



# **Office of Partnerships & Public Engagement**

**USDA 1994 Tribal Land-Grant Colleges and  
Universities Program**

# MISSION



This program is the Department's land-grant development program.

The mission is to develop with the Nation's 35 1994 Tribal Land-Grant Colleges their Land-Grant capacities to benefit rural economies and contribute to America's food security.

The Secretary is required to develop and implement a formal memorandum of agreement with the 1994 Institutions to establish programs to ensure that tribally controlled colleges and Native American communities <sup>2</sup> equitably participate in Department of Agriculture employment, programs, services, and resources.



# PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- USDA and American Indian Higher Education (AIHEC) Leadership Group
  - Sets the Agenda
- USDA Tribal Scholars & Internships Program
  - Helps students escape poverty.
- Terra Preta do Indio Tribal Fellowship

# USDA Tribal Scholars & Internships Program



- **Purpose**

To strengthen the long-term partnership between USDA and the 1994 Land-Grant Institutions to increase the number of students studying and graduating in food, agriculture, natural resources, and other related fields of study,

- **Benefits**

Paid tuition, fees, books, use of a laptop computer, and leadership training

Become part of the sponsoring agency's future workforce



# Scholarship Eligibility

1. Must be at least 16 years old.
2. Must be able to complete required occupation-related work experience (640 hours) prior to or concurrently with the completion of course requirements for the degree.
3. Must be a United States citizen or national (resident of American Samoa or Swains Island). If you are not a citizen, you may participate if you are legally admitted to the United States as a permanent resident, and are able to meet United States citizenship requirements prior to completion of your degree.
4. Must be in good academic standing. Cannot be on academic probation.
5. If selected, students must sign USDA Fellowship agreements.
6. Must be enrolled in, accepted, or plan to seek a Bachelor's or Associate's degree in an accredited 1994 Tribal Land-Grant College or University as demonstrated by a declaration of a major course of study.
7. Carry at a minimum, a half-time course load as defined by the institution.
8. Be enrolled in an academic major related to the occupation being considered.



**The Issue: No 1994 students have been selected for scholarships in FY2020.**

# Concerns



Do you have concerns about the current USDA 1994 Tribal Scholars Program student selection policies? Do you have any recommendation for changes to them?

- What would you recommend to address this concern at the Department?
- What are solutions you recommend to enhance the partnership within the land-grant system?

# Concerns



Some USDA Agencies have expressed concern that two-year degree programs from these land-grant institutions limit their ability to recruit for their human capital needs.

- What would you recommend to address this concern at the Department?
- What are solutions you recommend to enhance the partnership within the land-grant system?

# Recommendations



- What are additional ways you think USDA should use to increase the selection of I 994 students?
- What are additional ways you think USDA and your school should collaborate to help this?



Questions?

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