



A Legacy of Leadership

By naming the Paaraq scholarship program in honor of Frank R. Paaraq Ferguson, Maniilaq Association celebrates Paaraq for his commitment and dedication to the Inupiat people and communities in the region, Maniilaq seeks to build upon his legacy of leadership and service.

Section 1) Overview and Description of the Paaraq Program

The Maniilaq Association Paaraq Scholarship Program (hereinafter referred to as the “Program”) is available to eligible tribal members who meet the requirements as listed in Section 2, below. The Program provides eligible recipients up to \$7,500 in financial assistance per calendar year for tuition and other educational expenses considered non-taxable by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). All funds are paid directly to the university/college. Once tuition, fees, and related expenses are met, all remaining program funds may be released to the student. This Program is administered by Maniilaq the Workforce Development department. The Program shall in all cases be administered consistent with the requirements of applicable IRS laws and regulations.

Section 2) Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Program, the applicant must meet the ~~below~~ criteria listed below:

- 2.1 Be an enrolled member in one of the tribes within the Maniilaq service area, which consists of the Native Villages of Ambler, Buckland, Deering, Kivalina, Kobuk, Kotzebue, Noatak, Point Hope, Selawik, Shungnak, Noorvik Native Community, and Kiana Traditional Council.
- 2.2 Reside in the Maniilaq service area.
- 2.3 Be enrolled as an undergraduate student in a 2 or 4-year degree program, graduate, or a post-graduate in a masters or doctoral level degree program at an accredited university/college.
- 2.4 First time applicants must have a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 2.0 or higher from high school or previous higher education transcript, and returning applicants must have a 2.0 or higher GPA for the previous term funded.
- 2.5 For continued eligibility, recipients of the prior awards must maintain a 2.0 or higher grade point average (GPA) each term. A returning student whose GPA is below 2.0 will be placed on probation for the following term. The student must raise their GPA during this probationary term, as outlined in Section 3, or they will be considered ineligible for the following term. GPA probation is allowed once per calendar year.
- 2.6 Students who withdraw, whether officially or unofficially, may be deemed ineligible for further award(s) unless they can demonstrate just cause for withdrawal.
- 2.7 Students must pass the previous funded term for all the courses registered.

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Kotzebue Qikiqtaruk, Ambler Ivisaappaat, Buckland Nunatchiaq, Deering Ipnatchiaq, Kiana Katyaak, Kivalina Kivaliniq, Kobuk Laugviik, Noatak Nautaaq, Noorvik Nuurvik, Point Hope Tikigaq, Selawik Akuligaq, Shungnak Isinnaq

MANIILAQ ASSOCIATION PAARAQ SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM POLICY



Section 3) Probationary Status

Returning students who do not meet the requirements for maintaining a minimum 2.0 GPA, may be placed on probation, with a penalty of being awarded half of the normal award as outlined in sections 4.1 or 4.2, as applicable. If student does not improve his/her grades by the end of the probationary status term, the student will not be eligible to receive financial assistance the following term, until the student has a GPA of 2.0 or higher from prior term.

Section 4) Paaraq Scholarship Program Award Totals

4.1 Undergraduate Scholarship Award Totals

Credits Enrolled	Semester Term	Quarter Term
12+ credits	\$ 2500	\$1875
9 - 11 credits	\$2000	\$1500
6 - 8 credits	\$ 1250	\$950
3 - 5 credits	\$625	\$450

4.2 Post Graduate Scholarship Award Totals

Semester Term	Quarter Term
\$2500	\$ 1875

Section 5) Application, Deadlines, and Submission Information

5.1 The Program application can be found on the Maniilaq website under the Tribal Government Services tab <https://www.maniilaq.org/resources> or by using the following link: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=maniilaq>

5.2 University/College Annual Semester Schedule Deadlines: (before midnight AST)

Fall Semester	August 15th
Spring Semester	January 15th
Summer Semester	June 30th

5.3 University/College Annual Quarter Schedule Deadlines: (before midnight AST)

Fall Quarter	August 15th
Winter Quarter	January 15th
Spring Quarter	March 15th

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Summer Quarter	June 30th
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5.4 Applicants will have fifteen (15) days from the date of notice of incomplete application to submit all identified missing documents. If applicant fails to submit documents by the fifteen (15) day deadline, they will be deemed ineligible for that term.

Section 6) Annual Funding Availability

The Maniilaq Board of Directors appropriates an annual funding amount for this scholarship program during its approval of the organization's annual fiscal year operating budget. Based upon this appropriation, the Workforce Development staff administers this scholarship in accordance with this policy, and the administrative procedures developed by WFD staff. If necessary, any unused funds from the annual approved appropriation may be transferred to the James Qigñak Wells Scholarship program to maximize awards provided, if necessary. In the event that Paaraq funds are insufficient to offer a full award, partial awards may be approved, at the discretion of WFD staff.