

MICHIGAN INDIAN TUITION WAIVER APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

STUDENT: To apply for the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver (MITW), you must:

- **Complete** the Student Section of the MITW Application. (Attached or on the opposite side of this form).
- **Submit** the MITW (and any attached documents) to your Tribal Enrollment Department for certification.
- **Ensure** the Tribe-certified MITW application form and accompanying documents are submitted to MDCR for verification. This will often be done by your Tribe after they complete their section of the application, or they will return the form to you. It is your responsibility to ensure the completed application and required documents are filed.

To be eligible for the MITW:

- You must be enrolled at one of Michigan's public colleges or universities **AND**
- You must be $\frac{1}{4}$ or more Native American blood quantum as certified by your Tribal Enrollment Department **AND**
- You must be an enrolled member of a U.S. Federally-recognized Tribe as certified by your Tribal Enrollment Department **AND**
- You must be a legal resident of the state of Michigan for no less than 12 consecutive months.

You must provide the following documentation with your MITW application:

- A photocopy of your Michigan Driver's License or State-issued Michigan ID card **AND**
- A photocopy of your Tribal ID.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY: MITW status does not determine your residency status at your institution. Your institution may require additional documentation as proof of residency or to determine your length of residency in Michigan.

TRIBAL CERTIFICATION: You must submit this application to your Tribal Enrollment Department for certification and signature. **The Tribal Enrollment Department is certifying that you, the student, are $\frac{1}{4}$ or more Native American blood quantum and are an enrolled member of a U.S. Federally-recognized Tribe.** The Tribal Enrollment Department may submit this form and the accompanying documents on your behalf to MDCR for verification.

STUDENT STATUS: The statute does not limit tuition waiver eligibility based upon full/part-time status, degree track, academic performance, or similar criteria – and such information will not affect MDCR verification.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS REQUESTING MITW TRANSFER/DUAL ENROLLMENT:

- If the student has never applied with MDCR, they must complete the entire application, including tribal certification, and submit all documents to MDCR according to the instructions.
- If the student has previously applied and been verified by MDCR, the student should complete only the Student Section of the application. The Tribal Certification Section does not need to be completed.
- The Transfer/Dual Enrollment application must be sent to MDCR.

TRIBE: Complete the Tribe Section of the MITW, certifying whether the applicant is a Tribal member **AND** is $\frac{1}{4}$ or more degree of Native American blood quantum. Send completed application form and accompanying documents to MDCR (using the address at the top of this page).

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS: Upon receipt of a MITW application, MDCR will review it for the required information. If complete, MDCR will prepare a verification letter, which will be sent to both the applicant and the institution(s). If MDCR determines it is unable to verify a student's eligibility for MITW, it will send the applicant (student) a letter stating the reason(s) for the denial.