

**BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION  
YOUTH LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE  
At Haskell Indian Nations University  
June 15 through 19, 2009**

**Program Overview:**

**The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)** is sponsoring the **Youth Leadership Challenge 2009**. The program will provide a rigorous schedule of instruction, events, challenges, recreation and social activities that are designed to create awareness and improve the knowledge base of young tribal members in the unique Nation to Nation relationship that Indian Tribes have with the United States Government. Participants will receive instruction from tribal leaders and other experts in the field based upon a curriculum that will provide knowledge and information on the historical, political, legal and social development of tribal governments as the instrument to carry out this nation to nation relationship. Activities that enhance knowledge and promote problem solving skills will be integrated into the program. Competition between groups and evening social activities will provide motivation and foster communication and sharing among participants and facilitators. Follow up challenges, projects, and activities will be continued throughout the year for participants completing the challenge.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

The program is open to American Indian/Alaska Native students who will be entering their sophomore, junior or senior year during the fall of 2009. Students from all BIE operated and funded schools are welcome to apply. Schools, community and tribal organizations are encouraged to sponsor students to attend the challenge. Food and lodging will be provided. Travel to and from Haskell will be the responsibility of the participant or the participant's school or sponsoring organization. Students should plan to arrive on campus anytime after noon on Sunday, June 14, and depart for home Saturday, June 20. A total of 150 to 200 applicants will be approved to attend the challenge. Students that demonstrate leadership skills and those that need a little motivation are encouraged to apply. Students will need to complete the following check list, to apply.

1. Youth Leadership Challenge Program application
2. Recommendation forms completed by a teacher and school counselor.
3. A **250 to 300 word essay** (Written or Typed) identifying the four major areas (economic development, education, social programs, cultural activities, etc.) that the student's tribe is involved in that have a positive influence on their lives. The essay should also identify the top four challenges that the student feels his/her tribe faces and recommend solutions to those challenges.
4. Verification of Enrollment in grades 9 through 11. (for example, the student's Report Card or a letter from the school administrator)
5. Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) or letter from tribal official verifying eligibility for tribal membership.
6. A parent's or guardian's signature on the application
7. A recent photograph and shirt size
8. A list of any medical conditions and medications that may present challenges to participation in some activities

**The application and supporting materials must be received by May 1, 2009.** Applications must be complete to be considered. Applicants that are selected will be notified no later than **May 15, 2009.** Please submit applications to: **Stephanie Birdwell, Deputy Director, Policy and Post Secondary, Bureau of Indian Education, 1849 C Street, NW; MS-3609 MIB Washington D.C. 20240.** If you have any questions about the Youth Leadership Challenge, please contact Ms. Birdwell at: 202-208-4397 or via e-mail at: [sbirdwell@bia.edu](mailto:sbirdwell@bia.edu).



**Student Educational Information**

High School Attended: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade Point Average (GPA): \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_

List classes that you were most interested in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List extracurricular activities: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List academic honors, offices held and other awards received: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Major or Career Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

**Certification and Signature**

I certify to my knowledge the information in this application is completed factually, accurately and honestly. I understand the information I have provided in this application may be subject to verification.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*(if student is under 18)*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Office Use Only:*

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Interview Date scheduled: \_\_\_\_\_

Accepted [ ] Denied [ ] Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Completed file: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION  
YOUTH LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE  
At Haskell Indian Nations University  
Lawrence, Kansas  
June 15 through 19, 2009**

**Applicant Recommendation Form**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**TO THE RECOMMENDER:** The above named student has applied to the **BIE Youth Leadership Challenge**. Someone who has previously taught the student or is an academic advisor/counselor to the student should complete this recommendation form. We would appreciate your concise appraisal of the student. Recommendation forms may be mailed to: **Stephanie Birdwell, Deputy Director, Policy and Post Secondary, Bureau of Indian Education, 1849 C Street, NW; MS-3609 MIB Washington DC 20240.**

1. How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

2. In what capacity have you known the student? \_\_\_\_\_

3. The above named applicant has suggested that you can assist us in assessing her/his qualifications for attending the **Bureau of Indian Education Youth Leadership Challenge at Haskell Indian Nations University**. We desire to obtain your candid opinion of the candidate's intellectual and personal capabilities. **The Bureau of Indian Education** is in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and does not discriminate on the basis of handicap in admission or access to its programs. You are asked not to refer directly or indirectly to an applicant's handicap. The applicant should be rated on a 1-10 scale with 1 being the lowest rating and 10 being an excellent rating. In some cases where you are unable to rate a particular area please enter 0 which will indicate unknown.

CATEGORY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Personal Appearance/Integrity										
Academic Ability/Scholastic Apt.										
Self Confidence										
Work Habits										
Emotional Maturity										
Leadership/Initiative and Resourcefulness										
Communication skills/Oral										
Communication Skills/ Written										
Community Involvement										
Promise of Professional Growth										
Ability to work with Peers										
Ability to work with Administrators										
Perseverance toward goal attainment										

Indicate strength of overall endorsement by checking the appropriate box.

Not Recommended       Recommended with Reservation       Recommended       Highly Recommended

Write any additional comments you wish to make on the back of this sheet.

School \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_