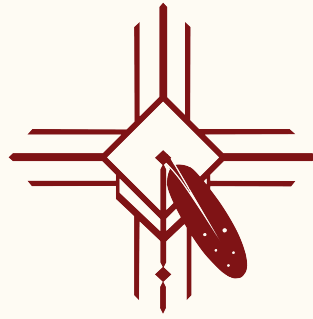




2023 IMPACT REPORT  
AMERICAN INDIAN SERVICES  
THE IMPACT OF YOUR GENEROSITY



# AMERICAN INDIAN SERVICES

## VISION

We are dedicated to helping Native Americans have access to a quality education, while still preserving their culture and honoring their heritage.

## MISSION

We provide preparatory programs for Native American youth and financial assistance for Native American students in pursuit of higher education/learning.

## VALUES

Education  
Cultural Preservation  
Economic Development  
Social Mobility

## GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Student Centered





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# MESSAGE FROM OUR AIS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear AIS Supporter,

On behalf of the American Indian Services (AIS) Board of Directors, and staff,  
I am thrilled to share with you the remarkable impact that your generosity made in 2023.

As you review our 2023 Impact Report, you can see the tangible outcomes of your contributions. Through your kindness and dedication, AIS has been able to provide critical financial assistance, and educational resources to thousands of deserving students. From scholarships that open doors to higher education to middle school summer programs and community events that foster cultural pride, your support has truly transformed lives.

In 2023, your donations helped us achieve some incredible feats.

1. Granting both Trade School and College Scholarships: Your generosity enabled us to expand our scholarship offerings, reaching traditional and non-traditional students. These scholarships have not only eased the financial burden of education, but have also served as a beacon of hope for students striving to overcome economic challenges and pursue their academic/higher learning goals.
2. Community Engagement: Through community outreach events, cultural celebrations, and partnerships with other Native American organizations, we have been able to strengthen ties within Native American communities and promote educational opportunities for future generations.
3. Impactful Stories: The 2023 Impact Report features inspiring stories of resilience, determination, and achievement from a handful of students who have benefited from your generosity. These stories serve as a testament to the transformative power of education and the profound impact of your support.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support to AIS. Your support has been instrumental in empowering Native American students across the country to pursue their educational dreams and creating brighter futures for themselves and their communities.

Pidamaya/Ahéhee' (Many Thanks)  
Chauma Kee-Jansen, MPA  
Assiniboine-Sioux/Navajo (she/her)  
AIS Executive Director

