



RODNEY T. MATHEWS, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR CALIFORNIA INDIANS

Purpose:

The *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* provides up to \$10,000 for 2020-2021 Academic Year and was established to assist California Indian students in pursuing their educational goals through the granting of competitive and meritorious based financial scholarships. For 2020-2021, the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* will provide **four** (4) awards of \$10,000 each to support California Indian students who want to continue their education. Scholarships shall be granted to eligible applicants on a yearly basis (as long as there are funds available). Each award is for a 12-month period, renewable for a second year pending demonstration of exceptional progress.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized California Tribe. (Documentation of Native identity is required. Attach a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood, Letter from Tribe and Photograph).
2. Must be a full-time student at an accredited College or University.
3. Be actively involved in the Native American community.
4. Two letters of recommendation are required: 1) Academic Recommender and 2) American Indian Community Recommender. Letters of reference must be on official letterhead from the individual supplying the reference.
5. Must have completed *The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indian* and be in good standing in accordance with all Scholarship Rules and Regulations.
6. All undergraduate students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 and all graduate students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5.
7. Must complete 60 hours of community service with a designated California Indian Community Agency (see attached list of agencies)
8. Must have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and have financial need as determined by the appropriate Office of Financial Aid.

The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship For California Indians Application consists of the following:

- **The Application** (all forms are in this packet). Answer all questions, sign, and return to:

RTM Scholarship Coordinator
11952 Potrero Road
Banning, CA 92220
- **Personal Statement & Essay Questions.** All applicants must answer question A and respond to either item 1 or item 2 from question B. Please type essay responses and attach on a separate sheet of paper.
- **Academic Study Plan** (see attached). This form must be completed and signed by your institutional academic advisor for all academic scholarships.
- **Transcripts** - Official copies of student transcripts from all colleges and universities previously attended. See release waiver section in Terms and Conditions form.
- **Letters of Recommendation.** Required: 1) Academic Recommender and 2) American Indian Community Recommender. Letters of reference must be on official letterhead from the individual supplying the reference.
- **California Indian Community Service Form**

- **Terms and Conditions Form**
- **Financial Breakdown Form**
- ***The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Academic Scholarship for California Indians Rules and Regulations.***

Application Procedures:

You may request that an application be mailed to you by writing to the RTM Scholarship Coordinator at: 11952 Potrero Road, Banning, CA 92220 or you may download one from this website <http://www.morongonation.org/content/scholarship>

All documents must be postmarked by the deadline of June 1, 2020 or be hand-delivered to the RTM Scholarship Coordinator by 5:00 PM on the deadline date. **NO faxed or late applications will be accepted.** Applicants are responsible for following up on their applications status with the RTM Scholarship Coordinator. If you have any questions or need assistance in completing any portion of the ***Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Academic Scholarship for California Indians application***, please call the RTM Scholarship Coordinator at 951-572-6196.

DEADLINE DATE: June 1, 2020



**THE RODNEY T. MATHEWS, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
FOR CALIFORNIA INDIANS APPLICATION**

PART I:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Parent(s) name & roll#: _____

E-mail _____

Date of birth: _____

Student's California Indian Identification Information:

Name of California Indian Tribe(s) _____

Names of other Tribes listed in your Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood: _____

Blood Quantum for each Tribe listed above: _____

Are you enrolled in a Tribe? If yes, please list: _____

Attach to this page an official copy of your Certificate Degree of Indian Blood from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Attach to this page a recent photo of yourself (passport photo size is recommended).

Academic School Information

Enrolled in: Junior College Tribal College University Professional Vocational
 Class status: Freshman/1st Year Sophomore/2nd Year Junior/3rd Year Senior/4th Year
 Graduate/5th Year

Name of Academic or Vocational Institution: _____

Total Number of Years in College (Higher Education) or Vocational Education: _____

Number of years at the above marked institution: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

MM/YYYY

Major: _____

Minor: _____

Current GPA: _____

Degree currently pursuing:

Cumulative GPA: _____

AA Certificate BA BS

MA JD PHD Other _____

List previous schools attended:

Name of School

Degree Sought

Degree Earned

Dates Attended

Name of School

Degree Sought

Degree Earned

Dates Attended

Name of School

Degree Sought

Degree Earned

Dates Attended

Name of School

Degree Sought

Degree Earned

Dates Attended

Financial Need Information

1. Previous *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* recipient? Yes No
2. Please tell us about other scholarships, financial assistance loans, or financial help you are receiving to finance your education. You must demonstrate that you have applied to at least two other funding sources and still have unmet financial need (using additional pages if needed).

