Chief John Alfred Tahquette Education Trust General Information and Instructions For Scholarship Application

Purpose and Eligibility

The Will of Amy Tahquette Critzer established a trust to provide scholarships. The will states that Amy Tahquette Critzer had prepared an outline of policy and procedures for selecting the scholarship recipients. However, at the time of her death no such outline existed, nor, contrary to the statement in the Will, was the outline attached to the Will. The purpose of the Chief John Alfred Tahquette Education Trust is to assist enrolled members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in completing their higher education. These scholarships are available to undergraduate and graduate students and to students enrolled in technical schools if the student is enrolled in a college, university or technical school that is located more than 250 miles from Cherokee, North Carolina. The students must attend classes at the school where they are enrolled. No internet classes that allow them to stay within 250 miles of Cherokee, North Carolina will qualify for scholarship consideration.

The awards are intended to cover the cost of tuition, room and board, and may be maintained as long as the student maintains a 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. In order to retain the scholarship, based upon availability of funds, a recipient must provide the Scholarship Committee with a current transcript. It is the responsibility of the student to submit proof to the Scholarship Committee that the grade point requirements have been met.

Application Deadlines

The application must be emailed, faxed or postmarked by June 1, 2016. Successful candidates will be notified of their selection by July 1, 2016. The scholarship recipients are selected by a Scholarship Committee which consists of the Tribal Education Officer, the Superintendent or Chief Administrative/Executive Officer of the Cherokee School, one member of the Cherokee School Board, who shall be selected by the Board, the Trust Officer for First Citizens Bank administering the educational trust and Dean Coward. If Dean Coward is not available, a representative of First Citizens Bank in Cherokee, North Carolina will take his place.

The scholarships will be awarded on the basis of the following criteria:

- 1. financial need;
- 2. academic achievement;
- 3. personal qualities, strengths and leadership abilities.

No scholarship will be awarded to any student who is enrolled in a college or university or a technical school which is geographically located within 250 miles of Cherokee, North Carolina. No scholarship will be renewed if the student's grade point average falls below 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. In addition to the application, which must be fully completed, the applicant must submit a recent school transcript, a copy of their Indian card, and two letters of recommendation to be submitted directly to the Scholarship Committee. The completed application and letters of recommendation should be sent to: Cherrie C. Nelson, First Citizens Bank, P. O. Box 749, Hendersonville, NC, 28793-0749 or via Fax No. 828-696-7476 or via Email cherrie.nelson@firstcitizens.com.