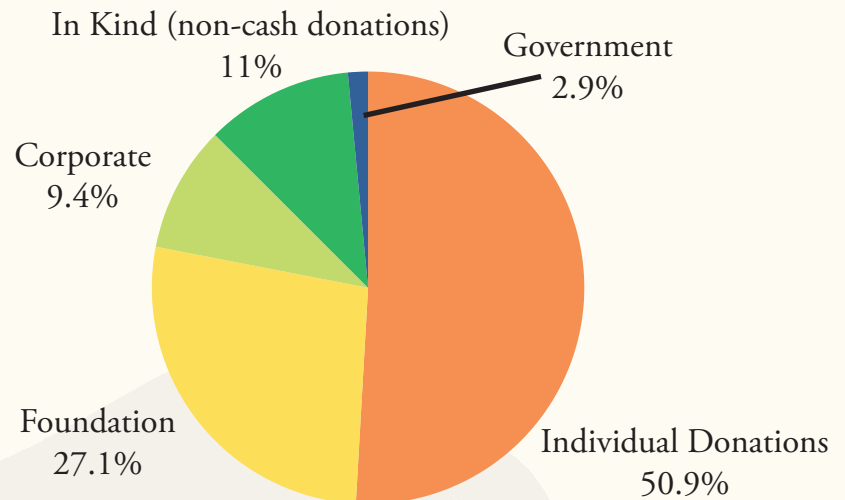


# FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2023

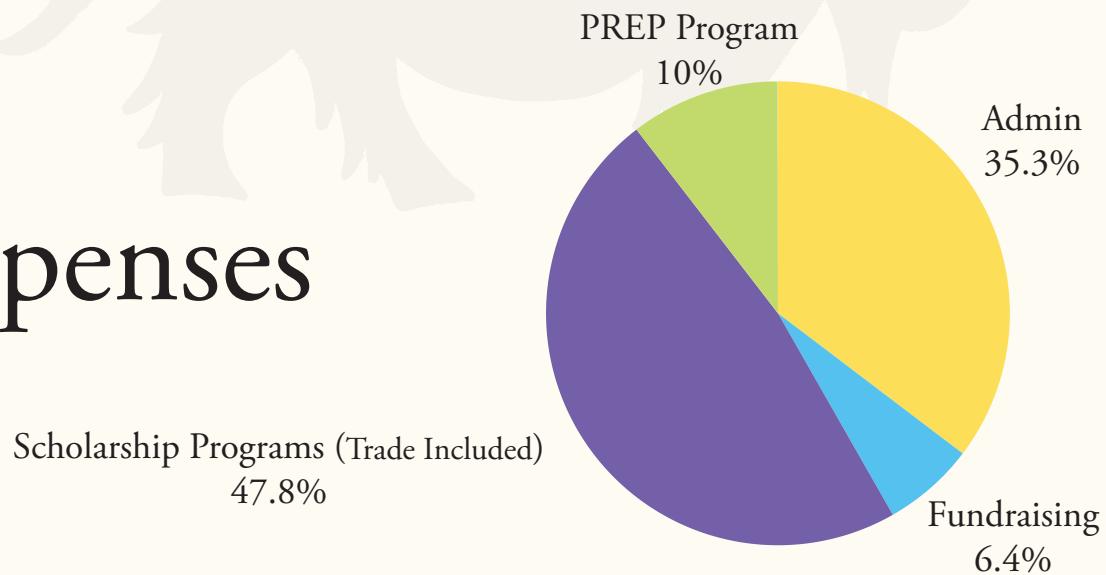
## \$5,112,032.00

### TOTAL REVENUE & PUBLIC SUPPORT

## Revenue



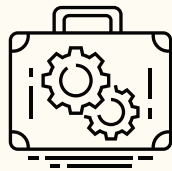
## Expenses



# AIS STEM-PREP

For students who struggle in specific academic areas, or for students who demonstrate exceptional academic abilities in core areas, our STEM-PREP Summer focuses on academic instruction that allow students to enhance their cognitive skills and abilities. Our STEM-PREP Summer is an interdisciplinary approach that helps students succeed in high school, college and in their future careers.

300 STEM Kits  
Distributed



1060 Hygiene Kits  
Distributed



2,901 Meals  
Distributed



75 High School  
Graduates



## Testimonial



Kim Silvers  
Navajo  
AIS PREP Gallup, NM

"I am the Site Program Coordinator for the AIS PREP summer program, here in Gallup, NM. I have been blessed with this job for the last six years. I am truly grateful for the opportunities and resources that my job gives to me and the students in my program. Witnessing the growth and strength of mind and character, is a wonderful benefit of my job. My students learn so much and have access to great instructors and learning material that it is not possible to absorb the intended learning. I have seen many of our students begin to see themselves in careers and environments that they previously did not even think of.

I have had parents of our kids, thank me time and time again for the boost of self confidence in their children and how now they are excelling in school. I am so proud of our students that have graduated high school with their Associate's degree and gone onto college for Engineering and other STEM fields. All of this has been made possible by the American Indian Services organization and all the donors. The AIS STEM-PREP program is changing lives and giving the chance for better futures to our Native American children.



# AIS STEM-PREP STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



Saylor D.  
Navajo  
AIS PREP Blanding, UT

"I want to attend either Brigham Young University or the University of Utah. After coming up to the U of U for the summer celebration, I really loved being on the it's campus. I would like to have the chance to study and maybe become a doctor.