3. Please tell us about your current financial situation. Itemize all your school expenses. List the total amount for which you are attributing to the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians*. List what you are receiving from other funding sources. Describe your plan for funding your expenses beyond this request (use Financial Breakdown Form Attached).

PART II: ESSAY QUESTIONS

All applicants must answer question A and respond to either item 1 or item 2 from question B. Please type essay responses (12 point font, double-spaced) and attach on a separate sheet of paper.

Question A – Personal Statement (required)

In two pages or less, please discuss your academic, career, and personal goals, as well as any extenuating circumstances or other information that you would like the RTM Scholarship Coordinator to be aware of when reviewing your application. Please include responses to the following questions: 1) How you view your Native American heritage and its importance to you, 2) How you plan to “give back” to Native Americans after graduation and 3) Describe your on-going involvements in the Native American community, both on and off campus.

Question B. Please respond to **one** (1) of the following questions (in two pages or less).

- 1) What do you feel are the most critical issues facing tribal communities today and how do you see yourself working in relationships to these issues?

OR

- 2) Where do you see Native people in the 21st century in terms of survival, governance, and cultural preservation and what role do you see yourself playing in this future?

PART III:

Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians Academic Study Plan (see attached form)

This form must be completed and signed by your school’s Academic advisor.

PART IV:

Transcripts

- Freshman Academic Students - must submit official high school transcripts or GED scores.
- Transfer, Continuing, and Vocational Students - must submit official transcripts from all vocational schools, college or universities previously attended.

PART V – A & B

Letter of Recommendation Forms (see attached forms)

Two letters of recommendation from: 1) Academic Recommender and 2) American Indian Community Recommender. Ask your recommenders to give you the letters directly or have them send you the letters in sealed envelopes with their signatures across the seals. Submit the sealed envelopes with the rest of your application materials. Complete the letter of recommendation form and give it to the recommender to attach to a letter written on his/her letterhead for submission. In order to ensure that your letters arrive by **June 1, 2020** deadline, please check in with your recommenders a week or two prior to the deadline.

PART VI:

California Indian Community Service Form

Applicants must complete 60 hours of Community Service (CS) with one of the approved list of California Indian Community Agencies. CS projects may involve on-site activity, research projects, volunteer work, etc.

The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians application consists of the following:

- The Application
- Essay Questions: Personal Statement & One (1) additional essay
- Academic Study Plan
- Transcripts
- Letters of Recommendation Form (2)
- Terms and Conditions Form
- Rules and Regulations

DEADLINE DATE

June 1, 2020

All documents must be postmarked by the deadline date or hand-delivered to the RTM Scholarship Coordinator. **Late applications will not be accepted. NO faxed applications will be accepted.** The applicant is responsible for ensuring that their application is complete.

MAILING ADDRESS:

RTM Scholarship Coordinator
11952 Potrero Road
Banning, CA 92220

If you have questions or need assistance in completing any portion of the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* application, please contact the RTM Scholarship Coordinator at 951-572-6196.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.

PART III:

**THE RODNEY T. MATHEWS, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
FOR CALIFORNIA INDIANS ACADEMIC STUDY PLAN**

To the Applicant: Please complete the box below before submitting this form to your academic advisor.

Name: _____ Last First Middle
Student ID#: _____
Phone number: _____ Email: _____
Expected graduation date: _____ MM/YY

This following must be completed and signed by your Academic Advisor

To the Institutional Academic Advisor: The above-listed student is applying for *The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians*. This form is required as part of the completed application. Your cooperation in completing the following is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Education Services at 951-572-6185.

Please provide the following information regarding this student's progress toward their degree.

General Education Requirements:

Has this student completed all general education requirements? _____ Yes _____ No

If no, what courses does s/he need to complete?

Degree Major Requirements:

Has this student declared a major? _____ YES _____ NO

If yes, student's major is _____ minor if declared: _____

What courses does the student need to fulfill the major degree requirements?

