

Approved Spring 2009

**Classis Red Mesa Ministry Training Fund
Application for Tuition Scholarship
For Native Americans Members of Classis Red Mesa Churches**

Return to Classis Red Mesa TEAMS Committee at PO Box 8, Rehoboth, NM 87322 or at TEAMS@classisredmesa.org.
Applications may also be submitted directly to a TEAMS committee member.

Tuition Scholarship: The tuition scholarship is designed to encourage Native Americans within the churches to get the formal education to enable them to serve in ministry with Native Americans. It is intended for people who intend to make a significant commitment of their professional or voluntary time to evangelism, outreach and ministry within a Classis Red Mesa Church, School or related ministry. Applicants may receive up to three scholarships per year at the discretion of the TEAMS committee and the availability of funds. Each scholarship is a maximum of \$2500 for tuition/educational expenses at an accredited institution. Scholarships may be awarded for study at a secular institution and for any program that will enable the person to be involved in ministry at the discretion of TEAMS.

Requirements:

- Must be a Native American
- Must have been a member of a Classis Red Mesa Church for at least a year
- Must have the endorsement of the council or consistory of the church where his or her membership resides

Criteria: The TEAMS will consider the availability of funds and the following criteria in awarding the funds.

For First Time Applicants

- Involvement in the home church, ministries and local outreach efforts
- A good match between the person, their plans and the education chosen
- Capacity of the applicant to utilize the education to benefit the local church or ministry
- Mentoring/Accountability plan
- Reputation in church and local community and recommendation of church consistory
- Commitment to utilize education/training in the local church or Classis Red Mesa Ministry

Additional Criteria for Renewal or Second-Time Applicants

- Level of communication with church, TEAMS and Classis
- Use of Mentoring/Supervisory support and willingness to seek assistance and support for any difficulties
- Progress toward degree or certificate, if applicable
- Evidence of good effort and attitude

Instructions for Making Application for Programs:

- 1) Anyone interested in the fund should begin by talking with the pastor of his or her Red Mesa Church. If the church does not have a pastor who is familiar with the fund and the procedures, applicants are encouraged to contact a member of the TEAMS committee. A Red Mesa Church Pastor or a TEAMS committee member will assist the applicant in going through the application process.
- 2) The application requires the recommendation of the church of which the applicant is a member and the applicant should meet with the church council or steering committee to discuss the application and obtain a letter of recommendation
- 3) The enclosed application form should be completed and submitted through the pastor or TEAMS committee member to the TEAMS committee with the letter of recommendation from the Church consistory.
- 4) The TEAMS committee will consider applications at their regularly scheduled meetings. Interviews of applicants may be required by the TEAMS committee

Application for Tuition Scholarship For Native Americans Members of Classis Red Mesa Churches

Applicant Information: *Please give complete information regarding your name and address and contact information.*

Last Name	First Name
Address: Street/PO Box	State & Zip
Primary Telephone	Cellular Telephone
Telephone of someone who will take messages	e-mail address (es)
Name of Closest Relative (i.e. Spouse/Parent/Grandparent)	Telephone &/or e-mail for closest relative
Classis Red Mesa Church of which you are currently a professing member. If you have transferred membership from another Classis Red Mesa Church within the last year, please indicate both churches	Number of years you have been a member of this church/ previous Classis Red Mesa Church.
Pastor or TEAMS member who assisted you with this application	Mentor or Supervisor for Education

Educational Background

Please indicate the number of years of education you have had at any of these levels

Years #		Name of School/Schools	Indicate degree/GED or certificate earned
	Kindergarten through High School		
	Junior College/Two-Year College		
	Vocational Training Program		
	College/University		
	Graduate School		
	Other		
	Other		

Work/Ministry Experience

Please list your work and ministry/volunteer experiences for up to five years, beginning with the most recent.

