INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS

IMPORTANT: Please read all application materials thoroughly before completing this application. Applications that are incomplete or unsigned will not be reviewed.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION: CTD’s objective is to recognize and reward outstanding student achievement. This supplemental award is intended to help American Indian students of any age, from any U.S. tribe, within any State, striving to get an education. All awards are based on merit, academic achievement and ambition.

2. DEADLINES: It is the applicant's sole responsibility to meet all final deadlines of CTD. Missing material due to failure by others to meet final deadlines will cause your application not to be processed. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to follow up and ensure that CTD receives valid documents on or before designated deadlines. NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

   Important Deadlines: Summer Session Fall Semester / Autumn Quarter March 15 April 15 Spring Semester / Winter Quarter September 15

3. FUNDING: Because we are a supplemental aid program, applicants are required to apply for all other sources of funding for which they are eligible; this includes applying for campus-based aid. This is an iron-clad requirement, applicants who do not apply for all other sources of funding will not have their application forwarded to the Board of Directors for reading and ranking. We strongly recommend that applicants look through private scholarship directories for information on over 100,000 scholarships, grants, loans and internships. A wide range of corporations, unions, trust funds, religious and fraternal organizations, associations, and private philanthropists can provide you with financial assistance you need to continue your education.

4. AWARDS: Scholarships are on a competitive basis. Awards are based on CTD’s projected income. Awardees will be notified by letter as early as possible.

5. Please type all materials. Do not staple, bind, or clip any part of the application, leave it loose leaf. Submit all documents on standard size paper (8 1/2 x 11). Documents should be placed in the order as specified on page 2 of the application. Do not place labels or dividers in application packet. Use extra pages if necessary DO NOT LEAVE BLANK SPACES. Failure to supply the requested information may preclude an applicant from being eligible for assistance under this program.

6. Proper completion of this application will determine your eligibility for scholarship funding. Students never funded by CTD are considered new students. Continuing students (those who are currently funded by CTD) do not have to reapply. Instead, they will automatically receive a Scholarship Renewal Form that must be completed by June 1st for each year they are in school. CTD does not place a limit on the number of terms/semesters for funding. We consider our scholarships "lifetime" awards. Therefore, it is in your best interest to make the time and the utmost effort to complete the application in its entirety.

7. Faxed applications and/or documents will not be accepted. Applications must be mailed and received in our office by the designated deadline in order to be processed. Please mail all forms to address below.
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION OUTLINE

1. Please submit letters of recommendation to CTD by the following deadline: March 15 (Summer); April 15 (Fall Semester/Quarter); September 15 (Winter Quarter/Spring Semester)

2. **Letters of recommendation must be typed.** Be specific, not vague or general. Write formally and not informally. Do not ask CTD to follow up; instead, include all pertinent information in letter.

2. The following areas should be addressed in the letter of recommendation:

   **BACKGROUND:**
   - What is your relationship to the applicant?
   - How long and how well have you known the applicant?
   - In what capacity have you known the applicant?
     (i.e. teacher, advisor, employer, informally, friend, etc.)

   **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**
   - Academics: What types of grades, test scores, honors, and awards has the applicant received?
   - What type of leadership qualities has the applicant demonstrated?
   - Describe the types of extracurricular activities the applicant has been involved in
   - Service to Indians: Describe the applicant's commitment to his/her tribe and Indian community.

   **POTENTIAL:**
   - Has the applicant lived up to his/her potential? Explain.
   - If not, what evidence can you provide to demonstrate that he/she will?

   **ESSAY OUTLINE**

   **INTRODUCTION:** Please introduce yourself using your full name and your tribe. Please put your name and page number on each page.

   **ACADEMICS:** State your grade point average, class rank, and ACT/SAT test scores from high school. State any test scores from standardized tests such as CTBS, ITBS, LSAT, MCAT, GRE, WRAT, CAT, or Stanford. State why/how you made the grades and test scores that you did. State what grades you made in your field of interest and why. State how much time you spend studying each day or week. Describe any awards won in high school or college and their significance. List any clubs and honors and their significance. List any scholarships and how you won them. Describe any leadership positions you have held in high school or college, how you were elected and what your responsibilities were. Describe what courses you have taken to prepare you for college and your career and what you have learned so far that has inspired you. Tell us who or what inspired you to pursue your chosen field of study, and how that inspiration came to you.

   **CAREER PLANS:** Explain what you plan to do after you finish college. Tell what your ultimate career goals are. Describe your personal interests and tell how they are related to your planned career. Describe your strengths and explain how they are used in your study for your planned career. Describe the requirements for the completion of your degree.

   **SERVICE TO INDIANS:** Describe your plans on working with the Indian community. Tell how your work will directly benefit Indians. Tell us about your Indian heritage and what this means to you. Describe your ties to your Indian community and your experience in this community. Explain how your college education will directly contribute to your work with Indians.

   **LEADERSHIP AND SCHOLARSHIPS:** Describe any elected or appointed positions in school or college and how they relate to your planned career. Describe any summer work relevant to your planned career and/or your service to Indians. Describe your membership in clubs and how it relates to your future. Describe all other sources of funds that you applied to and the results. Tell us what scholarships you have won and the amounts of funding you will receive from these scholarships. Explain what you will do if you do not receive a scholarship from Catching the Dream.

