



2011 ANNUAL REPORT



Efforts to Increase Revenues for Scholarships Renewed

**BY ROSE GRAHAM
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR**

Education beyond high school is not an option anymore. A college degree or vocational education has become necessary to make a living in today's world.

For the last five years, the Navajo public has heard about insufficient funding for scholarships and financial assistance – an issue that has become increasingly critical.

According to 2000 U.S. Census data, the population of the Navajo Nation is relatively young with a median age of 24-years-old. Of that, more than 20,000 are pursuing higher education at colleges and universities across the United States.

Simultaneously and unsurprisingly, the number of adults seeking scholarships is also increasing. The slowed economy has caused many to lose their jobs forcing a return to school to train for new careers.

The cost of a college education is consistently rising. Finding enough financial aid to get through school is becoming more difficult. What is the scholarship

office doing about the funding shortage?

There are several initiatives in the legislative process to alleviate the shortage of funding for Navajo scholarships and financial aid.

One major initiative is to revitalize the Navajo Scholarship Office's fundraising component – the Diné Annual Scholarship Fund. A new Employee Identification Number was established by the Internal Revenue Service for this purpose.

Already, through Navajo Nation Vice President Rex Lee Jim's advocacy, an \$80,000 contribution was made to the scholarship fund. We are looking forward to implementing a fully staffed fundraising office in late 2012.

One other proposal going before the Navajo Nation Council is a call to increase the set aside for scholarships as authorized by the 2005 Higher Education Grant Act from \$1.5 million to \$5 million per year. Another is a request for \$2 million from which will be used entirely for scholarships.

The scholarship office is also

ABOVE At the end of the 2010-2011 school year, 58 students received the prestigious Chief Manuelito Scholarship at a ceremony held on July 29, 2011 in Tuba City, Ariz.

seeking public support for a third proposal that would amend the the Navajo Nation tax statutes to designate a half-a-cent of sales taxes for scholarship funding. This initiative is anticipated to go before the Navajo Nation Council during the 2012 Summer Session.

Another initiative being pursued is obtaining authorization for forward funding of federal funds to the Navajo Scholarship Office. Through forward funding, federal funds would be released to the scholarship office by July instead of January when the Spring semester has already begun.

That means if even Congress delays approval of the federal budget, the scholarship office will already have federal funds needed to make awards before the Spring semester begins.

The Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance strives to better serve the Navajo people.

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Fifty-eight high-achieving high school graduates receive the Chief Manuelito Scholarship

**Office of Navajo Nation
Scholarship & Financial Assistance**

Apply online at:
www.onnsfa.org

Toll-Free Agency Office
Telephone Directory

Chinle
(800) 919-9269

Ft. Defiance
(800) 243-2956

Crownpoint
(866) 254-9913

Shiprock
(866) 223-6457

Tuba City
(866) 839-8151

 for information & updates:
[facebook.com/ONNSFA](https://www.facebook.com/ONNSFA)

Types of Student Funding

Need-Based

(up to \$2,000 per semester)

Need-based funding is provided to students who demonstrate financial need according to the Financial Need Analysis (FNA) form submitted on their behalf by the school of attendance. Students in this category are deemed not to have sufficient personal or family resources to meet a college's or university's cost of attendance (e.g. tuition, books and housing). Awards of up to \$2,000 per semester or \$4,000 per academic year are provided to students based upon their individual need assessment.

No-Need-Based

(\$500 per semester)

No-need-based funding is provided to students who are deemed to have enough resources to meet the cost of attendance (e.g. tuition, books and housing) at the college or university of attendance. Awards of \$500 per semester are provided to students in this category.

Chief Manuelito Scholarship

(\$3,500 per semester)

Merit-based scholarships are provided students who achieve a high grade point average and a commensurating ACT or SAT college testing score. An additional requirement is the completion of courses in Navajo Language (1 unit) and Navajo Government (½ unit) prior to the application deadline. Full-time undergraduate students may also qualify for the Chief Manuelito scholarship under the 24/3 rule by completing 24 credit hours of college-level courses with a 3.0 GPA.

Graduate Students

(\$2,500 to \$5,000 per semester)

Interest income from the Graduate Trust Fund is the primary source of funding for graduate students.

