



MICOP's TEQUIO SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATION PERIOD – October 25, 2024 – December 1, 2024

"As you climb, may you lift your community with you."

The Indigenous concept of "Tequio" is an ancestral cultural legacy among the Indigenous communities, which can be described as "a disposition of wills that seek to meet needs or solve collective problems through community organization" (Mentado 2017). Established in 2012, the Tequio Scholarship Fund shares this commitment to serve our Indigenous community by inspiring and encouraging academic success by providing scholarships to Indigenous Mexican students. Our scholarship recipients include high school (seniors), community college, and university students from Ventura, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara counties. In the spirit of Tequio, we seek to support students who share this commitment to serve our Indigenous community. **Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered**.

In partnership with Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP), MICOP is offering the Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program (SBHIP) Scholarship. GCHP proudly serves nearly 250,000 Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Ventura County through its vast network of primary care providers, specialists, behavioral health providers, and hospitals. Since it was founded in 2011, GCHP has been committed to providing access to high-quality care and improving the health of its members, which include 1 in 3 county residents, 1 in 6 seniors, and 1 in 2 children up to the age of 5. The goal of the SBHIP scholarship is increasing the number and diversity of behavioral health providers in Ventura County by investing in scholars who will provide direct behavioral health services in Ventura County after graduation.

The scholarships will be distributed as follows:

Level of Education	Annual Scholarship Amount
Certification	\$10,000
e.g., Community Health Worker, Peer Support Specialist,	
Psychiatric / Mental Health Nurse Practitioner	
Associate's degree	\$15,000
e.g., Wellness Coach I, Certified Alcohol and Drug	
Counselor	
Bachelor's degree	\$20,000
e.g. Wellness Coach II, Pre-med	
Master's / Doctoral degree / Medical School	\$25,000
e.g., LMFT, LPCC, LCSW, LEP, Psychiatrist	

Student Eligibility for the Tequio GCHP Scholarship Fund:

(Previous scholarship recipients are encouraged to apply)

- Self-identify as being from a Mexican Indigenous background (e.g., Mixteco, Zapoteco, Purepecha, Triqui, Otomi, Huave, Nahua) and/or from a farm-working family or background.
- Students must reside in or have recently resided in Ventura County.





- Open to high school seniors (class of 2025), or current, community college, or university students. This scholarship opportunity is open to students navigating their educational journey "non-traditionally".
- Previous scholarship recipients are given preference.
- Students must be enrolled or planning to enroll in the Spring 2025 semester in college, university, or trade school (part- or full-time).
- Undocumented, AB540, DACA, and U.S. citizens are eligible.

Required Application Materials:

- Application and personal statement (see application instructions)
- (1) letter of recommendation from a professor, teacher, or community member (excluding MICOP).
- High school, college, university, or continuing education transcripts (official or unofficial)
- Proof of community college, university, or adult education enrollment (i.e., acceptance letter, class schedule, receipt of course payment, financial aid letter, etc.)
- Photo / Headshot in PNG/JPEG format for marketing materials
- Brief (3-4 sentence) biography. Please share anything you'd like us to know, including your background and future goals.
- Sign the waiver provided in the application, giving MICOP access to your application information.

Personal Statement:

Please complete the following on a separate sheet and include it with your application.

We want to get to know you! Please include 1-2 pages, size 12-point font, about yourself using the questions below. Additionally, we are open to you expressing yourself creatively. Alongside your written statement, you may include spoken word, poetry, video documentation, and your artistic expression (this is not a requirement but an opportunity to highlight yourself further). Use your personal statement to show your Indigenous pride and share what being Indigenous and/or from a farm working family means to you.

Please answer the following within your Personal Statement:

- 1) Please describe your commitment to the Indigenous migrant and/or farm working community.
- 2) In the spirit of Tequio, how will achieving your educational goals positively impact the Indigenous migrant and/or farm working community?
- 3) Share with us specific ways this scholarship award will support, benefit, and encourage your educational goals for higher education.
- 4) How do you plan to use the awarded scholarship funds?





Application Deadline:

Applications will be accepted via email or online only from October 25, 2024, through December 1, 2024. Recipients will be notified in December 2024 and receive their awards before the Spring 2025 semester starts.

Intended Use of Funds:

Recipients may use scholarship funds as needed to support their studies (i.e., tuition, textbooks and school supplies, transportation, housing costs, technology, etc.)

MICOP and GCHP would love to stay connected! After the first semester of college, recipients may be asked to submit a brief educational update, including how funds assisted them on their academic journey. Some recipients may also be asked to share their experience at future MICOP and GCHP events.

Submit Your Application for the Tequio Scholarship Fund:

- □ Please email your application to <u>scholarship@mixteco.org</u> or submit online at <u>mixteco.org/tequioscholarship/</u> (All emailed documents must be a single file in PDF or JPEG format). ***Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
- □ The application is based on documentation only and does not include an interview process. If you have difficulty submitting your application online, please contact the Tequio team at tequio@mixteco.org or call (805) 822-2418 to make an appointment to submit your application in person.





TEQUIO SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Application opens October 25, 2024 and will be accepted until December 1, 2024, online, at mixteco.org/tequioscholarship/ Please fill out this application completely and accurately. First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name: Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ Phone number: (_____Email: ____ Date of Birth: ____(Month) ____(Day) ____(Year) _____ Grade:_____ Current school*: *Note: "If you are enrolled or will be enrolling in a college / university for the first time, please indicate where you received your high school diploma or GED." List the school you will be attending in the Spring of 2025: Indigenous Community (i.e., Mixteco, Zapoteco, Purepecha, Triqui, Otomi, Huave, Nahua): Are you or your family from a farm working background? _____ Name of college/university attending for Spring 2025: _____ () Enrolled () Will be Enrolling Please indicate which major or field of study you plan to pursue: ______ Please indicate your cumulative GPA: _____ What year will you be in for the 2025-2026 academic year? () Certification () Freshman / first year in college () Sophomore / second year in college () Junior / third year in college () Senior in college hoping to go to graduate school () Other (Please explain):_____ Are you/have you been involved with MICOP's Tequio Youth Group?

*Please note MICOP Tequio Students will have priority to scholarship funds, however, all eligible students will be considered.

Yes____ How long?_____ No____





The MICOP Tequio Youth Group team wants to support you with the application process. Please contact <u>scholarship@mixteco.org</u> for more information. The Tequio Youth Group team will hold information workshops and provide additional information on assistance with the application process.

For questions about the application and to submit it online, please visit our website <u>mixteco.org/tequioscholarship</u>.

TEQUIO SCHOLARSHIP: AUTHORIZATION TO USE INFORMATION, NAME, AND LIKENESS

I understand that MICOP and GCHP require the right to use my name and likeness, as well as information from my Scholarship Application, personal statement, and letters of recommendation as part of its publicity about MICOP's Tequio Scholarship Fund and fundraising for MICOP's Tequio Scholarship Fund, and their other programs. I hereby authorize MICOP and GCHP to use my name and likeness, as well as information from my Scholarship Application, personal statement, and letters of recommendation, at its discretion.

Candidate Signature

IF UNDER 18 YEARS OLD:

Parent	Signature
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Date

Date