[At AIS PREP] I was able to make new friends and feel like I belong on a college campus. I feel like I learned a lot about STEM opportunities for me. I feel confident in what I learned from AIS PREP and I know it will help me as I go to high school and college.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity as a Native American [student] and helping me see that I have a chance at anything in life."



Cameron K.  
Navajo  
AIS PREP Gallup, NM

"I plan on going to Northern Arizona University and to study Engineering. We went on a field trip to NAU and I really liked it. My brother goes there right now too.

AIS PREP helped me learn new information about STEM careers and classes. It gave me confidence in trying something that was hard, and I was able to enjoy my three summers in AIS PREP.

AIS PREP helped me feel more ready to go to college and do well in my high school classes. I want to continue learning more about the different types of engineering.

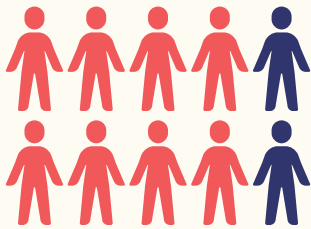
Thank you for donating and allowing us to have three fun summers of AIS PREP. I have learned so much, and I know that I will use what I learned to get better grades and go to college. Thank you for your help in keeping this program."





# AIS TRADE SCHOLARSHIP

Not all students are suited for traditional four-year college degrees, and trade schools provide alternative pathways to gain valuable skills and embark on rewarding careers. Supporting trade school scholarships acknowledges the importance of diversifying education options and recognizing the value of vocational training. It helps bridge the gap between education and employment, empowers individuals with valuable skills, and strengthens communities and industries alike. Since its inception, in May 2021, the AIS Trade Scholarship Program has helped 22 Native American students receive a Trade School education.



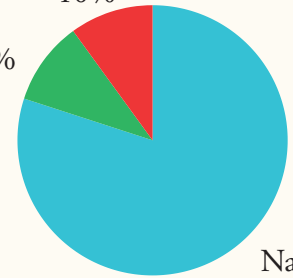
**In 2023, AIS was able to fund 10 Trade Students**  
**80% female 20% Male**

## Tribal Representation

Colorado River Indian Tribes

10%

Ute 10%



Navajo 80%

## Student Testimonial

"Without the AIS Trade School Scholarship, I would not be able to attend school. I would have been back home herding sheep and doing other projects for my grandmother. I also would have had to commute to Page, Arizona, every day to work. I am grateful that I can pursue my job profession at Snow College.

It makes me feel good to know that I will have a career in welding where I know I can serve my Navajo community; I would like to do welding projects on the Navajo reservation or teach welding someday. Not everyone is given this rare opportunity and I feel truly blessed. I really needed this scholarship because it has allowed me to focus on my schooling. If I didn't have this scholarship, I would be worrying about how I would pay my housing bills and other bills that pay for my daily routine, such as food, gas, and clothing. Thank you to the donors for giving me this opportunity to finish my education, I couldn't do anything without it."



Gregory H.  
 Navajo  
 Welding





# AIS TRADE SCHOLARSHIP

## Areas of Focus



20% Welding



20% Medical



80% Cosmetology

## Top Trade Schools Attended

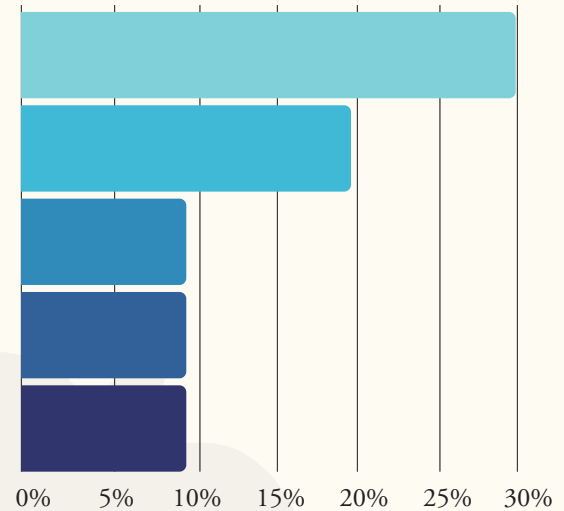
Taylor Andrews Academy

Snow College

Joyce University

The Beauty College

The Way Barber Academy



## Student Testimonial



Annalee C.  
Navajo  
Nursing

"We didn't have a lot of money growing up. When I was 13 years old, my mother had two brain aneurysms and had to have emergency brain surgery. My mom spent many months in the hospital, and I was with her as much as I could be.

