

CHAPTER 7 STUDENT RENT VOUCHER PROGRAM

Scope: In collaboration with the Karuk Tribe of California's Education Department, the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority student voucher program will provide rental assistance for eligible low-income students continuing their education attending college or vocational school. Assistance will be provided to Native American residents and non-resident Karuk Tribal members, as determined on an annual basis.

a) **Amount**

- i) The Karuk Tribe Housing Authority will pay rent not to exceed \$ 400.00 per month. If more than one eligible student resides in the same house, only one voucher will be assigned and the assistance divided equally. Rent will be paid directly to the landlord on behalf of the eligible student(s).
- ii) Rental assistance will be available August through May each year, as long as funds exist.
- iii) Voucher assistance payments shall not exceed students monthly rent amount.
- iv) Voucher assistance payment shall not exceed Fair Market Rent amount.

b) **Eligibility**

- i) Student must carry a minimum of 12 credit units per semester at a college or university or be enrolled full time in a vocational school to qualify for voucher assistance.
- ii) Student must be an enrolled Karuk Tribal member or resident of the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority at the time of application.
- iii) Student must maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average.
- iv) Student must be low income in accordance with Federal income guidelines and the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).
- v) Student must apply and qualify by August 1st each year. Any student who has not submitted all required documentation by August 1st, will not be considered for assistance.

- vi) Vouchers are issued for a ten month period. However, all students are required to submit class schedule and grades from Fall semester by January 15th to remain eligible for assistance.

c) **Restrictions**

- i) Voucher assistance may not be used to pay rent to the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority.
- ii) The Karuk Tribe Housing Authority will provide assistance only when funds exist, and shall not be obligated to continue when program funds are exhausted.
- iii) Assistance shall be denied to any lease signer who has been evicted from a Karuk Tribe Housing Authority unit, or owes the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority or the Karuk Tribe of California money.
- iv) Effective July 2005, students will be limited to six year maximum participation in the student voucher program.

d) **General**

- i) Applicant must be low income in accordance with NAHASDA limits.
 - ii) Student may not use assistance to pay rent while living with parents or immediate family members.
 - iii) It is the student's responsibility to provide all required documentation and complete all required forms in a timely manner.
 - iv) Assistance will not be approved until all required forms have been completed and received.
 - v) Assistance is provided for rent only.
- e) **Waiting List:** Voucher assistance will be granted to all **eligible** students who have submitted complete applications by August 1st. ***Students who do not meet the deadline will be placed on a waiting list for the following school year.***