TRIBAL SCHOLARSHIPS & AID ORDINANCE

The Official Tribe of Shabazz

Section 1. Authority

This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to the governing authority of The Official Tribe of Shabazz to establish and administer internal scholarship, educational-support, training, and aid programs for its members, subject to available resources and applicable law.

Section 2. Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to create and regulate scholarships, educational grants, training assistance, and financial-aid programs that expand access to higher learning, skills training, cultural study, vocational development, and emergency support for Tribal Members.

Section 3. Scholarship Programs

1. Merit Scholarships. Awards for students demonstrating exceptional academic, cultural, service, or leadership achievement.
2. Need-Based Scholarships. Awards for members demonstrating documented financial hardship or other qualifying need.
3. Cultural & Language Study Grants. Support for members engaged in approved study or preservation of Tribal history, traditions, language, arts, or cultural knowledge.
4. Vocational & Apprenticeship Aid. Assistance for members entering trades, technical fields, apprenticeships, credential programs, or other workforce-development pathways.

Section 4. Educational Aid & Assistance

1. Tuition Assistance. Partial assistance toward eligible college, vocational, technical, certification, or training tuition.
2. Book & Supply Stipends. Support for required books, tools, equipment, fees, and educational materials.
3. Living Expense Grants. Limited assistance for qualifying full-time students who demonstrate financial need, subject to available funds and program rules.
4. Internship & Research Support. Assistance for Tribal Members participating in approved internships, research, or projects that benefit the Tribe or strengthen member development.

Section 5. Welfare & Emergency Aid

1. Medical Aid. Financial assistance toward eligible uncovered health-related expenses. This program does not itself provide medical diagnosis, treatment, or licensed healthcare services.
2. Family Assistance. Aid for qualifying housing, food, childcare, utilities, transportation, and other essential needs during hardship.
3. Elder Aid Fund. Support for qualifying elder health, accessibility, essential-needs, caregiver, and quality-of-life expenses.
4. Emergency Relief. Assistance for members affected by disasters, displacement, urgent family crises, or other qualifying emergencies.

Section 6. Administration

1. Department of Education & Cultural Preservation. Primary administration for merit and need-based scholarships, cultural and language study grants, tuition assistance, book and supply stipends, academic programs, internships, and research support.
2. Department of Family Health & Human Services. Primary administration for family assistance, elder aid, health-related financial assistance, hardship support, and emergency relief.
3. Department of Economic Development. Coordination of vocational, apprenticeship, workforce-development, credential, and career-related assistance in cooperation with Education & Cultural Preservation.
4. Tribal Treasury. Receipt, safeguarding, accounting, and disbursement of Scholarship & Aid funds under applicable Tribal financial policies, available appropriations, donor restrictions, and lawful requirements.
5. Scholarships & Aid Review Committee. The Tribal Council may appoint representatives from relevant departments and financial administration to review applications, verify documentation, apply approved criteria, make recommendations, and monitor program integrity.
6. Applications and Awards. Applications shall include the proof of enrollment, eligibility, need, cultural contribution, training participation, emergency circumstances, or other documentation required by the applicable program. Awards remain subject to available funds, adopted criteria, required approvals, and lawful restrictions on the source of funds.
7. Accountability. Administering departments and the Tribal Treasury shall maintain appropriate records and submit periodic reports to the Tribal Council concerning awards, expenditures, program activity, and available balances while protecting confidential personal information.

Section 7. Funding

Scholarship and Aid programs may be funded through the Tribal Treasury, appropriations, donations, grants, designated trust funds, fundraising, partnerships, and other lawful sources. Restricted donations shall be administered according to their lawful restrictions. No provision of this Ordinance creates a guaranteed or vested entitlement to funding when resources are unavailable.

Section 8. Appeals

A denied applicant may seek review through the Tribe's established Grievance & Appeals process within thirty (30) days after notice of the decision. An appeal does not guarantee an award and remains subject to eligibility requirements, available funds, program rules, and the applicable standard of review.

Section 9. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage by the Tribal Council and shall be entered into the official Code of Tribal Laws. Program implementation remains subject to available funding, adopted administrative procedures, and applicable law.

PUBLIC / ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE

This Ordinance establishes internal Tribal scholarship and aid programs and administrative responsibilities. It does not itself create a federal, state, or private entitlement, guarantee payment, confer tax status, or replace licensed medical, legal, financial, educational, or benefits professionals where such qualifications are required.