

# AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

2012-  
2013

PRE-DISSERTATION FACULTY GRANT APPLICATION

Application Deadline:

March 30, 2012

**Contact Information:**

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Program Officer

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**American Indian College Fund**

8333 Greenwood Blvd.

Denver, CO 80221

1-800-776-3863

Fax: 303-426-1200

[www.collegefund.org](http://www.collegefund.org)

# AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND – PRE-DISSERTATION FACULTY GRANT APPLICATION



## The Program

Recognizing the need to assist tribal college and university (TCU) faculty in the process of terminal degree attainment, the American Indian College Fund with support and funding from Kim Blanchard, A\*CF Board Member, established the American Indian College Fund Pre-Dissertation Faculty Grant. The program offers small grants of \$3,000-5,000 to current tribal college and university (TCU) faculty members currently enrolled in a terminal degree programs to support activities that contribute to degree attainment.

## Guidelines

Eligible applicants must be a current faculty member at an accredited tribal college that is a full member of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC). Applicants must be actively enrolled in a terminal degree program. Grant funding must be used to cover expenses associated with degree attainment including, but not limited to: research design, data collection and tabulation, purchasing software, periodicals or books, or conducting necessary travel for completion of research. The grant is for a one-year term and recipients are required to provide a detailed budget of how funds will be utilized. A final report must be submitted to the American Indian College Fund along with receipts documenting expenses by the end of the one-year term of the grant.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Current faculty member at a TCU that is accredited for higher education and a full member of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium
- Enrolled in an accredited M.F.A., Ph.D. or Ed.D. program
- Demonstrated commitment to American Indian education and scholarship
- Commitment to continue serving on faculty at a TCU for at least one year after receiving grant

### Application Submission

A complete application consists of the following:

- Application
- Curriculum Vitae
- Personal statement
- Itemized budget and timeline for completing proposed project within the established year-long time frame
- Official copy of graduate school transcripts
- Two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from a faculty member of applicant's graduate program. Please make additional copies of the "Recommendation Request" sheet as necessary

## Selection Policies

**Applications will be evaluated by senior scholars based on the following criteria:**

- Quality of application
- Clarity and impact of proposed use of funds
- Scholarly performance and progress toward a terminal degree

**Completed applications (including transcripts and references) are due by 5:00 P.M. MST on March 30, 2012 at the American Indian College Fund.**

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**Personal Information:**

Ms. \_\_\_ Mr. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tribal Affiliation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact information:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Information (please include additional attachments as needed):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Graduate School; City, State)

Terminal Degree Sought: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Department: \_\_\_\_\_

**List the date by which you completed or expect to complete the following pre-dissertation requirements:**

Course requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Oral exams or qualifying exams: \_\_\_\_\_

Official approval of dissertation prospectus by dissertation committee: \_\_\_\_\_

List the date by which you expect to complete your dissertation: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Dissertation Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**List other grants or fellowships you have applied for and/or received:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**List academic honors and awards previously received (include dates):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**References**

Please provide the names and contact information of those who have agreed to submit letters of reference on your behalf. One letter must be from a faculty member of the applicant's graduate program.

**Reference #1: Graduate School Faculty Member**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution/Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference #2:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution/Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) Zip Code)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference #3: (Optional)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution/Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Commitment to Teaching at a Tribal College/University:**

**Statement of Commitment**

Should I be selected as a recipient of the American Indian College Fund Pre-Dissertation Faculty Grant, I hereby commit to serving as a tribal college faculty member for at least one year after the grant cycle.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal statement:**

Please attach a personal statement of 1,500 words or less describing your research interests, your proposed area of study and the significance of your scholarly contribution to tribal college scholarship and American Indian education. How will this funding contribute to accomplishing your academic goals? Please provide a prioritized and itemized budget, a budget narrative describing how these particular items are important to obtaining your terminal degree and a timeline for proposed expenditures within the one-year term of the grant.

**Application Check List/Required Documents**

Applicants must submit the following documents and information to receive full and equal consideration during the committee evaluation process:

- Application:** Submit a completed application and signed Statement of Commitment.
- Personal Statement:** Attach a personal statement of no more than 1,500 words.
  - Prioritize an itemized budget, describing the relative importance of each request.
  - One-year timeline and activities to be financed by the requested funds
- Curriculum Vitae:** Please include your Curriculum Vitae with your application.
- Transcripts:** Transcripts covering all of the applicant's graduate study, showing courses taken, dates of courses, and grades received, with an explanation of the grading systems and of symbols in the transcripts. Transcripts are to be sent directly to the American Indian College Fund.
- Letters of Recommendation:** Two letters of recommendation to be sent directly to the American Indian College Fund. One letter must be from a faculty member of applicant's graduate program. Please make additional copies of the "Recommendation Request" sheet as necessary.

Applications may be downloaded at <http://www.collegefund.org>. Applications and all supporting documents must be received by March 30, 2012. Please arrange for transcripts, certification letters, and references well in advance.

**Send to:**

**American Indian College Fund  
Attention: Pre-Dissertation Faculty Grant Program  
8333 Greenwood Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80221**

**Or email to:**

[dtallchief@collegefund.org](mailto:dtallchief@collegefund.org)

# AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND – PRE-DISSERTATION FACULTY GRANT APPLICATION



## Reference Letter Format:

### The Program

Recognizing the need to assist tribal college and university (TCU) faculty in the process of terminal degree attainment, the American Indian College Fund has partnered with its supporters to establish the American Indian College Fund Pre-dissertation Faculty Grant. The program offers financial support to tribal college and university (TCU) faculty enrolled in a terminal degree program that are committed to serving American Indian communities by teaching at a tribal college or university.

### To the Recommender:

We solicit your candid evaluation of the applicant's range of abilities and accomplishments, creative and intellectual promise and projected ability to be conferred a doctorate or other terminal degree. Specifically, we are asking for letters that address the following areas:

1. The quality of the applicant's academic or creative achievements, including material not apparent on the official transcript.
2. The applicant's scholarly or creative potential and promise in relation to other pre-doctoral candidates.
3. The importance of applicant's proposed dissertation topic in relation to other scholarship produced in the field of study.
4. Discuss the applicant's commitment to their tribal college community.

Deadline for letter of recommendation: March 30, 2012

Address and mail your letter directly to:

American Indian College Fund  
Attention: Pre-Dissertation Faculty Grant Program  
8333 Greenwood Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80221  
Or email to:  
[dtallchief@collegefund.org](mailto:dtallchief@collegefund.org)