

#### NCA 16-046

#### **CLASSIFICATION: #18. EDUCATION**

A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING MCNCA TITLE 18, §2-104, ENTITLED "Vocational training; Tribal grants" AND § 2-105, ENTITLED "Vocational training; incentive grants" AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW MCNCA TITLE 18, §2-104, ENTITLED "Vocational training; Tribal grants" AND §2-105, ENTITLED "Vocational training; incentive grants"

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:

### SECTION ONE. FINDINGS. The National Council finds that:

- A. Many citizens have enrolled in education institutions to obtain College Degrees and Technical Certificates and are experiencing hardships while making an effort to attend school.
- B. The workforce is a competitive field for many citizens seeking job stability. Encouraging our citizens to return to school would make them more financially stable and self-sufficient.
- C. The Code has not been updated since 2008. Tuition has increased by more than ten percent and other mandatory college fees have increased. The last award increase was in 2006. The Tribal Incentive Award was changed from 4 full time to 5 full time and 8 part-time to 10 part-time in 2008.
- D. Citizens seeking Associate Degrees must complete a minimum of sixty credit hours and completion of all specific courses listed in the curriculum pattern for the major. Providing one additional full-time Tribal Grant and two additional part-time Tribal Grants would be beneficial to citizens.
- E. Proposed Policies and procedures will ensure citizens understand program guidelines.
- F. This new law provides opportunity for students to receive adequate funding while attaining their degree.

SECTION TWO. REPEALER. MCNCA Title 18, Chapter 2, §2-104, and §2-105 are hereby repealed.

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SECTION THREE. NEW LAW. The following new law shall be codified in Title 18, Chapter 2 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; provided that for purposes of codification of said new law and its inclusion in pocket parts for the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Attorney General is hereby authorized: (1) to approve any changes related to the manner in which sections, articles, chapters and sub-chapters are designated in this law in order to be consistent with the format in the Code of Laws published in 2010 by West Publishing Company; (2) to include footnoted references to the legislative history in said pocket parts to the Code of Laws; and (3) to note in said pocket parts any editorial correction of minor clerical or grammatical errors in the following new law:

- § 2-104. Vocational training; Tribal grants. The applicant (student) must be an enrolled citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and provide a Citizenship Card.
- B. The student must be accepted by an approved/accredited vocational school or training program. After completion of the program, the student must have received a certificate, diploma or a degree.
- C. The student must submit an original completed application, with all required documents, before an award can be processed. Incomplete applications will not be processed. Applicants will receive a receipt of application notification. Applications must be submitted within first 4 weeks of school for Tribal Grant request. Applicants will receive a receipt of application notification.
  - D. Documentation includes:
    - 1. A copy of the Citizenship Card;
    - 2. A written educational plan of vocational intent for the use of the award:
    - 3. Photo Identification:
    - 4. Signed Privacy Statement:
    - 5. Program Plan of Study: and
    - 6. Class schedule.
  - E. The award amount will be based on credit/class hours (verified by school).
- F. Continued funding will be based on meeting the GPA guidelines in subsection.
- G. Full-time students will be awarded: 12 hours and up to \$100 per credit hour per semester/quarter. Part-time students will be awarded: 11 hours or less at \$100 per credit hour per semester/quarter. Total amount of awards may not exceed

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\$3,000 per academic year for full-time students and \$2,200 per academic year for part-time students.

- H. After verification of the student's enrollment has been received from the school, the award will be sent to the student's home address. Applicants should contact the Employment and Training Administration office in a timely manner if your address changes to prevent a delay in receiving funds.
- I. Students must maintain a 2.5 GPA and pass all classes awarded to remain eligible for the Vocational Tribal Grant. Students with a term GPA below 2.5 and at least 1.5 GPA for the term and those withdrawing without a valid medical reason or other valid reason shall be suspended at the end of the term. Participants must pass an equivalent of a twelve (12) hour credit or more course load to be/remain eligible for full time status.
- J. Students that drop up to three credit hours during the semester in which they were funded, will be placed on probation for the following semester. Students that drop more than three hours will be placed on suspension for the following semester.
- K. Reinstatement from suspension will occur after students complete the following semester, without tribal grant, at the required hours and required GPA. The required hours will be determined based on students' previous award amount. Students awarded for full time hours, will be required to complete full time hours during the suspended term; while students that were awarded for part time hours, will be required to complete part time hours during suspended time.
- L. Students must provide the Employment and Training Administration office with grades at the end of each semester/trimester/quarter or when training/class is complete. Schedules must be submitted for upcoming semester if another Tribal grant is requested.
- M. Students may only receive up to five (5) awards as full-time students and eight (8) awards as part-time students. Applicants enrolled in less than 1 college credit hour & less than 8 technical class hours are not eligible for grants. Award Calendar year is July 1 June 30. Students enrolled in more than one school at the same time will only be awarded full time at one school. Full time students must not exceed two awards per calendar year. Part time students must not exceed maximum award amount per calendar year.