I will never forget the nurses that helped my mom throughout her recovery journey. I have always had a passion to help those in need. It's a rewarding feeling to know that I am able to make a change in someone's life, even if it is a small one. After graduation, I plan on working in labor and delivery.

Without the help from your donations, I would not be as close to obtaining my degree as I am today. My mother is a single mom of three children, and she is so grateful that I have had the opportunity to obtain higher education. I can't wait to give service to others the way that you are able to! I would not be living my educational dream if it weren't for you. I thank you for everything."



# AIS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Native American communities often face significant barriers to educational attainment, including limited access to quality schools, inadequate resources, and financial barriers. The AIS Scholarship helps alleviate these disparities by providing financial support to Native American students pursuing higher education.

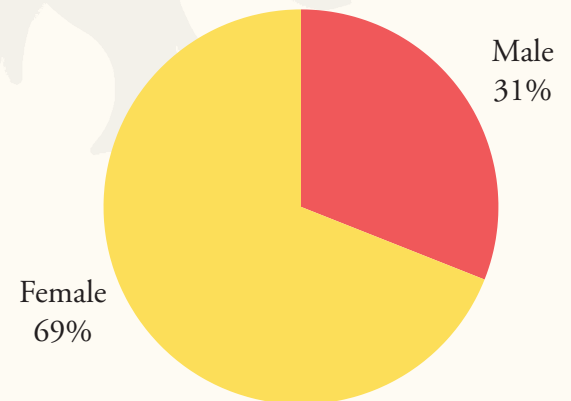
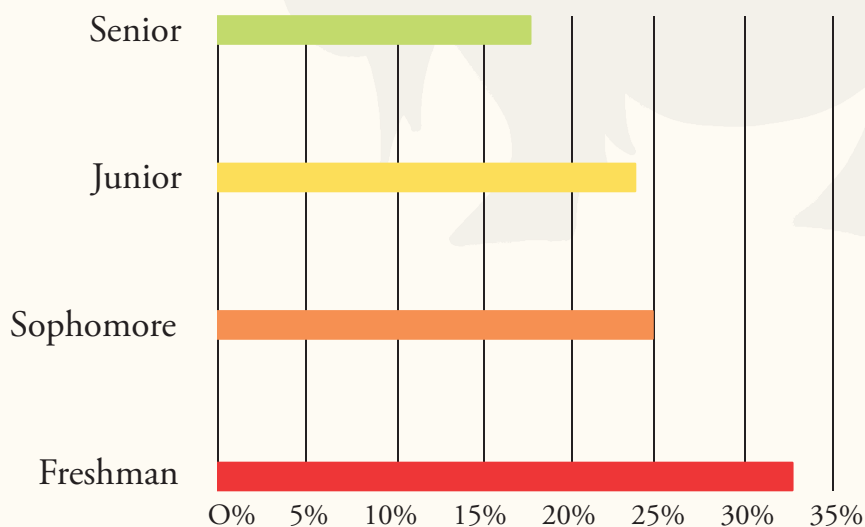
With 40+ years of service, the AIS Scholarship Program has helped 52,000+ undergraduate Native American/Alaska Native students with financial support to attain their dream of higher education. Here's a glimpse of the students we were able to fund in 2023.

