



NPAC Newsletter

Powered by the National Indian Youth Council, Inc.

Your local Native American Workforce and Employment Training Program



May is Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about the high rates of violence against Indigenous women, girls, two-spirit people, and others who have gone missing or been murdered within the United States.

May 1, 2026 | Vol. 2.5

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"May is the month of promise and the sweet beginnings of summer." - Unknown

In Albuquerque, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center will host a community honor walk, featuring keynote speakers, and more. (See flyer below)

In the past few years, the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women published a Task Force Report, which helped create policy and legislation that formed a state response plan with the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department, and in 2024, the MMIWR Task Force at the Department of Justice. This proactive example of civil action in motion shows how community voices affect change through nonprofits and governmental agencies to address a community crisis.

Additionally, the entire NPAC/NIYC family, in solidarity with all Native communities and governmental agencies, supports and recognizes the month of May as Maternal Mental Health Awareness, National Nurses Month, Cinco de Mayo, and Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

-Darius Lee Smith, Executive Director

Don't Miss Out on What's Next

- Albuquerque, New Mexico**
 - Cinco de Mayo Lowrider Fiesta - May 2, 2026**
 - 11 AM; Albuquerque Rail Yards
 - \$10 Per Person
 - Run for the Zoo - May 3, 2026**
 - 7 AM-12 PM; ABQ BioPark Zoo
 - Route 66 Centennial Traveling Exhibit - May 6-7, 2026**
 - Wheels Museum, Albuquerque, NM
 - Boots in the Park - May 15-16, 2026**
 - 12 PM; Balloon Fiesta Park
- Farmington, New Mexico**
 - Spring Mini-fest - May 2, 2026**
 - 9 AM-8PM; Farmington Indian Center
 - Write to Publish Writers Workshop - May 2, 2026**
 - 3:30 PM-5PM; Quill & Quet Bookstore
 - Student Film Showcase - May 7, 2026**
 - 6PM-8PM; The Totah Theater
 - Riverfest - May 22, 2026**
 - Berg and Animas Park
- Gallup, New Mexico**
 - UNM- Gallup Job Fair during Economic Development Week - May 6, 2026**
 - 9AM-1PM; UNM-Gallup Gurley Hall
 - 4th Annual Gallup Film and Media Expo - May 7-8, 2026**
 - Red Rock Park
 - 11th Annual Zuni Mainstreet Festival - May 9-10, 2026**
 - 10AM-5PM; Zuni Pueblo

Happy Birthday to all our wonderful May participants! We hope this month is filled with joy, laughter, and celebrations that are as fantastic as you are. Enjoy your special day!

TIMESHET DUE DATES AND OFFICE CLOSURES

Timesheets	Pay Date	Office Closures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 8, 2026 May 22, 2026 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 1, 2026 May 15, 2026 May 29, 2026 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 25, 2026 - Memorial Day

MMIP AWARENESS DAY

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, May 5th, 2026
10:00AM-6:00PM
Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
in Albuquerque, NM

- Community honor walk
- Support for families
- Keynote speakers
- Resources
- And more...



Information on the Navajo Nation Identification Cards - Navajo Office of Vital Records & Identification

****Monday-Friday: within the hours of 9:00 AM-4:00 PM (BY APPOINTMENTS ONLY, PLEASE CALL 928-871-6884)****

The NN ID's have a expiration date of 4 years, every time they expire clients will have to contact the office for renewal. These NN ID's do not have any passport capabilities, if you are traveling overseas or crossing boards, the office highly encourages clients to apply for a Passport.

REMEMBER: THIS IS OPTIONAL, IT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT

Required Documents:

- State certificate Birth Certificate or Affidavit of Birth (AOB) from NVRI
- Certified Certificate of Navajo Indian Blood (CIB)
- Valid State issues ID or Driver's License
- (NO TEMPORARY ID AND NO PASSPORTS)
- \$17.00 Money Order, per person (We do not accept cash or credit card)

PLEASE, keep money orders blank! Our staff will inform the clients on how to fill it out.

Extra Documentation (if applicable):

- Marriage license/finalized divorce decrees
- Finalized court orders pertaining to Name Change or Date of Birth Change with the Revised Birth certificate

All documents must be in their original, we will not accept copies. Make sure documents are not torn, taped, or laminated.

For more information, please click the image below.



2026 Navajo Nation Presidential Election

The Native Professional Advancement Center offers voter registration for Navajo Nation residents who reside within Albuquerque and other areas.

