

Description

The Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver (MITW), enacted by Public Act 174 of 1976, waives the tuition costs for eligible Native American students in public community colleges or universities within Michigan.

Application

Applicants must complete the student section of the MITW application found at michigan.gov/mitw and attach a photocopy of a Tribal ID. New students must submit the application to their Tribal Enrollment Department for certification. The Tribal Enrollment Department should submit the application to MiLEAP for verification. Previously verified returning students can submit their updated application directly to mitw@michigan.gov.

Eligibility

Students must be a Michigan resident and have resided in Michigan for at least 12 consecutive months at the time of application; must qualify for admission at a public institution in Michigan; and must be one-quarter (1/4) Native American blood quantum AND an enrolled citizen of a U.S. Federally Recognized Tribe.

FAQs

→ When should I apply?

Applications should be submitted during the admissions and financial aid processes. MITW applications may take 2 to 4 weeks to process once received by MiLEAP.

→ When will I receive the funds?

No actual funds are received. Tuition costs are waived and this will be reflected on your student account.

→ Do I need to reapply every year?

No. As long as you continuously attend the same institution, your tuition waiver status does not need to be renewed every year.

→ Can I be a part-time or dual-enrolled student?

Yes, the MITW can be used for part-time or full-time enrollment during any term. It can also be received at more than one institution at the same time as long as the institutions are eligible to use the MITW.

→ What if I start school before I apply?

The MITW is not retroactive and does not reimburse for coursework already completed; therefore, you are encouraged to apply before courses start.

→ Can I transfer schools?

Yes. You must have a verified MITW application with MiLEAP before requesting a transfer. You must then reapply, mark the 'Continuing Student' box, and submit to MiLEAP.

→ Are other documents needed?

Check with your institution to see if a form must be completed to process the MITW. Submitting Your FAFSA is highly encouraged.

To confirm your MITW status:

- Review the award letter sent from your financial aid office to see if the MITW has been applied.
- Check your student account online to see if the MITW has been applied.
- Ensure you have provided the correct email address where you check email regularly.