**Total Scholarships  
Awarded in 2023**  
(University & Trade Combined)



**2,208**

## Student Demographics



# AIS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

## Top 5 Schools:

1. Arizona State University
2. University of New Mexico - ABQ
3. Northwest Indian College
4. Utah State University
5. Northern Arizona University

## Top 5 Majors:

1. Business
2. Nursing
3. Engineering
4. Education
5. Psychology

## Top 10 Tribes Represented:

1. Navajo Nation	51.6%	6. Lummi	1.5%
2. Cherokee	7.4 %	7. Spirit Lake	1.2%
3. Turtle Mountain	4.8%	8. Three Affiliated	1%
4. Choctaw	2.2%	9. Oglala Sioux	.9%
5. Muscogee (Creek) Nation	1.7%	10. Confed. Yakama	.9%

## Top 10 States Scholarships Are Awarded In:

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Arizona      | 6. Washington |
| 2. New Mexico   | 7. Colorado   |
| 3. Utah         | 8. California |
| 4. Oklahoma     | 9. Texas      |
| 5. North Dakota | 10. Oregon    |



# AIS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Dear AIS Donor,

My name is Dreyton P., and I am a proud member of the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, located in San Diego County, California. It is with a heart full of gratitude that I write to you today, having been honored with the American Indian Services Scholarship.

Growing up as a member of one of the poorest tribes in the country I was confronted with numerous challenges. Our community has historically had unemployment and poverty rates much higher than the national average which is a stark reflection of the limited economic opportunities that were available to us. These experiences, though fraught with hardship, have not only shaped me into the resilient individual I am today but have also ignited within me a fierce determination to expand the opportunities available to my Tribe.

I am currently attending Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO, where I am majoring in Computer Science. I am deeply committed to using my education to give back to my tribe, envisioning a future where technology plays a pivotal role in uplifting those from similar backgrounds and empowering our community to thrive in an interconnected world.

None of this would have been possible without your generous support. I want to express my deepest thanks for your contribution towards my education. Your generosity is not just an investment in my future, but in the future of our communities and the preservation and advancement of our heritage. I am deeply honored to be a recipient of this scholarship and I am committed to making the most of this incredible opportunity. Thank you once again for your kindness and for believing in students like me. Your support is making a difference, and I am profoundly grateful for it.

Sincerely,

Dreyton P.  
Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel  
Sophomore  
Computer Science/Statistics





# AIS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP TESTIMONIAL

Dear AIS Donor,

My name is Tiauna W., I am a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in Fort Hall, Idaho. My dream is to be a female Native American Fisheries Biologist. I am a senior at Central Washington University, and I am currently pursuing my BS in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. In 2019, I moved from Pocatello, ID to Yakima, WA after I was offered a softball scholarship at YVC. I graduated with my Associates Degree of Arts, and I am proud to have accomplished this while being a student athlete. One challenge I have faced is being so far away from my family. Being away from them has given me the drive to finish my degree so I can return home. Another challenge is keeping up my GPA. College can be very difficult, and I have focused on getting good grades and excelling in my course of study.

After graduating with my bachelor's, I plan to return home and work at my local tribal fisheries department. I want to have a positive impact on the fisheries program here on my reservation. The fish migration that goes by my reservation has been on a slow decline within the past decade. With my knowledge and experience I plan to work hard to improve the fish migration. In the next decade, my goal is to raise climate change awareness to people and do everything I can to increase the fish run.

With climate change affecting salmon runs, I hope to bring awareness and change that will help address future salmon runs. I want my children's children to still be able to do traditional salmon fishing in the future.

I was excited to learn of my selection for this scholarship and I am deeply appreciative of your support. Thanks to your generosity, I can pursue my Bachelor of Science degree at Central Washington University. The AIS Award will pay for my tuition expenses, which will alleviate my financial burden, and allow me to focus on my studies. Thank you for your support and sponsorship of the American Indian Services scholarship.



Much Appreciation,

Tiauna W.  
Shoshone-Bannock  
Senior  
Biology



# AIS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP TESTIMONIAL

Dear AIS Donor,

My name is Collin C. and I am a member of the Muscogee Creek Nation. I am from Wagoner, Oklahoma which is a small town in NE Oklahoma. I grew up in Wagoner and attended public school there from pre-k to high school. My childhood dream was to attend the University of Oklahoma and become an Oklahoma Sooner. I was the only student from my High School graduating class to apply and get accepted to the University of Oklahoma. Despite the financial burden, my family wanted me to have a chance to fulfill my dream, so I packed my bags and traveled to Norman, Ok to begin my freshman year of college.

