

Financial Aid Practices and Student Completion

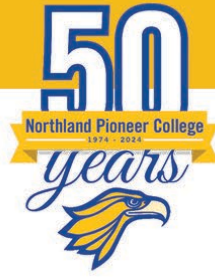
NPC's Financial Aid Team

This report is in response to questions from District Governing Board members regarding student access to financial by race and location. The majority of the team members in the Financial Aid Office are Native Americans which provides a welcoming environment for our Native American students that we work with.

As of today, we have two financial aid team members that work at two campus other than the main financial aid office at PDC-Holbrook. The two locations are Snowflake and Winslow. Future plans to place one more financial aid specialist at Show Low once a location is available.

Applying for financial aid and the FAO process:

- Student creates an FSA ID – allows the student (and parents, if applicable) to sign the FAFSA electronically and to transfer tax data directly into the FAFSA application
- Student completes the FAFSA application
- Within a week the Financial Aid Office receives the student's FAFSA application which is called an ISIR (Institutional Student Information Record)
- The student receives an email from the FAO:
 - Emails are sent out on a weekly basis to inform the student about their financial aid file status (this begins with the first ISIR received).
 - Emails are sent to the personal email provided on the FAFSA application and the student's NPC student email addresses.
- Once the financial aid file is completed the student is awarded Title IV aid, if eligible.
 - Aid Offer Letters are sent out via email on a weekly basis
 - Other aid offers include: institutional, tribal, and private scholarships, tuition waivers, federal work study grant, SEOG (Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant), and AZ LEAP (Leveraging Educational Assistance Program) state grant
 - Loans – NPC does not participate in the Federal Student Loan program
 - Due to the poverty rate in our rural areas that we serve which can hinder a student's ability to repay a student loan
 - Inability to pay back the student loan negatively impacts the student's eligibility for future Title IV aid



How the Financial Aid Office contacts and reaches out to students

The Financial Aid Office reaches out to students via phone calls and individual emails about concerns a student may have about their financial aid file or aid offer(s).

Students contact the financial aid office by calling into our main line or emailing us. Academic Advisors, also, call in with the student in their office. Instructors, also, advocate for their students that need financial aid assistance and reach out via phone call or email.

The Financial Aid Office, also, works with Betsy Wilson, Executive Director of NPC Friends and Family, to do presentations at local high schools and awarding scholarships from NPC's scholarship foundation. NPC's scholarship foundation - AndyVon Transportation has assisted several Native American students living on tribal lands with \$1,000 per semester to assist with transportation cost to travel from their home to any NPC location for their class(es).

We attend various local high schools to do FAFSA presentations and workshops to help create FSA IDs and complete FAFSA applications. Recently, we have been to Sanders High School, Round Valley High School, Blue Ridge High School, and Hopi High School. Early College Advisors make us aware of requests from local high schools for FAFSA events.

NPC implemented a One-Stop Shop pilot program at the Snowflake Silver Creek Campus (SCC) with the intent of creating one area in which the students could access all student services needed. Those services consisted of advising, financial aid, and front office registration. Each area provided the expertise in their area with some cross-training in case one area was not available.

Most recently, Tonya Thacker, Director of Title III and Native American Student Success, utilized grant funding to purchase and set up private ZOOM areas at each NPC Center. Three of these locations are on tribal lands – Whiteriver Center, Kayenta Center, and Hopi Center. The private ZOOM areas enable any student to have a virtual meeting with a financial aid specialist to assist the student with completing a FAFSA application, completing documents for their financial aid file, and explaining financial aid processes to the student. This allows us to assist the student in a personal way much like walking into our office in person.



Within this same Title III grant, we are working with an outside vendor to update the financial aid website for ease of use.

We are, also, working with Grow AZ (<https://www.growarizona.org/>) and local area high schools to spread financial aid awareness to high school students and parents. Most recently at Holbrook High School as the first college fair event.



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We never want to hear the words, "I can't afford higher education". Let us show you how you can!



FAFSA (Financial Aid)

Getting a higher education should be available to students in all financial circumstances. And with FAFSA that is very much a reality! A quick application could pay for your entire education!



Scholarships

Not all scholarships are alike. Whether you like writing essays, creating media content, have a good GPA or want to keep playing your favorite sport after HS...then there is a scholarship you can



Local Community Colleges

Staying local is a great option for saving money while pursuing higher education. Paired with the FAFSA, you may be well on your way to a free education!



Financial Aid Student Demographics

Number of students served in 2022-2023 (per data in PowerFAIDS – financial aid system)

Total 22-23 Pell recipients = 472
Total 22-23 Native American Pell recipients = 50 (11%)
Total 22-23 Race “Unknown” Pell recipients = 209 (44%)
Total 22-23 White Pell recipients = 211 (45%)

Financial aid recipient and degree completion in 2022-2023 (per IPEDS data)

Total 22-23 students = 4,544
Total 22-23 Native American students = 1,150 (25%)
Total 22-23 Race “Unknown” students = 689 (15%)
Total 22-23 White students = 1,928 (42%)

<https://www.npc.edu/file/download/41961> (page 61).

Data from NPC IE (Institutional Effectiveness) Department:

All students: 4631 (3047 Regular Students)
Native American students: 1163 (818 Regular Students)

A higher proportion of Native American regular students received Pell grants (24%) than Non-Native regular students (12%).

Financial aid recipient and degree completion in 2022-2023

All completers: 484 (249 Regular completers)
Native American Completers: 115 (65 Regular completers)

A higher proportion of Native American regular completers received Pell grants at any time when studying at NPC (66%) than Non-Native regular completers (48%).

50% of our student population are high school students enrolled in NAVIT, TALON, or dual enrollment courses. The FAO does not track high school students as they are not eligible for Title IV aid until they have earned their high school diploma or the equivalent of a high school diploma.