Student's Proposed Study Plan:

<u>Fall Courses</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Spring Courses</u>	<u>Units</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Comments:

Print Name Title Department

Signature Date Contact Telephone Number Email Address

To the Respondent: When you have completed and signed this form, please return it to the student

PART IV: Terms and Conditions set forth for *The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* recipients

I _____, if awarded *The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians*, agree to abide by the following terms and conditions:

1. Must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized California Tribe. (Documentation of Native Identity is required. Attached a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood, Letter from the Tribe, and Photograph).
2. Student must be enrolled in a degree-seeking program at an accredited college or university.
3. At the end of the Fall semester the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* Scholarship coordinator will review official copies of academic grade reports. Fall grades will be used to determine student's continued eligibility (units completed and Cumulative GPA). It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all grades have been posted and are accurate.
4. Student must keep the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* Scholarship Coordinator informed of any changes in student status (i.e. new address, name change, intent to withdraw, transfer, reduction in full-time enrollment, etc.).
5. Undergraduate recipients must complete each term at a minimum of 6 credit hours. Graduate student recipients must complete each term at a minimum of 3 credit hours. This requirement must be met with new hours only, no repeat classes will be allowed as part of a full-time course load.
6. The following type of classes will not be accepted as part of a full-time course load: Audits, Repeats, or Workshops. Students may take no more than 3 credit hours of special study courses per semester as part of their full-time course load.
7. Recipients must maintain a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) in a degree seeking program in order to be eligible for continuation of funding:
 - Undergraduates/Vocational Students—2.75 CGPA
 - Graduates—3.5 CGPA
8. Suspension: Failure to maintain the minimum CGPA or full-time course load will result in automatic suspension. Once on suspension, the student's spring award will be automatically canceled. Prior to reapplying for the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* the student must have completed the number of units for which they received funding and/or have met the minimum CGPA for which they receive funding. Failure to do so will render the student ineligible for future *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* consideration.
9. Scholarships will be granted to eligible applicants on a yearly basis (as long as funds are available) with each award being for a 12-month period. Recipients are eligible to apply for a second year pending demonstration of exceptional progress.
10. Applicant agrees to have their name, degree being pursued, and graduation announcement included in any press releases by the Morongo Band of Mission Indians.
11. All applicant files are the property of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians.
12. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all required materials are received by the deadline date. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
13. All decisions made by the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* Scholarship Coordinator are final and binding.

I hereby certify that the information contained in my *The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. If and when I am awarded, I shall accept and abide by all the conditions stipulated in the aforementioned. I hereby give permission to the *Morongo Education Services Administrator* to request and receive copies of my academic grade reports and academic progress.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PART VI:**California Indian Community Service Form**

If an applicant receives the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians*, s/he must complete 60 hours of Community Service (CS) with an approved California Indian organization (listed below). The purpose of this community service is to require students to be actively involved in enhancing the California Indian community through academic and community efforts. Students will be required to communicate with a designated representative from one of the listed organizations to sponsor a project, program, event, or volunteer opportunity they wish to be involved in. Community Service Coordinator will provide the *Rodney T. Mathews Memorial, Jr. Scholarship for California Indians* Scholarship Coordinator with a quarterly service report on the status of the student's assignment and personal development. A final report will be submitted by the applicant to both the sponsoring agency and the RTM Scholarship Coordinator. Students must complete community service projects by deadline date(s) and projects must be completed within one year.

California Indian Community Service Agencies

California Indian Museum and Cultural Center – The purpose of the California Indian Museum and Cultural Center is to culturally enrich and benefit the people of California and the general public. The goals of the Museum and Cultural Center are to educate the public about California Indian history and cultures, to showcase California Indian cultures, to enhance and facilitate these cultures and traditions through educational and culture activities, to preserve and protect California Indian cultural and intellectual properties, and to develop relationships with other indigenous groups. www.cimcc.indian.com Contact: Nicole Lim, JD, 5250 Aero Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. Phone: (707)579-5507, Fax: (707)579-9019.