I didn't know a soul and had to begin the process of building relationships and making new friendships. My freshman year was a difficult journey that was lonely at times and challenging. I realized the major I thought was right for me, was not. After analyzing my strengths and weaknesses, I decided to change my major to Accounting. My goal is to pursue a Masters degree in Accounting and become a CPA.

The growing pains of freshman year have subsided and I feel like I am flourishing at the University of Oklahoma. I have maintained a full time class schedule and worked as an Equipment Manager for the Oklahoma Sooner football team for the past 2 seasons. The job required many hours and long days but I learned how to balance my school schedule and work responsibilities.

I was recently offered and accepted a student coach internship with the OU football team. The hours required throughout the year will be even more demanding and unfortunately the position is not a paid position. However, the opportunity is tremendous and I am excited for this new adventure. I want to thank you for this scholarship as it will decrease the financial burden to myself and my family and allow me to continue my journey as an Oklahoma Sooner.

Sincerely,

Collin C.  
Muscogee Creek  
Junior  
Accounting



# AIS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP TESTIMONIAL

Dear Scholarship Donor,

Y'át'ééh! (Greetings) Such a great blessing and honor to be considered and offered this wonderful scholarship opportunity. My name is Erika Jean E. and I am Tachii'nii (Red Running into the Water) born for Ma'i deeshgiízhinii (Coyote Pass People). I am a member of the Diné Nation and currently live in Shiprock, New Mexico (Northern Navajo Reservation).

I attend Diné College as a third year undergraduate student majoring in Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Biology.

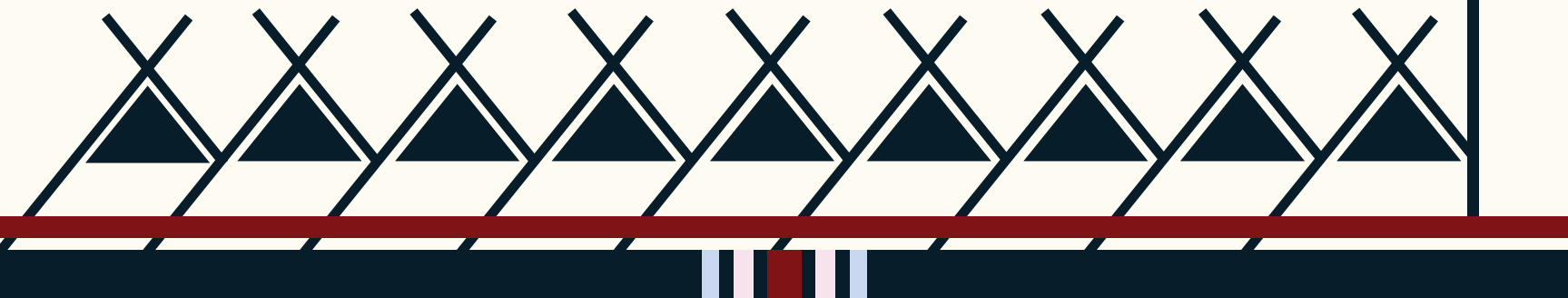
A few recent experiences and challenges have inspired me to pursue a degree in medicine. On March 24, 2024 will be the one-year anniversary of my mother's passing. Just six months prior, I myself underwent open heart surgery. These life events have strengthened me mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. I have come to learn that life is so precious and that we need to help others at every chance that we can do so.

I have also learned that there is a great need for Indigenous medical doctors in helping underserved populations here on the Navajo Reservation. After graduation, I aspire to attend medical school at the University of New Mexico. I plan to study tumor immunology in endometrial cancers and return home as an oncologist helping underserved Indigenous women on the Navajo Reservation.

