



# TEQUIO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

## Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing Project

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### MICOP's TEQUIO SCHOLARSHIP FUND DESCRIPTION

Established in 2012 to inspire and encourage academic success in the indigenous community, the Tequio Scholarship Fund provides individual grants to college students from Ventura County who are of indigenous Mexican roots from the states of Oaxaca and Guerrero. The term "Tequio" describes an indigenous person's desire and obligation to assist their community. We provide these grants in the spirit of Tequio, and we seek to support highly motivated students who share this commitment to serve their community. *As you climb, may you lift your community with you.*

Grants are distributed annually to applicants selected by the Tequio Scholarship Committee.

#### **Who Qualifies to Apply?**

- Students must be of indigenous Mexican background, from the states of Oaxaca or Guerrero, Mexico.
- Students must be from Ventura County, but do not need to be enrolled in a Ventura County college or university.
- Current high school seniors, college and university students. All applicants must be enrolled in college or university, or have plans to enroll.
- Applicants are not required to be FAFSA eligible.
- Preference is given to students who participate in or have participated in MICOP's Tequio Youth Group.
- Applicants are encouraged to apply annually if qualifications are met and need is still present.
- To qualify for MICOP's Edison Scholarship, you must be planning to pursue science, technology, engineering or math (STEM), plan to enroll full-time at a four-year university and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

#### **The Application Must Include:**

- Application and personal statement describing career and academic plans
- Two recommendation letters (not from MICOP staff or volunteers)
- High school or college transcript
- Proof of college enrollment (if available)
- Photo of self (headshot preferred) and four sentence biography describing your life and your plans
- Signed Authorization to Use Information, Name, or Likeness (Form is printed on back of this page)

Please email, mail or provide in person all required documents (if emailed, scanned into a single PDF or JPEG is preferred). Incomplete applications will not be considered. Application is based on documentation only and does not include an interview process.

#### **What is the Time Frame for Applications?**

- Applications must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to MICOP's offices by 5:00 p.m., May 5, 2017. Recipients will be notified in early July and will receive their award during the annual Night in Oaxaca celebration on August 5th.

#### **Intended Use of Funds:**

- The funds are unrestricted; recipients may use them as needed to support their studies.
- At the end of the grant period, recipients will be requested to submit a brief, emailed report regarding how the funds were spent and may be asked to share about their experience at future MICOP events.