To register for Navajo Nation Elections, bring the following to our office:

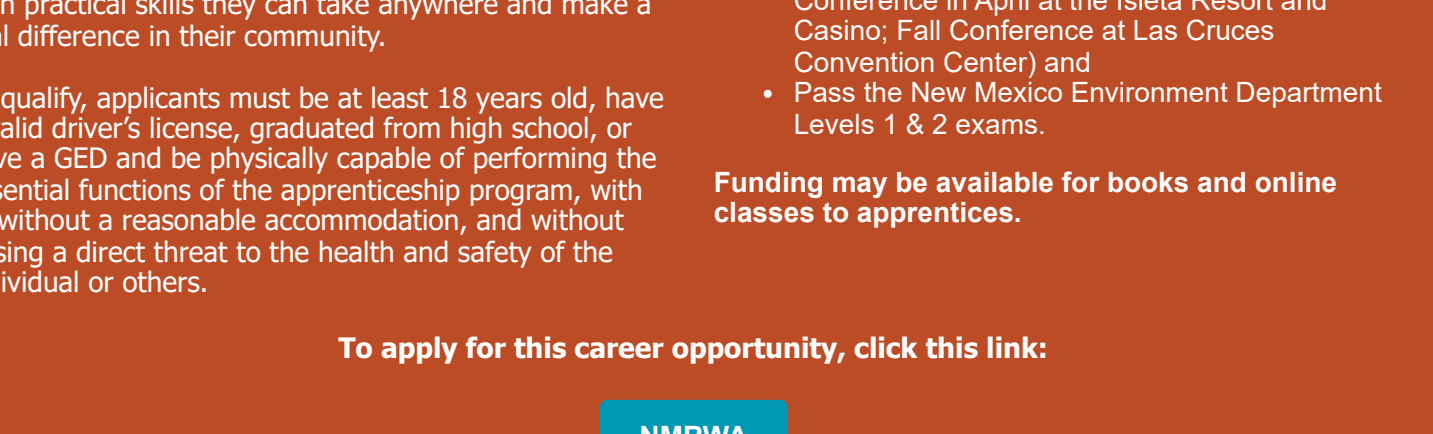
- Original Certificate of Navajo Indian Blood (CIB)
- Valid Drivers License or State Identification
- Social Security Card

Primary Election - July 21, 2026
Voter Registration Closes: June 11, 2026
Abstentee Voting: June 22 to July 17, 2026

General Election - November 3, 2026
Voter Registration Closes: September 24, 2026
Abstentee Voting: October 5, 2026 to October 30, 2026

INDIGENOUS TEACHER PREPARATION PROJECT

TRAIN TO BECOME A TEACHER FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES



2026 SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM

FREE TO ATTEND
JUNE 28 - JULY 24

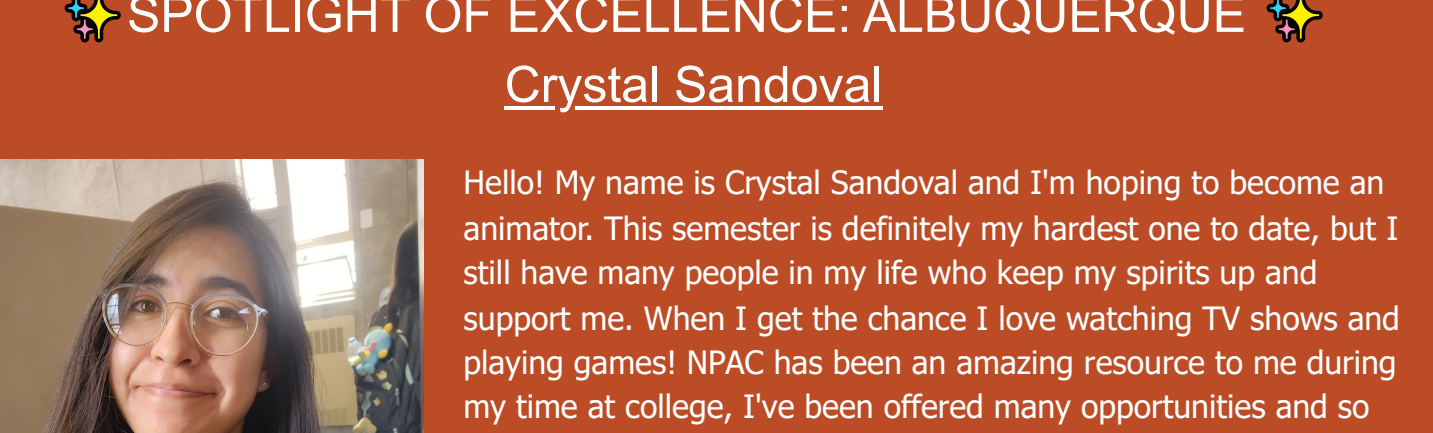
- APPLICATION CHECKLIST**
- SUMMER BRIDGE ADMISSIONS APPLICATION
 - VERIFICATION OF TRIBAL AFFILIATION
 - HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT
 - PHYSICAL RECORD
 - IMMUNIZATION RECORD
 - HOUSING RECORD