Job Title/Description:	Church/Organization	From:	To:

Educational Institution Information

College or University You plan to attend		Year/Semester (i.e. freshman, first semester)	
Address: Street/PO Box		State & Zip	
Major/Program		Semester Quarter	
Total Tuition for one semester/quarter		Circle one Above	
Room and Board Charge or Estimated Living Expense	Estimated Books and Fees	Other Expenses:	

For those who have already received at least one scholarship from the Classis Red Mesa Fund, please complete the following and attach your most recent transcript:

Cumulative GPA:	
Please list any courses for which you received a failing grade, dropped, or have left incomplete	Please provide information to explain

**All Scholarship Applicants:
Please list other sources of Financial Aid and projected amounts
Indicate if you are receiving this by the year, semester or quarter**

	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

Please sign that you agree with the following statement: *I am fully aware that the Classis Red Mesa Scholarship Funds are intended for those who plan to serve in ministry within Classis Red Mesa (either voluntarily or in a paid position). By accepting these funds, I am committing to a proportional time of service within the Classis (i.e. ½ year service for each scholarship). Furthermore, I recognize that if I do not choose to honor this commitment, I agree to repay the fund so that it can support those who are using it for the purpose it was intended.*

Date

Please answer the following on a separate piece of paper. If you have already received at least one semester of funding please update on any changes from your previous application, Please especially update questions 4 – 8. This will help the TEAMS committee understand any changes in your situation that have occurred and how you are growing and learning through your experience. Typewritten responses preferred.

1. What is your educational goal?
2. Please describe why a scholarship from Classis Red Mesa is necessary or important to you.
3. What is your intended commitment of service within Classis Red Mesa? Please provide your minimum realistic time commitment and any details that you know at this time.
4. Please describe your relationship with God through Jesus Christ. How has that relationship grown within the past 1-5 years?
5. Please describe your relationship with your church. Are you a regular participant in worship and other activities? What ministry activities have you been involved in during the past 1 – 5 years?
6. Please describe any major areas of struggle (i.e. alcoholism, chronic illness, marital issues etc), in your personal or family life. Please describe the support you have for dealing with this issue and how you will be accountable to your local church in this area.
7. What type(s) of ministry do believe that God has called you to within the church?
8. How do you see the education equipping you for that ministry?

Scholar Mentor Information: To be completed by Applicant and Mentor

Mentor's Last Name	Mentor's First Name
Mentor's Address: Street/PO Box	Mentor's State & Zip
Mentor's Primary Telephone	Mentor's Cellular Telephone
Telephone of someone who will take messages for mentor	Mentor's e-mail address (es)
Relationship of Mentor to Applicant (i.e. pastor, counselor, former teacher etc)	
<p>Applicant and Mentor Should Sign the Following Statement: <i>We agree that we have entered into a mutually acceptable mentoring relationship with the terms as indicated on the next page. We agree to do our best to keep to the terms of the agreement and to be accountable to the TEAMS committee for keeping this commitment.</i></p>	
Applicant	Date
Mentor	Date

Questions for Church Councils or Consistories: Please provide responses to the following questions on a separate piece of paper with the name of the applicant provided at the top and the signature of a council officer at the bottom. This may be provided confidentially to the TEAMS Committee, if necessary. For applicants who have previously received a scholarship brief updates from the original letter may be provided. It is expected that applicants receiving on-going funding will keep seek the support of their council or consistory for each semester of funding.

1. When did the applicant meet with the council or consistory to request approval for this application?
2. Do you see the applicant as a person growing in their relationship to Jesus Christ? Please describe some evidence to support your conclusion.
3. How has the applicant been involved in the life of the congregation and in ministry activities? Please comment on the applicant's faithfulness and commitment.
4. What do you see as the applicants demonstrated ministry gifts?
5. Do you believe that the applicant is "on the right track" in terms of their sense of calling to a particular ministry and their chosen course of education and training?
6. Does the applicant have any major areas of struggle in his or her life that are factors that should be considered? Has the applicant discussed these with the local council/pastor? How will the church provide accountability and support to the applicant?
7. What kind of relationships does the applicant have with people in your church and in the local community? Does the person demonstrate honesty and integrity? Does the applicant demonstrate humility and respect for others? Is the person friendly and kind in the way they interact with others?
8. How would you summarize your councils' recommendation of this person? Here are some examples you could use.
 - a. Enthusiastic Recommendation: We are eager for this person to receive education/training because we are confident that they will utilize it in ministry.
 - b. Recommendation: Almost every indication we have about this person is positive. We have very few, if any concerns about this person's ability to utilize a scholarship or work experience to become equipped for ministry.
 - c. Recommendation with stipulations: We believe that this person ought to be given the opportunity for education/training and will be successful if some specific support and accountability is provided.
 - d. Recommended with reservations: We see some "red flags," and do not see this person as a priority for receiving funds at this time.
 - e. Deferred Recommendation: We don't think this is a good time for this applicant and are encouraging him/her to defer their education/training to another time
 - f. Not Recommended: We do not believe the applicant meets the criteria for this funding as established by the Classis.