# § 2-105. Vocational training; incentive grants

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- A. The applicant (student) must be an enrolled citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- B. The student must submit a completed original application, with all required documents, before an award can be processed.

#### C. Documentation includes:

- 1. A copy of the Citizenship Card;
- 2. A written educational plan of vocational intent for the use of the award:
- 3. The student's grade report for the term the Incentive Grant is being applied for;
- 4. Photo Identification; and
- 5. Signed Privacy Statement.
- D. Only students attending approved/accredited vocational schools or training programs and earning a term GPA of 3.0 or better and pass all classes will be considered for an Incentive Grant. Hours not completed will affect eligibility.
- H. All applicants shall be notified within fifteen (15) working days after date of applications as to the status of their application. A receipt of grades will be provided to clients. Applicants requesting a Tribal Incentive Grant must provide a current transcript or certificate 4 weeks after the semester or class end to determine eligibility. No exceptions will be made. If your award isn't received within 30 days after submitting grades, contact the ETA office immediately. A receipt of grades will be provided to clients. If client has no Tribal Grant receipt, payments will not be processed.
- I. Participants must pass an equivalent of a twelve (12) hour or more course load to be/remain eligible for full time status. The award amount will be based on credit/class hours.
- J. After verification of the student's GPA has been made, awards will be mailed to the student's home address. Applicants should contact ETA office in a timely manner, if your address changes to prevent a delay in receiving funds.
- K. Funding will be limited to five (5) awards as full-time students and ten (10) awards as part-time students. Applicants enrolled in less than 1 college credit hour & less than 8 technical class hours are not eligible for grants. Award Calendar year is July 1-June 30. Students enrolled in more than one school at the same time will only be awarded full time at one school. Full time students must not exceed two awards per calendar year. Part time students must not exceed maximum award amount per calendar year.

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L. All awards are based on availability of funds. The following Award Chart is based upon each applicants approved application:

Vocational training: Incentive grant	Award	Limits per year Incentive Grant
College 15 credit hrs.  Vo-Tech: (Full Time Program-15 class hours per week)	\$1,500.	\$3,000. 2 awards per yr.
College 14 credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (Full Time Program-14 class hours per week)	\$1,400.	
College 13 credit hr.  Vo-Tech: (Full Time Program-13 class hours per week)	\$1,300.	-
College 12 credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (Full Time Program-12 class hours per week)	\$1,200.	
College 11 credit hrs.  Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 176 hrs. /less than 192 hrs.	\$1,100.	\$2,200.
College 10 credit hrs.  Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 160 hrs.  /less than 176 hrs.	\$1,000.	
College 9 credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 144 hrs. /less than 160 hrs.	\$900.	
College 8 credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 128 hrs. /less than 144 hrs.	\$800.	
College 7credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 112 hrs. /less than 128 hrs.	\$700.	
College 6 credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 96 hrs. /less than 112 hrs.	\$600.	
College 5 credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 80 hrs. /less than 96 hrs.	\$500.	
College 4 credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 64 hrs. /less than 80 hrs.	\$400.	

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College 3 credit hrs.  Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 48 hrs. /less than 64 hrs.	\$300.	
College 2 credit hrs. Vo-Tech: (part time class -more than 32 hrs. /less than 48 hrs	\$200.	
College 1 credit hr. Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 16 hrs. /less than 32 hrs.	\$100.	
Vo-Tech: (part time class-more than 8 hrs. /less than 16 hrs.	<b>\$</b> 50.	
Con-current High School Vo-Tech	\$600.	\$1,200

SECTION FOUR. <u>EFFECTIVE DATE.</u> This Act shall become effective immediately upon proper approval and execution in accordance with the requirements of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution.

ENACTED by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 30th day of April, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council has hereto attached his signature.

Lucian Tiger III, Speaker

National Council

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

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### CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the minutes of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council comprised of Sixteen members with <u>Fifteen</u> members attending this meeting on the <u>30<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>April</u>, 2016 and that the above is in conformity with the provisions therein adopted by a vote of <u>14</u> in favor, <u>0</u> against, and that said Law has not been rescinded or amended in any way and the above is the signature of the Speaker of the National Council.

Kristie A. Sewell, Recording Secretary Muscogee (Creek) National Council

### **APPROVAL**

I, the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, hereby affix my signature on this day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2016 to the above Law, NCA 16-046 authorizing it to become a Law under Article VI., Section VI., of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

James R. Floyd, Principal Muscogee (Creek) Nation