Your generosity and support allows every student a fighting chance to achieve their academic and career goals. Thank you for making a positive impact on my life and encouraging me to successfully complete college dreams. I will do my very best in passing it forward in helping and supporting my fellow peers, family, friends, and community.

Ahéhee' (Thank You)!

Erika E.  
Navajo  
Junior  
Biomedical Science



# AIS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP TESTIMONIAL

Dear AIS Donor,

Hello! My name is Zeke W. I am from Fort Worth, Texas, and a proud member of the Osage Nation. I have three sisters-one older and two younger. I miss them and my parents very much, but I am having a wonderful time at college.

I attend Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, and it has been an extraordinary experience so far. Back in Fort Worth, I was not in close proximity to my tribe (or many others) which made it hard to connect with a large Native community. While at Texas Tech, I try to take advantage of a more diverse community and meet people from other tribes, as there are many students from New Mexico that attend Texas Tech.

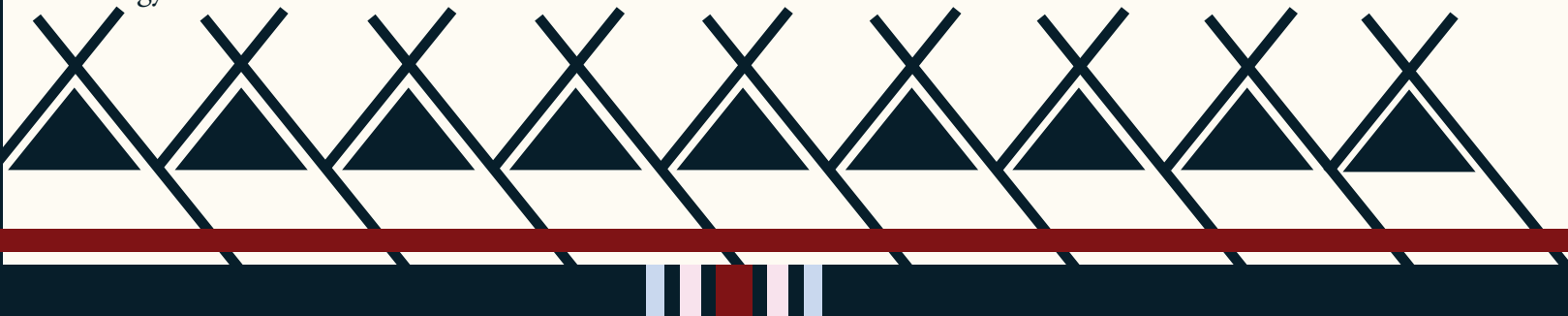
I am also working to establish the first Texas-based chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society at Texas Tech. While Texas Tech has a small Native community, I enjoy interacting with my fellow Native students and enjoy the camaraderie of a such a varied community.

I am a Biology major. So far, it is very challenging. However, I really enjoy my science classes. I am taking Biology II, Chemistry II, and Genetics this semester. So, I am very busy, but I love it. My plan is to attend either medical school or dental school after finishing at Texas Tech. One of my professional goals is to provide medical services to the under-served Native community.

Medical care is very important, and there is a severe lack of access to these services in many Native communities. Scholarships like this will help me attain my goal of becoming a physician with the least amount of debt possible. Emerging from medical school without too much debt will help me attain my goal of practicing medicine in and around Indian County. I am able to pursue my dreams thanks to generous donors like you!

Sincerely,

Zeke W.  
Osage  
Sophomore  
Biology





# AIS SCHOLARSHIP ALUMNI UPDATES



**2017, Justin Allison, Diné**

Current Profession: Director- UVU Native American Initiative

Degree(s): BS & Master of Education

"I can attest that American Indian Services is a great organization, because as a student I could count on them to help me with my educational goals. With their help I could reach my potential as a student by receiving a Bachelors and Masters Degree which helped me in attaining a career I love.

The relationship as a student and now as a professional keeps me recommending AIS to all of my students."