application DEADLINE: JUNE 10, 2026

MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: POLYMERBRIDGE@SIPI.EDU

SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN PRESIDENTIAL INSTITUTE

9169 Coors Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120 | www.sipi.edu | 505.886.7474



Why join HOT as a mentee?

- Monthly meetings with guest speakers of various health backgrounds each month (nursing, family medicine, traditional wellness etc)
- Complete a community health project to benefit your community
- Networking opportunities
- Students receive information on college prep, scholarships, and more!
- Get CPR certified, suturing experience, first aid training
- \$400 stipend

Why join HOT as a mentor?

- Mentoring a high school student interested in learning more about your health career!
- Networking opportunities
- Educating our youth!

APPLICATION OPENS: MARCH 15TH 2026
PRIORITY DEADLINE: JUNE 1ST 2026

Questions: Contact Barbara (barbara@loving-service.us) | www.loving-service.us

HEALING AND HOPE IN NEW MEXICO WEEKLY TALKING CIRCLES IN MAY TUESDAYS 5:30PM MDT

- Week One:** "If you loved me, you would stop." Guilt, shame, and stigma around addiction.
- Week Two:** "Being healthy inside and out." Physical + mental health in recovery and harm reduction.
- Week Three:** "I am harder on myself than anyone else." Negative self-talk and building positive self-narratives.
- Week Four:** "Bringing cultural practices to coping skills." Culturally grounded coping and shared healing practices.

HOW IT WORKS

- NATIVE AMERICAN RESIDENTS IN NEW MEXICO
- USE QR CODE TO SIGN UP OR SIGN UP AT WWW.UNITEDNATIVES.ORG
- LOG INTO ZOOM AND ATTEND WEEKLY SESSIONS

CONTACT US
WWW.UNITEDNATIVES.ORG

Association of American Indian Affairs

The American Indian College Fund is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2026-2027 academic year. They encourage applicants to submit their application by **May 31, 2026** to receive priority review.

Apply Here!

NATIVE STUDENTS Scholarship Applications OPEN UNTIL May 31, 2026

APPLY TODAY!

Learn more here: indian-affairs.org/online-scholarship

SEVEN GENERATIONS SCHOLARSHIP FUND NATIVE AMERICAN HEALTH CENTER

Native American Health Center (NAHC) is committed to investing in the health and education of our future generations. The Seven Generations Scholarship Fund was created to provide financial assistance for Native American and Alaska Native students residing in Alameda, San Francisco and Contra Costa counties. The Seven Generations Scholarship is an investment in the health and education of our future generations.

The 2026 application closes on **May 15th**.

Apply Now!

Prosperity Works - Efficiency Upgrades

Many homes could use help becoming more energy efficient – which saves energy and money! Prosperity Works offers energy assessments through our partners, Energy Works, to low-income households. These energy assessments help us determine which retrofits your home needs most.

Learn More

New Mexico Rural Water Association (NMRWA)

New Mexico Rural Water Association (NMRWA) has a 2-year Water/Wastewater Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) where an apprentice can attain their level 2 operator certification to operate a water and/or wastewater treatment plant. Apprentices work alongside a mentor, earn money while working at a utility and do most classes online.

To graduate from this program, the apprentice must complete:

- At least 4000 OJT hours,
- At least 288 RTI (Related Technical Instruction) class hours,
- Earn 2 satisfactory evaluations from a mentor (one every 12-months),
- Attend 4 scheduled conferences (Annual Conference in April at the Isleta Resort and Casino; Fall Conference at Las Cruces Convention Center) and
- Pass the New Mexico Environment Department Levels 1 & 2 exams.

Funding may be available for books and online classes to apprentices.

