

**NATIVE AMERICAN  
TUITION WAIVER  
APPLICATION**  
(May 2015)

**SOUTHERN MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
Financial Aid Office, 2 Fort Road, South Portland, ME 04106  
P: (207) 741-5518 F: (207) 741-5671  
finaid@smccme.edu www.smccme.edu/financialaid

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SMCC ID:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** To apply for the SMCC Native American Tuition Waiver, sign the certification section below and submit this form to your tribal representative to complete the "Tribal Certification" section. The completed *original* must be mailed to the SMCC Financial Aid Office from the tribal office and received no later than two weeks prior to the start of the semester. The form needs to be completed only once and will remain in effect as long as you continue to meet the eligibility requirements.

**STUDENT CERTIFICATION**

**Name of tribe or nation with which you are associated:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check off the statement(s) that apply to you:**

My name appears on the on the current tribal census of the tribe indicated above.

My parent's name is on the current tribal census of the tribe indicated above.

Parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_

My grandparent's name is on the current tribal census of the tribe indicated above.

Grandparent's name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Have you earned college degree (associates, bachelors, masters or doctorate)?**      **Yes**      **No**

**Student Certification:** By signing below I certify that I have read and understand the "SMCC Native American Tuition Waiver Policy" on the reverse of this form and that I meet the eligibility criteria. I give permission to the tribe or nation with which I am associated to provide SMCC information about my association with the tribe or nation. I give permission to the SMCC Financial Aid Office to contact the tribal representative about this waiver application if necessary.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TRIBAL CERTIFICATION**

**Dear Tribal Representative:** The student named above is applying for a Native American tuition waiver at Southern Maine Community College. To qualify, the student, the student's parent or the student's grandparent must be listed on the current tribal census of a recognized Native American tribe. Please check the statements below that apply to the student, sign this form, and return it to the SMCC at the address indicated above. Thank you for your assistance and feel free to contact the Financial Aid Office if you have any questions.

**Please check off the tribe or nation with which the student is associated and which you represent:**

The Passamaquoddy Tribe

The Houlton Band of Maliseet

The Penobscot Nation

The Aroostook Band of Micmac

Other state or federally recognized North American Indian tribe (specify tribe name below):

Name of Tribe: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check off the statement(s) that apply to the student:**

The student's name is on the current tribal census of the tribe indicated above.

The student's parent's name is on the current tribal census of the tribe indicated above.

The student's grandparent's name is on the current tribal census of the tribe indicated above.

Name and title of certifying official: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number of certifying official: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of certifying official:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SOUTHERN MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**NATIVE AMERICAN TUITION WAIVER POLICY**

*(May 2015)*

Southern Maine Community College waives all or a portion of tuition charges for matriculated students who are Maine residents and document their membership or ancestry in a Native American tribe.

**Eligibility Criteria:** To qualify for an SMCC Native American tuition waiver, the student must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- 1. Maine Residency:** The student must meet SMCC's criteria to qualify for in-state tuition charges.
- 2. Enrollment:** The student must be accepted into a degree or certificate program and enrolled in credit-bearing courses at SMCC.
- 3. Financial Aid Application:** Applicants for the Native American Waiver must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (fafsa.gov) annually as soon as possible after October 1 and provide the documents required for determining aid eligibility. Applicants must meet the basic eligibility criteria for receiving Federal student aid.
- 4. Tribal Membership or Ancestry:** The student must provide documentation that s/he is included on the current tribal census. If the student is not included on the current tribal census, the student must provide documentation that at least one parent or grandparent is included on the current tribal census of the Passamaquoddy Tribe; the Penobscot Nation; the Houlton Band of Maliseet; the Aroostook Band of Micmac; or a state, federal, or provincial North American Indian Tribe, or held a band number of the Maliseet or Micmac Tribes. This documentation shall include a completed "SMCC Native American Tuition Waiver" application sent directly from the pertinent tribal enrollment office to the college.
- 5. SMCC Native American Waiver Application:** The student must complete and submit a "SMCC Native American Tuition Waiver Application" to the SMC Financial Aid Office. Once eligibility is established, re-application is not necessary.

**Waiver Amount:** The waiver is equal to in-state tuition charged to the student in a semester less any other grant aid awarded to the student. The waiver may not, either alone or in combination with other aid received, exceed the total cost of attendance as determined by federal standards and the college's financial aid office. The tuition waiver does not apply to room or board charges, book or tool costs, academic or program fees, or other student fees.

**Duration of Eligibility:** The waiver is also limited to the number of credit hours required for graduation from the degree program in which the student first matriculates. Eligibility for the waiver ends after the student has earned one degree. The waiver can only be applied to a maximum of 90 credits at SMCC, regardless of whether or not the student has earned a credential. The student must maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by federal and college guidelines, and otherwise remain in good academic and disciplinary standing.

**Transferring:** Students transferring between Maine's community colleges must apply anew for a waiver from the new college.