter. IAIA recommends FAFSA on the Web or Renewal FAFSA on the Web. There are two steps to completing your FAFSA online:

1. Register for a Personal Identification Number (PIN) at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov), and
2. Complete a FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

For additional information log on to [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov). Paper FAFSAs are available at IAIA, local libraries, high schools, and other colleges.

In order for IAIA to have access to a student's information, a student must put IAIA's school code on the FAFSA. The IAIA school code is **014152**. For help when completing the FAFSA, a student may contact IAIA's Financial Aid Office (505) 424-2330 or (800) 804-6422.

### **FAFSA Processing**

After a FAFSA is processed, a Student Aid Report (SAR) is sent to the student and an Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) is sent to the school(s) that is listed on the student's FAFSA. Some FAFSAs are selected for verification. If a student's FAFSA is selected for verification, the student must complete and submit a verification worksheet (available at IAIA's Financial Aid Office) and other specified documentation.

In addition, other information or documentation maybe required. The school cannot disburse Federal funding without collecting the appropriate documentation or information. Corrections to FAFSA information maybe needed before a student's financial need can be determined and financial aid can be packaged. ***It is the student's responsibility to keep in contact with the IAIA Financial Aid Office and to turn in required documents, if applicable.***

### **Independent Student Status**

A student is considered dependent on parental support unless the student is 24 years old or older, is a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, is an orphan or ward of the court, has legal dependents other than a spouse, is married, is a graduate or professional student, or, through documentation provided to the IAIA Financial Aid Office, determined to be independent by reason of unusual circumstances.

Students who feel that they are in an exceptional situation and wish to be considered independent must speak with the Financial Aid Office staff. Each case will be treated on an individual basis. Exceptional situations must be documented. The decision from the Financial Aid Office is final.

### **FAFSA Deadlines**

If applying for the fall semester, students should submit their FAFSA by **April 1**. If applying for the spring semester, students are should submit their FAFSA by **December 1**.

## **FAFSA Reapplication**

A FAFSA is good for one academic year. The 2003 – 2004 FAFSA can be used for the Fall 2003 and Spring 2004 Semesters. The 2004 – 2005 FAFSA can be used for the Fall 2004 and Spring 2005 Semesters. The 2005 – 2006 FAFSA can be used for the Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 Semesters. Students who continue to pursue their education must reapply once each academic year. The FAFSA deadlines are listed above.

## **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)**

Due to federal regulations and requirements, federal financial aid recipients must comply with definitive academic standards. There are three components to the regulated academic standards: qualitative progress, completion rate, and maximum time frame. IAIA standards for each component are detailed below.

**Qualitative Progress:** Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 2.0 (a C average). Remedial coursework grades are not computed in the CGPA.

**Completion Rate:** Students must complete a minimum of 70% of their registered coursework at IAIA. Courses with grades of audit (AU), withdraw pass (WP), withdraw fail (WF), and incomplete (I) are not considered completed coursework. If a student retakes a course, the repeated course is included in the calculation. An example of the completion rate is as follows: if a student registers for 12 credit hours, the student must at least complete 9 credit hours.

**Maximum Time Frame:** Students must complete their program of study within 150% of their required credit hours. In other words, if a student is enrolled in a 63 credit hour program, the student's allowable time frame is 94 credits. Students who reach the maximum allowable time frame without completing their degree requirements will be suspended from receiving financial aid. Remedial coursework is not included in this calculation. Repeated courses and transfer credits accepted by IAIA towards the student's degree are included in the maximum time frame calculation.

## **Financial Aid Probation**

Students are automatically placed on Financial Aid Probation for one semester after the first semester they fail to meet qualitative or completion rate requirements of SAP. Students can continue to receive aid during their probationary period.

## **Financial Aid Conditional Probation**

Students who are able to demonstrate that SAP was made the preceding semester (by establishing a 2.0 GPA and completing 70% of their coursework), but who would normally be placed on Financial Aid Suspension, will be placed on Conditional Probation. Students are eligible to receive aid during their conditional probationary

period. Students who fail to meet the maximum time frame requirement are not eligible for Conditional Probation.

## **Financial Aid Suspension**

Students who do not meet SAP by the end of their probationary semester are suspended from receiving financial aid. Students on Financial Aid Suspension will not receive federal or state financial aid.

## **Appeal Process**

Students who have been placed on Financial Aid Suspension and wish to petition that their suspensions were not valid must submit their appeal letters to the Financial Aid Office. The appeal must be submitted within 30 days of their Financial Aid Suspension notification letter. The appeal must include the student's name, date, mitigating circumstances for the appeal, and signature. Mitigating circumstances may include but are not limited to the following: family death, divorce, and health problems. The Financial Aid Office will review the appeal and may request additional verification paperwork from the student in order to document the appeal. The Financial Aid Office's decision is final. The student will be notified within 10 days of receiving the appeal letter.