Part-Time

Undergraduate and Graduate

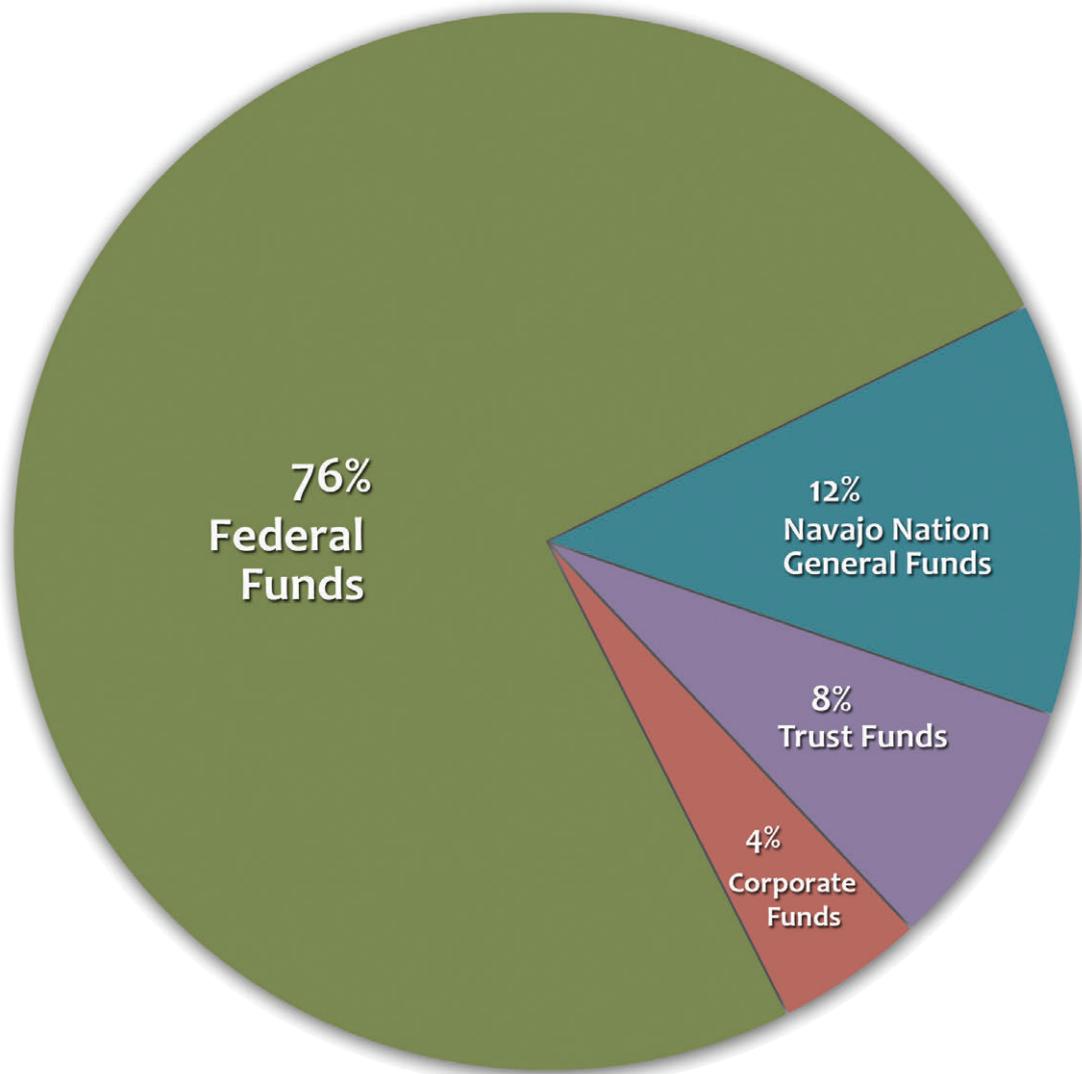
Funding is available for eligible part-time undergraduate and graduate students. Part-time application requirements and award amounts vary.



2011 Calendar Year Statistical Profile

Total Number of Students Requesting Awards:	17,001
Total Number of Awards:	7,047
<i>(All financial aid and scholarship awards made by ONNSFA during the calendar year are included in the total. In some instances, a student may have received two awards – one for the Spring term and another for the Fall term. Each award is counted independently.)</i>	
Total Number of Students Receiving Awards:	5,495
<i>(Students are counted once whether they receive one or more awards during the calendar year.)</i>	
Gender of Recipients:	
Female	66%
Male	44%
Enrollment Status of Recipients:	
Undergraduate	92%
Graduate	8%
Number of Awards By Funding Source:	
Federal Funds	5,266
Navajo Nation, Trust and Corporate Funds	1,781
Total Awards By Funding Source:	
Federal Funds	\$ 10,958,630
Navajo Nation, Trust and Corporate Funds	<u>3,577,755</u>
Grand Total:	\$ 14,536,385
Total Federal Funds Awarded to:	
Need-Based Students	\$ 6,226,735
No-Need-Based Students	566,000
Chief Manuelito Scholars	<u>4,165,895</u>
	\$ 10,958,630
Percentage Used for Chief Manuelito Awards:	
All Sources	29%