**2014, Allisa Rios Madsen, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa**

Current Profession: Sales Rep

Degree(s): BS Public Health

"AIS alleviated some of the financial stress that comes with being a college student doing it all on your own. The scholarship was able to afford me more time to focus on my studies because I only needed to work part-time. My college education means a lot to me and continues to greatly impact my life, even today 10 years after graduating. The support I received from AIS allowed me to enjoy my college experience so much more and I'm forever grateful."



**2021, Dion Tapahe, Diné**

Current Profession: Program Coordinator at Navajo Strong

Degree(s): BS Environmental Science

"I am grateful for the opportunity to go to school and furthering my education. I appreciate AIS for the support throughout my schooling. After graduating, I work to create a better future for the next generation and help those around me."



# AIS PLATINUM CLUB

THANK YOU TO THE MANY SUPPORTERS WHO MADE  
EDUCATIONAL DREAMS A REALITY IN 2023!

\*Platinum Club Donors = Donate \$5,000 or more in a calendar year.

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S., Joyce  
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Watkins Foundation  
W., David  
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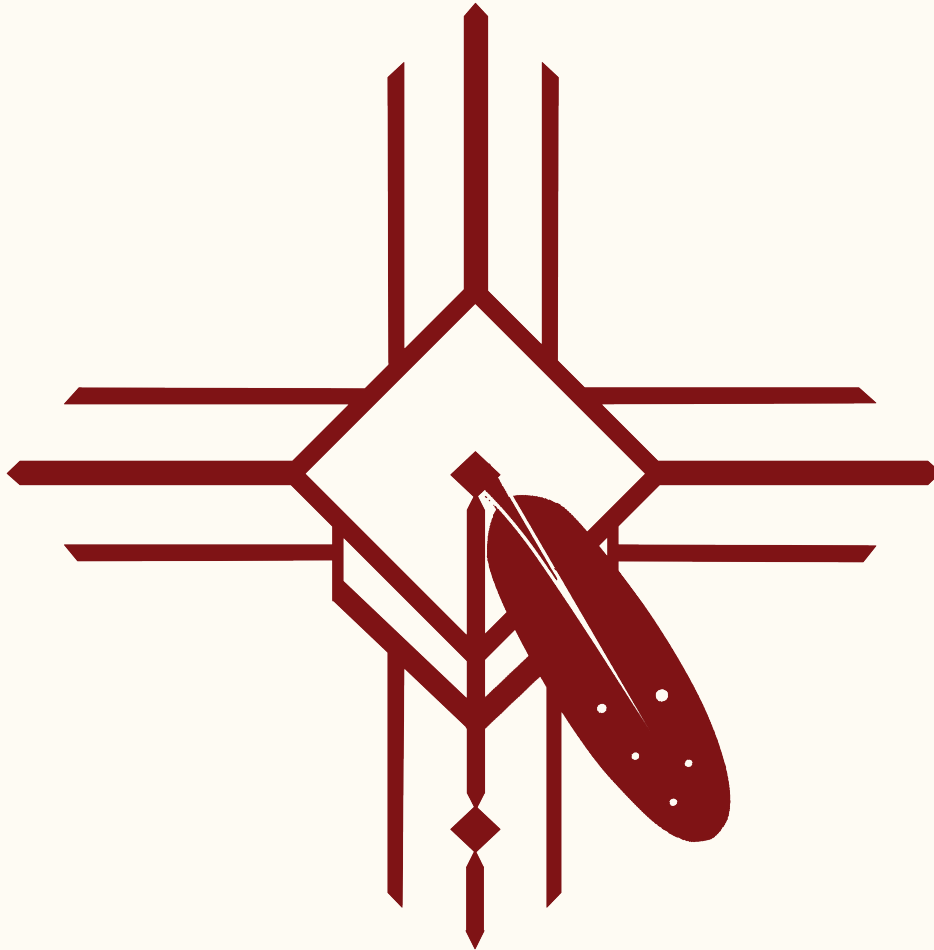
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