## **Financial Aid Refund Policy**

If students withdraw from all courses prior to completing 60% of the semester and who receive Title IV funding, the students may owe a refund for some or all of the federal financial aid received. Title IV funding is earned on a proportional basis. If a student completes 20% of the semester (the percentage of days completed in school), then the student earns 20% the student's allotted Title IV financial aid for the semester. If the Title IV funding paid for the student's institutional charges (tuition, fees, room and board, and books), 80% of the Title IV funding must be returned to the Department of Education. If the student received a credit on the student's account and the credit was refunded to the student, the student is required to pay 50% of the unearned grant back.

## **IAIA Scholarships**

### **IAIA Tuition Scholarship**

Eligibility: The IAIA Tuition Scholarship is a need-based scholarship. To be eligible for the award, a student must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized American Indian Tribe or Alaska Native Corporation, submit a copy of a Certificate of Indian Blood or other eligible documentation, submit a FAFSA, have a demonstrated financial need, maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (CGPA\*), and be a degree seeking

student enrolled in at least 6 credit hours. New, transfer and current students are eligible to receive the tuition scholarship.

*\*A student's CGPA is based on all classes taken at IAIA. Transfer classes are not calculated in the CGPA. If a student retakes a course, the best grade from the course is calculated in the student's CGPA, not both.*

**Award Amounts:** For full-time students, the award is \$500 per semester, and for part-time students, enrolled in 6 – 11 credit hours, the award is \$200 per semester. Students who are enrolled in less than 6 credit hours do not qualify for the tuition scholarship.

**Lifetime Limits:** The associate degree lifetime award limit is \$ 2,500 (five full-time semesters). The bachelor degree lifetime award limit is \$ 5,000 (10 full-time semesters).

**Awarding:** The IAIA Tuition Scholarship is determined after a student is admitted. If a student qualifies, the award is placed on the student's award letter at the beginning of the semester.

**Credit Hour Verification and Disbursement:** The student's credit hours are verified at mid-term. If the student withdrew from any courses, the award maybe prorated following mid-term credit hour verification. Also, at mid-term, if the student no longer has an unmet need, the student no longer qualifies for the scholarship and the scholarship will be removed from the student's award letter. The scholarship is disbursed the first Friday following the date mid-terms are due to the Registrar's Office. Under no circumstances is the award disbursed before midterms.

### **IAIA Merit Scholarship**

The IAIA Merit Scholarship is based on a student's CGPA. In order to qualify for the IAIA Merit Scholarship, a student must be a full-time degree-seeking student. New students who graduated from high school, transfer students, and continuing students are all eligible to receive the award.

**New Students:** For new students who have graduated from high school with no prior college experience, their high school CGPA is used to determine eligibility. New students who have successfully earned their GED are not eligible to receive the merit award their incoming semester; however, they are eligible to receive the scholarship their second semester.

**Transfer Students:** For transfer students, their CGPA from their most recent college transcript is used to determine their eligibility. The college attended must be accredited; if not, the student is not eligible to receive the merit scholarship for his or her first semester.

**Continuing Student:** For continuing students, the students' last semester's CGPA is used to determine scholarship eligibility. For example, if a student's CGPA is a 3.25 following the completion of the fall 2005 semester, the student would be awarded \$500 the next full-time semester.

Award Amounts: The award amounts vary depending on the student's CGPA. Please refer to the table below for details.

<b>CGPA</b>	<b>Award</b>
2.99 and below	\$0
3.00 to 3.49	\$500
3.50 to 3.99	\$750
4.00 and higher	\$1000

Awarding and Disbursement: Following the review of the student's CGPA, the award will be posted on the student's award letter. The scholarship is disbursed the first Friday following the last day to drop a course without the course appearing on the students' transcripts.

### **IAIA Student Fund**

The IAIA Student Fund is a supplemental grant for IAIA students who have unmet financial needs. The maximum award per academic year (Fall and Spring Semesters) is \$500 per student. The fund is for IAIA students who cannot meet educational and personal expenses. The fund supports students who need assistance with the following: art supplies, course materials, school-authorized field trips and cultural events, family emergencies, and travel for internships, graduate school interviews and other purposes. The requirements for the Student Fund are a completed FAFSA, a referral from a staff or faculty member, and a completed Student Fund application.

### **American Indian College Fund (AICF)**

IAIA is one of 32 tribal colleges that receive scholarship funds from AICF. In order to be eligible, a student must complete an AICF application. AICF scholarships are awarded through the Financial Aid Office. Awards are based on need and merit. There are two disbursements per Fall and Spring semesters. The first disbursement is need based while the second disbursement is based on merit. Awards vary from \$2,500 to \$100 per semester.