Sources of Funding



Federal Funds:	\$10,958,630
General Fund:	1,816,263
Trust Funds:	1,112,734
Corporate Funds:	648,758
Total :	\$14,536,385

Calendar Year 2011

Total Awarded: \$14,536,385

Students Awarded: 7,047

From January 1 to December 31, 2011, the Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance awarded a total of \$14,536,385 in scholarships and financial aid. The pie chart shown illustrates the proportion of each funding source to the total amount administered by ONNSFA.

Federal Funds (BIA P.L. 93-638)

Total: \$10,958,630

Students Awarded: 5,266

Federal funds, provided through a P.L. 93-638 contract with the Navajo Region Bureau of Indian Affairs, comprised 76 percent of the funds awarded by the Navajo Scholarship Office. Federal funds are used to award undergraduate students with financial

need as determined by the student's Financial Need Analysis and for merit-based awards to Chief Manuelito Scholars.

Navajo Nation General Fund

Total: \$1,816,263

Students Awarded: 700

Navajo Nation General Funds comprised 12 percent of scholarship funds. These funds are used for awards to graduate students, undergraduates and students enrolled in the Navajo Teacher Education program.

Trust Funds

Total: \$1,112,734

Students Awarded: 385

Interest revenue from trust funds comprised 8 percent of funds awarded by ONNSFA in 2011. Policies for trust funds including the Graduate Trust

Fund, the Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority Trust Fund, the Vocational Education Trust Fund and Tucson Electric Funds stipulate that "10% of the fund [market value] shall be used as scholarship and financial assistance." Interest revenue from these sources fluctuate from year-to-year based upon market value.

