



Rhode Island Indian Council, Inc.

WIOA Program Description & FAQs

Our agency has been servicing the American Indian Community for 43 years. We are happy to assist you with your goals and guide you on your way to a successful career.

THE PURPOSE

WIOA (Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act) is legislation that is designed to strengthen and improve our nation's public workforce system and help get Americans, including those with significant barriers to employment, into quality jobs and careers, creating a skilled workforce.

The program is designed to support employment and training activities to develop academic, occupational and literacy skills, making individuals more competitive in the workforce. The ultimate goal of WIOA is to help individuals obtain employment. We are an extension of the U.S. Department of Labor.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Rhode Island Indian Council, Inc. offers guidance and assistance in areas of employment. Skills training and some tuition assistance is available to eligible individuals, such as paying for partial college or certification training costs. You have access to a support system, and a network of information, to achieve your goals. After services from our agency, our goal is for you to obtain a credential and enter you into the workforce. At this time, you will be exited from the program and not eligible to reapply for approximately one year.

LIMITATION

THIS IS NOT A SCHOLARSHIP. YOU ARE NOT ENTITLED TO MONEY.

If individuals are eligible for assistance with tuition, they must meet the HHS POVERTY/LOW INCOME GUIDELINES FOR 2018 or be unemployed. Only individuals who are Native American, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian are eligible to apply, and must have documentation or tribal identification. Our agency must adhere to federal requirements for funding qualifications.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I think I am Native, but I am not sure. How do I find out?

Tribal enrollment is independently managed by Tribal Councils. You must contact the tribe you are believed to be affiliated with and speak with them about their enrollment credentials and process. If your parent or grandparent is enrolled, you are eligible for our programs with use of their documentation.

Why would I be denied services? I'm Native!

Eligibility is determined by income, employment status, and Native identification. You are ineligible if: 1) you are employed and your income falls outside of the low-income bracket; 2) You are active military duty (veterans and reserves are eligible); 3) You are seeking a career/training that is not a sustainable career path; 4) You were enrolled in the program previously and violated your responsibilities.

What is expected of me?

Be respectful of our agency and its representatives. If you are enrolled in any academic program, send your grades as school must send their grades and keep their Individual Employment Plan (IEP) up to date. Most importantly, keep in contact with your caseworker! We are here to help you obtain a positive outcome at the closing of your enrollment in WIOA. If you withdraw from training/school you must contact us ASAP.