   **IMPORTANT!! YOUR ESSAY MUST BE TYPED!**
APPLICATION FORM (MUST BE TYPED)

SSN: ____________________________ Term Applying for: Fall/Autumn 20__ Spring/Winter 20__ Summer 20__

Last Name: ____________________________ First Name: ____________________________ MI: ________ Sex: ________

Birth Date: ____________________________ Place of Birth: ____________________________ Tribe: __________________ Blood Quantum: ________

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS:

________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ________ Zip: ________

Phone: ____________________________ Email: __________________

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ________ Zip: ________

Phone: ____________________________ Email: __________________

Name of College University you will attend:

________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ________ Zip: ________ Phone Number: (___) ________

College Level: __ Freshman __ Sophomore __ Junior __ Senior __ Graduate __ Post Graduate

Degree Objective: (circle one) AA / AB / BA / BBA / BS / MA / MS / MBA / MSW / JD / MD / LPN / RN / DC / DPM / DVM / DDS / DO / Ed. D. / Ph.D. / Psy. D. / Other: ____________ Field of Study: ____________ Graduation Date: ____________

Name and location of high school attended:

________________________________________________________________________

High school GPA on 4.0 scale: ________ High school class rank: ________ / College GPA on 4.0 scale:


Other Test Name (LSAT/MCAT/MAT/GRE/etc.): ____________ Score: ________ Percentile: ________

Military Veteran: Yes __ No Branch of Service: ________ Dates of Military Service: From ________ to ________

Marital Status: ________ Single ________ Married ________ Divorced ________ Widowed ________ Separated ________ Single Parent

Are you listed as a dependent on your parent’s/guardian’s federal tax return for the most recent tax year? Yes __ No

Number of dependent children residing with you: ________ YOUR CHILDREN’S NAMES AGES ________

Number of persons in household: ________

List courses and grades in your major field of study (Please list high school grades if you are about to enter college):

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Explain the relevance of the courses you have taken to your planned career:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
List all information which would give an indication of your success in your chosen field (Use additional page if necessary):
Awards/Honors earned in high school and/or college:

Membership/Leadership Roles:

Volunteer/Community Efforts:

List all sources of funding to which you have applied, or to which you plan to apply. (Use additional page if necessary):

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DOCUMENTATION: The following documents are required by CTD for the review process. It is the sole responsibility of the student to have all required documents submitted to CTD by the final deadlines. Place documents in the following order:

B. A copy of the IRS 1040 Federal Tax Return (student’s or parent’s) for the previous year.
C. Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) [Proof of your enrollment with a federally recognized, state recognized, or terminated American Indian tribe. CIB must show your blood quantum.]
D. Copies of applications and responses for all other sources of funding.
E. An essay explaining your goals in life, college plans, career plans. Two pages are insufficient Be thorough. See outline
F. Three letters of recommendation (LOR). Writers of LOR should submit letters directly to CTD.
G. Official Transcripts: 1. Incoming freshmen must submit final high school transcript. 2. Undergraduates must also submit transcript for previous college work completed. 3. Graduates must submit undergraduate transcript.
H. A copy of Standardized Test Scores (ACT/SAT/GRE/MCAT/LSAT, etc.).
I. DD 214 Form (for Military Personnel only).
J. Copy of Letter of Admission from an accredited college/university, or graduate school and degree program.
K. Photograph (2” x 3”) of good quality for use in CTD newsletters and/or publications.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that information on this application is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I consent to the release of this information to other agencies and persons necessary to determine my eligibility. I understand that any scholarship awarded to me will be disbursed as money becomes available to Catching the Dream (CTD). I also understand that I will be included in the CTD Directory of Graduates, and that my name, address, and phone number may be released for other possible scholarship sources, job prospects and opportunities related to my education and/or career. I also understand that CTD may release my name and photograph in any news releases and/or publications. If awarded a scholarship from Catching the Dream, I agree to comply with all rules applicable to the award.

Student’s Signature __________ Date __________ Parent’s Signature (if student is under 18 years) __________
CERTIFICATE OF INDIAN BLOOD (CIB) REQUEST FORM

PART I: STUDENT

To be considered for a CTD scholarship, you must be an enrolled member and possess ¼ degree or more American Indian blood from a federally recognized, state recognized, or terminated U.S. Tribe.

Upon completion of Part I, send form to your tribal enrollment office or Bureau of Indian Affairs Agency. A CIB received directly from the tribal or BIA office is verification that the form was officially completed. A CIB submitted by the applicant is not valid.

SSN: ___________________ Maiden Name: ___________________

Last Name: ___________________ First Name: ___________________ MI: ___________________

Date of Birth: ________________ Place of Birth: ________________ Sex: ________________

Mother’s Maiden Name: ___________________ Father’s Name: ___________________

Current Mailing Address: ___________________

City: ___________________ State: ___________________ Zip: ___________________

“I hereby authorize the release of tribal information relating to my tribal enrollment to Catching the Dream for use in obtaining a scholarship."

Applicant’s Signature ___________________ Date ___________________

PART II: TRIBAL / BIA ENROLLMENT OFFICER

Students applying for a scholarship from Catching the Dream must provide an official Certificate of Indian Blood. We are requesting verification of tribal affiliation from your office. Please complete and forward this document directly to CTD as soon as possible. This form is considered official if completed by a tribal or BIA enrollment officer. The Certificate of Indian Blood cannot be faxed to meet deadlines. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Tribe: ___________________ Degree of Indian Blood: ___________________

Census/Enrollment No.: ___________________ Is applicant an enrolled member? Yes or No: ___________________

Is this U.S. Tribe: Yes or No: ___________________ Federally recognized? Yes or No: ___________________

State Recognized? Yes or No: ___________________ Terminated? Yes or No: ___________________

Comments: ___________________

Signature: ___________________ Date: ___________________

Title: ___________________ Business Phone No.: ___________________