



National Congress of American Indians Youth Ambassador Leadership Program

Rules and Regulations

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY **OCTOBER 1, 2008**

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant must be 17-25 years of age on or before October 1, 2008;
- A citizen of an American Indian or Alaska Native tribe or village with proof of enrollment;
- Current High School Senior, full-time under graduate student (12+ credits) or full-time graduate student;
- Single, never married, no children.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS

The NCAI Ambassadors will be appointed, in part by consensus and in part by an Appointment Committee, which shall be composed of, but not limited to, tribal leaders, youth leaders and other tribal community members, at the Annual Convention semi-annually. Presentations will include a speech made by the applicants discussing his or her personal interest platform. Applicants must meet the criteria specified and be able to demonstrate their knowledge of tribal government, tribal culture, customs, practices, tribal history, their concerned interest in present and future issues, and the conditions affecting the well-being of American Indian and Alaska Native governments and people.

Applicants will be required to publicly promote their platform (limited to three (3) minute speeches), and must be able to answer questions from fellow peers, and answer impromptu questions. Applicants are strongly recommended to prepare a cultural presentation and the use of your Native language is strongly encouraged.

The NCAI scholarship will be paid directly to the male and female Ambassador's school of choice and will not be disbursed to the Ambassador directly.

During the official Youth Commission meetings, Youth Commission participants will have an opportunity to talk one-on-one with each applicant.

ALL APPLICANTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND AN ORIENTATION SESSION THAT WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2006 from 3:00 - 4:00 PM.

Due to safety and supervision concerns NCAI requires that all individuals under the age of 18 be chaperoned by a responsible adult.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed official application form.
2. Three letters of recommendations from a school official, tribal official, and/or professional individual. Letters from relatives will not be accepted.
3. Copy of Birth Certificate.
4. Certified Copy of Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (American Indian or Alaska Native citizenry) or proof of enrollment
5. Signed copy of Tribal Endorsement Form.
6. Signed copy of Ambassador Leadership Program Rules and Responsibilities.
7. Signed copy of NCAI Ambassadorship Program Pledge of a Youth Ambassador.
8. Copy of most recent academic transcripts. Applicants must have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
9. One (1) essay: a personal interest essay. See Page 2 for further details. .

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
SEPTEMBER 5, 2008.**

[LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED]

Please send all materials to:

NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program
National Congress of American Indians
1301 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036



Name _____ Indian Name _____

English Meaning _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Place of Birth _____

Tribe in Which You Are Enrolled _____

Parent/Chaperone Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Educational Background

High School _____ Year Graduated _____

College _____ Classification _____

Major _____ Year Graduated _____

Degree _____

List any honors, titles or positions you hold or have held in the past.

Answer Each Question on a Separate Sheet of Paper (Limit 2 pages, double spaced, Times font, 12 point font size):

- Personal Interest Essay and Platform. Essay entitled “An Important Indian Issue of Concern to Me and How I Plan to Address this Issue During my Tenure, should I be chosen as the Youth Ambassador.

CHECK LIST: Please initial & date the following requirements to ensure your application is complete.

- | | |
|--|--|
| _____ 1) Completed Application | _____ 6) Signed copy of Ambassador Leadership Program Rules and Responsibilities |
| _____ 2) Three letters of Recommendation | _____ 7) Signed copy of NCAI Ambassadorship Program Pledge of a Youth Ambassador |
| _____ 3) Copy of Birth Certificate | _____ 8) Copy of Academic Transcript |
| _____ 4) Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood | _____ 9) Typed Essay (see application for instructions) |
| _____ 5) Signed copy Tribal Endorsement Form | |

Upon receipt of completed application, attachments and other program materials will be sent by email to each applicant. Applicants are responsible for all travel, lodging, and meal costs during the Annual Convention.

Note: If the preceding requirements are not complete and submitted by the established deadline, I may be disqualified to participate in the NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program and understand that all appointment decisions made by the Youth Commission are final.

Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Rules and Responsibilities as Youth Ambassador Applicant

- You are required to be in Phoenix, Arizona, on the first day of the 65th NCAI Annual Convention (Sunday, October 19, 2008). Failure to do so will result in an applicant's removal from the NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program.
- Parents, relatives, friends, or sponsors shall not interfere with the application process or the scholarship program. Any interference will result in an applicant's removal from the NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program.
- All applicants will be required to participate in the scholarship program that will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at the Youth Honoring Luncheon.
- You will need to bring all items needed for your program presentation to rehearsal. This includes individuals that will be a part of your cultural presentation (drummers, singers, etc.) and your speech materials. Applicants will be responsible for setting up all props/audio by themselves.
- Applicants are required to attend all scheduled activities, including all events for the NCAI Youth Commission, and arrive at scheduled time. Applicants also must be prepared to participate fully upon arrival.
- Absolutely no use of illegal drugs, cigarettes or alcohol substances will be allowed during any portion of the NCAI Annual Convention. Failure to do so can result in an applicant's removal from the NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program.
- You are responsible for appropriate behavior during your role as an applicant. This includes maintaining a positive attitude for the duration of the Program.
- Use of abusive or vulgar language will not be tolerated any time during the NCAI Youth Commission meetings.
- You are responsible for your belongings at all times. The NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program and NCAI are not responsible for applicants' personal belongings, loss of articles, theft or injury.

I understand that I may be withdrawn as an applicant of the NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program if I deviate from any of the conditions outlined above and may further result in applicant's removal from all Annual Convention Youth Commission Events and Activities.

Signature _____ Date _____

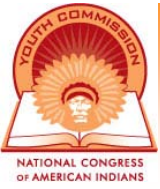
MEDIA RELEASE

I AUTHORIZE THE National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Ambassador Leadership Program and NCAI to record on film, tape or otherwise, my name, likeness, image, voice and performance for use in various programs, which I understand may be produced and recorded for duplication, broadcast and possible distribution throughout the United States and abroad, in such a manner as may be determined for promotional, educational and or informational purposes for the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Ambassador Leadership Program.

Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Parental Signature (if applicant is under 18)



Tribal Endorsement Form

To be filled out by the applicant:

Name _____ Indian Name _____
English Translation _____
Address _____
City _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Place of Birth _____
Tribe in Which You Are Enrolled _____
Parent/Chaperone Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Educational Background

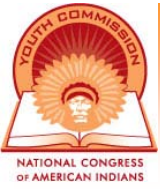
High School _____ Year Graduated _____
College _____ Classification _____
Major _____ Year Graduated _____
Degree _____

Tribal Endorsement (to be completed by a Member of the Tribal Council)

By completing this form, the tribe or Native village acknowledges the applicant's participation in the NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program and understands its commitment to supporting the applicant upon receiving the honor of NCAI Youth Commission Ambassador.

Name _____ Date _____
Title _____
Tribe _____
Signature _____ Date _____

NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program



Pledge of a Youth Ambassador

I, _____, hereby pledge to serve as a role model to youth across the nation once I am appointed as the National Congress of American Indians Youth Leadership Ambassador.

I hereby pledge sobriety throughout my two-year tenure and will uphold the values and morals of my community and the Native community at large. I further pledge not to use illegal drugs or consume tobacco products during my tenure as the NCAI Youth Ambassador.

Ambassadors must meet all eligibility requirements as outlined on Page 1 of the Rules and Regulations.

Ambassadors will be responsible for serving as a representative voice of the Youth Commission and must behave in an appropriate manner at all functions at which the Ambassadors serve as an NCAI Representative.

Upon appointment as NCAI Youth Commission Ambassador, Ambassadors will be required to attend the NCAI Mid-Year and Annual Conventions for the endurance of their term.

Upon appointment as Ambassador, each Ambassador will be responsible for holding regular meetings of the Youth Commission Council and in advancing their policy agendas. Failure to do so will result in a withdrawal of the scholarship funding and could lead to a formal removal from the Ambassador Leadership program.

Upon appointment as Ambassador, each Ambassador will notify NCAI staff, as identified, of any and all related travel for and on behalf of the National Congress of American Indians. That once a speaking engagement or travel commitment is made, the Ambassador will be required to attend all confirmed activities, functions or events.

I hereby agree and promise to abide by the above NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program Pledge of a Youth Ambassador. Failure to do so will result in an Ambassador's removal from the NCAI Ambassador Leadership Program.

Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____