To apply for this career opportunity, click this link: [NMRWA](#)

Work Experience Program: Albuquerque Job Openings

The Native Professional Advancement Center is currently seeking an on-site, full time Office Assistant Intern. Job duties include answering and directing phone calls, greeting participants and visitors, help maintain the front desk, filling documents (physical and digital), research, data entry, etc.

Work Experience Program: Farmington Job Openings

Atiya Dance Academy is seeking an on-site Social Media Manager to assist with strategizing, help with content creation, as well as networking and communicating with various communities/companies through social platforms.

Capacity Builders is seeking an on-site Administrative Assistant – HR, Administrative, Receptionist, Transport Dispatcher, and an Accounting Specialist to assist with general office and administrative work, communicate, organizing and conduct activities and day-to-day route with transportation service providers, as well as provide accurate general accounting and data entry services.

Northwest New Mexico Arts is seeking an Art Assistant who will assist with promoting different community projects/events, assists and performs after-school/summer art camp activities for community youth and adults. Assists with statistical data collection and reporting for grant/fundings sources. Attend any training/meetings mandatory for position.

ECHO_Food Bank is seeking a Warehouse helper who will assist in packaging, stocking, working the drive-thru, completing paperwork, cleaning and any other duties as assigned.

Too Cool Automotive is seeking a Automotive Technician, Automotive Tech Trainee, Shop Hand/Helper and an Administrative Assistant who will assist in clerical duties, maintaining and keeping the shop/office clean, as well as being able to create work orders, vehicle repair quotes, take vehicle information and manage vehicle service and repairs.

Roots Home Health Care is seeking a receptionist who will assist staff with appointment scheduling, answering calls/questions, inform staff members of meetings and perform other duties as requested.

BeeHives is seeking a Personal Care Attendant who will conduct activities of daily living, assist with cooking, carry out housekeeping duties, attend to laundry, complete vital checks and record documentation.

****Please note: The Gallup office does not have any Work Experience openings at the moment.****

Did You Know...

Mental health impacts every aspect of our lives, from our relationships and work performance to our physical health. This month serves as a reminder to take care of ourselves and to check in on those around us.

If you or someone you know is struggling, remember that help is available. Don't hesitate to reach out to mental health professionals or support networks.

SPOTLIGHT OF EXCELLENCE: GALLUP

Shanisa Whitegoat

My name is Shanisa Whitegoat. I am a goal driven, shy, adventurous person. I love to travel and explore new places with forestry scenery. The barriers I faced when I entered the NPAC program was that I wanted to give up every time I couldn't pass one of the HiSet tests. NPAC helped me overcome those barriers by reassuring me, that I could do it no matter how many times it took me to pass. They helped me set bigger goals to accomplish when I completed my GED.

In January of 2026 I lost my biggest supporter, my grandfather. He is my motivation to move forward in accomplishing my future goals. My goal is to continue to make him proud because he always wanted me to finish school to become something greater.

"Congratulations Shanisa on your amazing accomplishment! Always knew you could do it, and we are extremely proud of you!"

SPOTLIGHT OF EXCELLENCE: ALBUQUERQUE

Crystal Sandoval

Hello! My name is Crystal Sandoval and I'm hoping to become an animator. This semester is definitely my hardest one to date, but I still have many people in my life who keep my spirits up and support me. When I get the chance I love watching TV shows and playing games! NPAC has been an amazing resource to me during my time at college, I've been offered many opportunities and so much support from them. I'm incredibly grateful to be part of their Classroom Training Program :]

SPOTLIGHT OF EXCELLENCE: FARMINGTON

Preston Tom

Being a part of Native Professional Advancement Center (NPAC) has allowed me to connect with staff members and to really allow myself to grow and advance as an individual. NPAC was able to assist me with the financial burden that comes with higher education and classroom training. NPAC has allowed me to be the first in my family to receive a bachelor's degree and to pursue an MBA. My goal for the future is to open my own coffee shop and to give back to my community. NPAC was the light that I needed to see to stand beside me and they opened doors that seemed impossible.

Farmington
106 W Main St., D, Farmington, New Mexico 87401 | 505-327-5341 | [NYIC Farmington](#)

Albuquerque
6201 Uptown Blvd. NE Ste. 203 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110 | 505-477-2251 | [NYIC Albuquerque](#)

Gallup
407 S Cliff Dr # B, Gallup, NM 87301 | 505-863-6639 | [NYIC Gallup](#)