### **Tribal Higher Education Grants and Scholarships**

Enrolled members of American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Corporations are encouraged to apply for scholarship or grant programs offered by their Tribe or Corporation or the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Each tribe or corporation has developed its own forms, procedures and deadlines; students should request information directly from their affiliated tribal agency. Most tribal scholarships or grants require a Financial Needs Analysis (FNA) to be completed by the school's Financial Aid Office. It is the student's responsibility to apply for these grants or scholarships and submit FNA forms to the IAIA Financial Aid Office.

### **Veteran's Assistance**

IAIA offers programs approved for compensation under the GI Bill. Eligible veterans must complete admissions requirements and submit a copy of their DD214. Official transcripts from colleges previously attended must be on file when applying. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for further details.

## **Endowed and Non-Endowed Scholarships**

The following section lists endowed and non-endowed scholarships. Both are contingent on the availability of funds. Endowed scholarships are funds that have been gifted to IAIA. The availability of endowed and non-endowed scholarships depends on the continuing commitment of donors as well as fluctuations in the stock market and the economy. The awards vary from \$500 to \$10,000. The scholarships are only available to degree seeking IAIA students. Please inquire with the Financial Aid Office about the availability of a particular scholarship and application details.

### **Joy and Howard Berlin Scholarship**

The recipient must be an American Indian student, have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher, and submit a one-page typed essay regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's world.

### **Henry W. and Miriam C. Bradley Endowed Scholarship**

An applicant must be a female American Indian, have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher, and submit a one-page typed essay regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's world. When available, the scholarship is granted to three recipients.

### **T.C. Cannon Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must be an American Indian, be enrolled in the Studio Arts Program with an emphasis on painting, submit a one-page typed essay regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's world, and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher.

### **Truman Capote Literary Trust Scholarship**

Applicants must be in their second year of study in the Creative Writing Program, and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher. The scholarship is granted to two recipients.

### **Graduating AFA Studio Arts Scholarship**

The recipient must be an American Indian or Alaska Native student seeking to complete a BFA degree, have an emphasis in painting, have a CGPA of 3.5 at the time of graduation, submit a letter of acceptance from a four-year college, and submit a one-page typed essay regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's world.

### **The Hearst Foundation Scholarship**

Applicants must be American Indians, living off-campus, second year students, submit one-page typed essays regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's world, and have CGPAs of 3.0 or higher. The scholarship is granted to three recipients.

### **Allan Houser Memorial Scholarship**

An applicant must be an American Indian, submit a one-page typed essay regarding IAIA's mission in today's world, be a second year student, and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher. The scholarship is awarded to one student.

**Doug Hyde Scholarship**

The recipient must submit a one-page typed essay regarding why IAIA's mission is important in today's society and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Sakahaftewa Ishii Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must submit a one-page typed essay regarding IAIA's mission in today's society, be a second year student, and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Kristen Larsen Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must be a second year student, be enrolled in the Studio Arts Program with an emphasis in painting, submit a one-page typed essay regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's society, submit a portfolio, and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Charles Lomoma Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must be an American Indian, submit a one-page typed essay regarding IAIA's mission in today's society, submit a portfolio, and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Margot MacDougall Scholarship**

This scholarship is awarded to two recipients. The recipients must be American Indian in their second year of study in the Studio Arts program with an emphasis on painting, submit a one-page typed essay regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's society, and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Jerome Tiger Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must be an American Indian, submit a portfolio, submit a one-page essay regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's society, and maintain a CGPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Larry E. and Adeline G. Meyer Scholarship**

The recipient must be an American Indian, submit a one-page essay regarding the importance of IAIA's mission in today's society, and have a CGPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Jordie M. Chilson Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must be American Indian and demonstrate financial need.

**Richard Ettinger, Jr., Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must be American Indian and demonstrate financial need.

**Gretchen and Nelson Grice Scholarship**

This award is given to American Indian female single parents who demonstrate financial need.

**Frank Howell Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must be an American Indian and demonstrate financial need.

**Pamella D. Waite Memorial Scholarship**

The recipient must be enrolled in the Studio Arts program, be an American Indian, and demonstrate financial need.

**Additional Scholarships**

At times, donors will offer IAIA students additional scholarships. These scholarships will be posted, so students can apply. Details of the scholarship requirements and deadlines will also be posted.

**Payment of Awards**

IAIA scholarships, federal and state funds, and other outside scholarships or grants received by IAIA on behalf of a student are credited directly to the student's account. When a credit balance exists, the student will receive a disbursement via an excess funds check. Annual awards are divided into two; half is applied to the Spring semester and half to the Fall semester. Disbursements are available on the first Friday following the last day to drop classes without appearing on transcripts.

College work-study wages are paid directly to students on a biweekly basis. Students are responsible for submitting their individual time sheets to their supervisors in a timely manner. Students who do not submit time sheets will not be paid.