

## CHAPTER 9            STUDENT RENT VOUCHER PROGRAM

**Scope:** In collaboration with the Karuk Tribe'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 for 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. Rental assistance payments will be made monthly, as long as the student is eligible.
- iii) Voucher assistance payments shall not exceed students monthly rent amount. If the monthly rent for the student exceeds the awarded student rent amount, it will be the student's responsibility to pay any remaining balance due.
- iv) Voucher assistance payment shall not exceed Fair Market Rent amount.

### b) Eligibility

- i) **Students must reapply each year, to be considered for assistance.**
- ii) Student applications are due in the KTHA office on or before July 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Student must apply and qualify by July 31<sup>st</sup> each year. **Any student who has not submitted all required documentation by July 31<sup>st</sup>, will not be considered for assistance.**

1. Complete applications include but will not be limited to the following; Student Rent Voucher Program Application Form, Proof of income, Landlord Lease Agreement, class schedule (for proof of full-time enrollment), Statement of living situation (roommates,

family setting, dormitory, etc.), and Landlord name, address and phone number.

- iii) 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.
  - iv) Student must be an enrolled Karuk Tribal member or resident of the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority at the time of application.
  - v) Student must maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average.
  - vi) Student must be low income in accordance with Federal income guidelines and the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).
  - vii) Vouchers are issued monthly for a ten month period. However, all **student are required to submit spring class schedule and grades from their Fall semester by January 31<sup>st</sup> to remain eligible for assistance.**
- a) **Restrictions**
- i) Voucher assistance may not be used to pay rent to the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority.
  - ii) Voucher assistance may not be used to pay rent while living with parents or immediate family members.
  - iii) The Karuk Tribe Housing Authority will provide assistance only when funds exist, and shall not be obligated to continue when program funds are exhausted.
  - iv) 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 money.
  - v) Effective July 2005, students will be limited to six year maximum participation in the student voucher program.
- b) **General**
- i) Applicant must be low income in accordance with NAHASDA limits.

- ii) It is the student's responsibility to provide all required documentation and complete all required forms by the required timeframe given each semester.
- iii) Assistance will not be approved until all required forms have been completed and received.
- iv) Assistance is provided for rent only.
- c) **Waiting List:** Voucher assistance will be granted to all **eligible** students who have submitted complete applications by July 31<sup>st</sup>. ***Students who do not meet the deadline and qualify will be placed on a waiting list. Only when funds exist, will the person(s) on the waiting list be considered for voucher assistance. Eligible waiting list students will be selected by the Occupancy committee or as determined by the KTHA's Executive Director.***