Indian Health Care Services – The primary goal of the California Area Indian Health Service is to raise the health status of American Indians to the highest possible level. To achieve this goal, the California Area Indian Health Service supports tribal governments and urban Indian communities in the development and administration of comprehensive health care delivery systems that meet the needs of Indian people. www.caoihs.org

National Indian Justice Center – The National Indian Justice Center, Inc., (NIJC) is an Indian owned and operated non-profit corporation with principal offices in Santa Rosa, California. NIJC was established in 1983 through the collective efforts of the National American Indian Court Judges Association, the American Indian Lawyer Training Program, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs in order to establish an independent national resource for Native communities and tribal governments. The goals of NIJC are to design and deliver legal education, research, and technical assistance programs which seek to improve the quality of life for Native communities and administration of justice in Indian country. NIJC has designed and conducted effective education programs. Programs include alcohol and substance abuse, alternative methods of dispute resolution, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, Indian youth and family law, juvenile justice, and federal Indian law. www.nijc.indian.com Contact: Kelly Myers, JD. 5250 Aero Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95403. Phone: (707)579-5507, Fax: (707)579-9019.

California Indian Legal Services – California Indian Legal Services (CILS) is the first Indian-controlled law firm organized to provide specialized legal representation to Indians and Indian tribes. CILS provides free or low-cost representation. Created by California Indian leaders and public interest attorneys, CILS has been one of the preeminent advocates for the rights of Native Americans and Indian Tribes for over thirty years. CILS maintains six offices, five throughout California and one in Washington D.C. www.calindian.org

California Indian Professor Association – The California Indian Professor Association (CIPA) is a private professional organization of American Indian scholars in higher education who are recognized as a members of California Indian tribes. The group seeks to network amongst those who teach and conduct professional research and produce non-fiction scholarship about subjects concerning California Indians, past, present and future. www.calindianprofs.org Contact: Joely De La Torre, Ph.D. 38917 Huddleston Court, Murrieta, CA 92563. Phone (951)816-3301, Fax: (951)816-3302.

California Indian Culture and Awareness Conference – Since 1999, the San Manuel Tribal Unity and Cultural Awareness Program, partnering with the San Bernardino City Unified School District, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, California State University San Bernardino and the California Superintendent of Public Instruction, conducts the highly successful California Indian Cultural Awareness Conference at CSUSB. During the weeklong event, students and teachers learn about the histories, cultures and governments of the California Indian nations from tribal elders, leaders and memorials. Every year, thousands of students have watched as tribal elders share their skills at weaving intricately coiled baskets, leaching acorns for food, and creating a variety of traditional pottery vessels. The conference culminates on the fourth Friday of September in celebration of California Native American Day. Contact: John Futch, (909)880-7204. <http://crosscultural.csusb.edu>

California Democratic Party Native American Caucus – The California Democratic Party's Native American Caucus was formed to reach out and bring into the Democratic Party any interested and registered Democrats who support the goals and objectives of inclusion, political education, voters training, outreach legislative tracking, research, and participation in the official Democratic Party for all people. The Caucus focuses on including the Native American communities of California in furthering Democratic ideals, issues, and political participation. www.nativeamericancaucus.com Contact: nativeamericancaucus@nativeamericancaucus.com

Other possible programs, service projects, and events may include:

- Research of tribal histories, events, persons, etc.
- Oral history projects
- Language preservation
- Youth mentoring
- Legal research
- Information Technology assistance (i.e. web page development, database development)
- Staffing community events such as the California Indian Families Conference, Native American Voter Registration, etc.

Be sure to discuss your community service project with the RTM Scholarship Coordinator and have it approved.

**RODNEY T. MATHEWS, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR CALIFORNIA INDIANS
RULES & REGULATIONS**

Purpose:

The Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians, which provides up to \$10,000 for the 2020-2021 Academic year, was established to assist California Indian students in pursuing their goals of higher education through the granting of financial scholarships. For 2020-2021, The *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* will provide **four** (4) awards of \$10,000 each to support California Indian students who want to continue their education. Scholarship shall be granted to eligible applicants on a yearly basis (as long as there are funds available). Each award is for a 12-month period, renewable for a second year pending demonstration of exceptional process. Scholarships are awarded through competitive application and are open to California Indian only.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized California Tribe. (Documentation of Native identity is required. Attach a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood, Letter from Tribe, and Photograph).
2. Must be a full-time student at an accredited College or University.
3. Be actively involved in the Native American community.
4. Two letters of recommendation are required: 1) Academic Recommender and 2) American Indian Community Recommender. Letters of reference must be on official letterhead from the individual supplying the reference.
5. Must have completed the Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians application and be in good standing in accordance with all Scholarship Rules and Regulations.
6. All undergraduate students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 and all graduate students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5.
7. Must complete 60 hours of community service with a designated California Indian Community Agency (see attached list of agencies).
8. Must have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aide (FAFSA) and have financial need as determined by the appropriate Office of Financial Aid.

Deadline Dates:

Applications are due on **June 1, 2020**.

Approved Schools:

Approved schools include community colleges, tribal colleges, four-year colleges, graduate universities, and professional schools. The school must be accredited institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or any one of six regional associations of schools and colleges such as Middle States, New England, North Central, Northwest, Southern, and Western (See Peterson's Guide to Colleges).

Approved Classes, Courses, and Programs:

Approved classes, courses, and programs include: classroom instruction, televised correspondence courses, distance learning, internet, video, home study from any approved school, and degree or certificate-seeking programs.

Maximum Benefit Participation:

Scholarships shall be granted to eligible applicants on a yearly basis (as long as there are funds available). Each award is for a 12-month period, renewable for a second year pending demonstration of exceptional progress. Scholarships are awarded through competitive application and are open to California Indians only. Benefits are defined as Scholarship monies awarded to students for cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies.

Full-Time/Part-Time Units Defined:

- Full-time undergraduate student: 12 or more units semester
- Full-time graduate student: 9 units or more per semester
- Professional Schools: As defined by program (see Academic Study Plan)

**Please note that the above definitions apply to semester units only. Students enrolled institutions operating under a quarter system must follow that institution's guidelines for full and part-time enrollment (see Academic Study Plan for additional clarification).*

Scholarship Award Amounts:

Up to \$10,000 per year to be used for the following Academic costs:

- Tuition & Fees
- Books & Supplies
- Dorm Costs
- Off-campus housing cost (must demonstrate extreme financial need with letter from Office of Financial Aid)

Distribution of Scholarship Awards:

The *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* will be made payable to the recipient's school for tuition, housing, textbook costs, and required fees. The recipient's school will receive official notification of the student's award status and be authorized to bill the Scholarship Program directly. The Scholarship Program will pay for tuition and fees directly applicable to the student's approved program. Payment will not be made for expenses unrelated to the official program, the membership dues for student societies and associations, or other unapproved expenses.

Failure to Abide by the Terms and Conditions:

In the event a recipient of the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* fails to comply with the terms and conditions set forth (i.e. fails to complete the program, semester, or quarter for which the benefit was received), the recipient will forgo any further educational assistance from the Scholarship program. Exceptions to the above will be made only if the recipient has 1) a valid medical excuse for failing to complete the Academic quarter, semester or other program as evidenced by a medical doctor's statement or 2) other individual circumstances approved by the RTM Scholarship Coordinator.

Suspension:

Failure to maintain the minimum GPA or full-time course load will result in automatic suspension. Once on suspension, the student's spring award will be automatically canceled. Prior to reapplying for the *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians*, the student must have completed the number of units for which they initially received funding and/or must have met the minimum CGPA for which they receive funding. Failure to do so will render the student ineligible for future *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* consideration.

Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians Scholarship Coordinator:

The *Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians* Scholarship Coordinator strives to ensure fair treatment of all applications through equitable oversight and review of application process.

Duties of the Rodney T. Mathews, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for California Indians Scholarship Coordinator are to:

1. Distribute, collect, and review applications.
2. Ensure that applicants follow policies and procedures.
3. Treat the review of material and discussions of applications in a confidential manner.
4. Maintain application materials and documents in a secure filing system.
5. Issue award letters, denials, and suspensions in a timely manner.
6. Report to the Tribal Council an annual summary to include information and data on applicants, awards made and denied, degrees sought, number of graduates, etc.
7. Maintain an information database with relevant data, including demographics.

Grievance or Appeals Procedure:

All decisions made by the RTM Scholarship Coordinator are final.