Corporate Funds

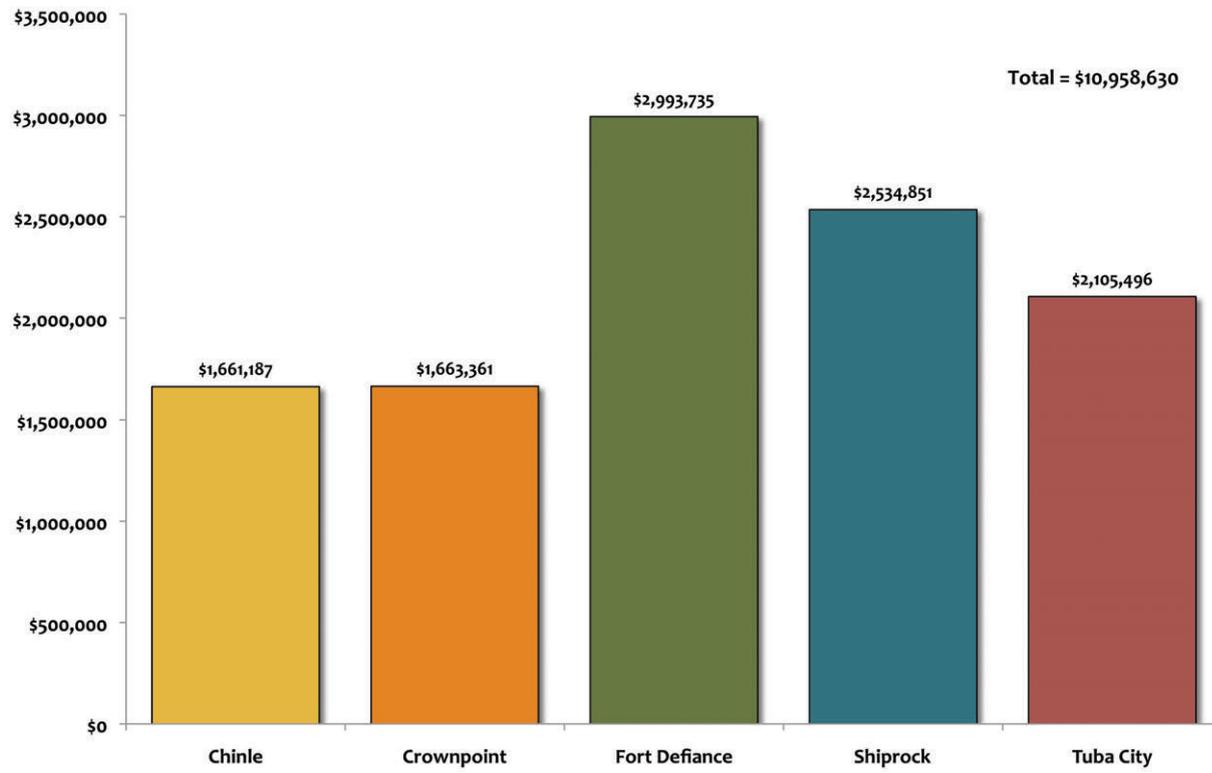
Total: \$648,758

Students Awarded: 696

Contributions from corporations comprised 4 percent of the total funds awarded by ONNSFA. Leases with companies including Peabody Coal Company, Chevron Mining, Inc., Four Corners Power Plant (APS) and El Paso Natural Gas include a provision that companies make a contribution to the scholarship fund.

Federal P.L. 93-638 Funds

Amounts Disbursed by Agency



Background

In January 1972, the Navajo Nation contracted the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Higher Education Grant Program, combining the administration of federal and tribal higher education programs into one operation.

The Navajo Nation Scholarship Office continues to administer Higher Education Grant funds through a 93-638 contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Regional Office.

P.L. 93-638 Contract Funds

In 2011, federal funds (P.L. 93-638 contract funds) comprised 76 percent of the total amount disbursed for scholarships and financial aid.

Federal funds also provide funding for the operation of the Higher Education Grant program, accounting for about 13 percent of the federal grant.

The program operates with a total of 29 employees in five agency offices throughout the Navajo Nation and an administrative office in Window Rock, Ariz.

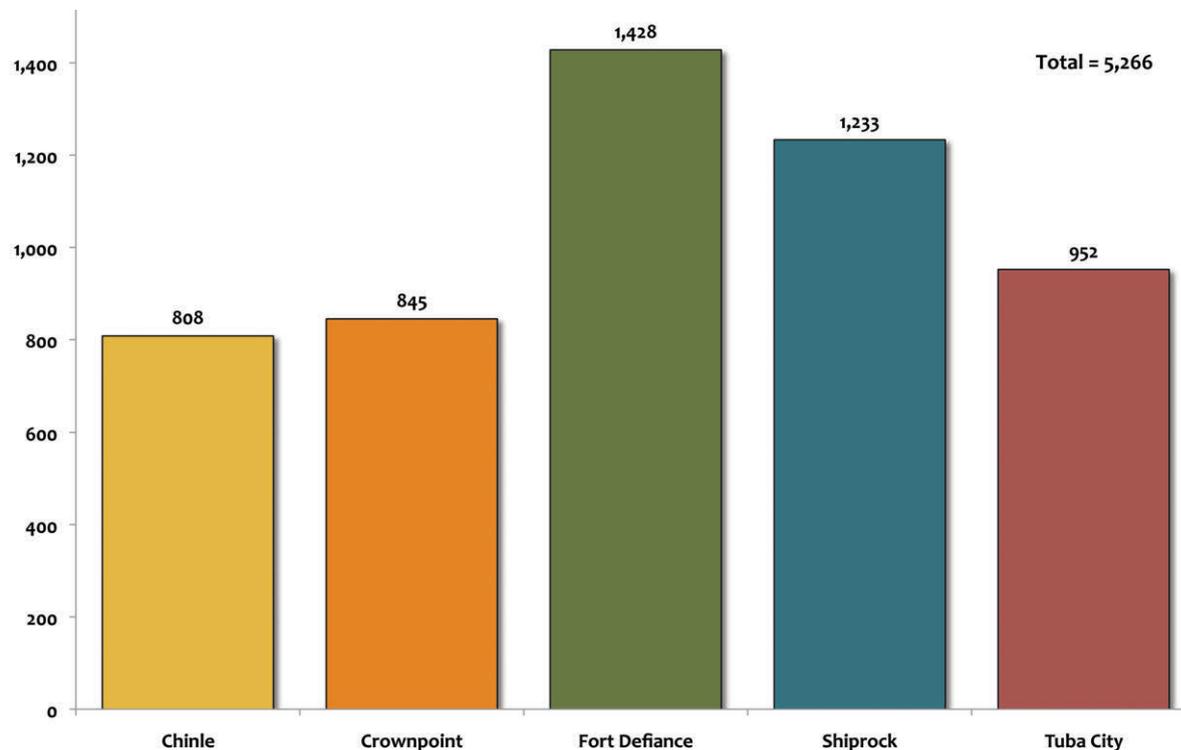
Agency Award Amounts

A total of \$10,958,630 in federal funds was disbursed in 2011. The above graph depicts the amount of federal funding awarded by agency.

Number of Students Served

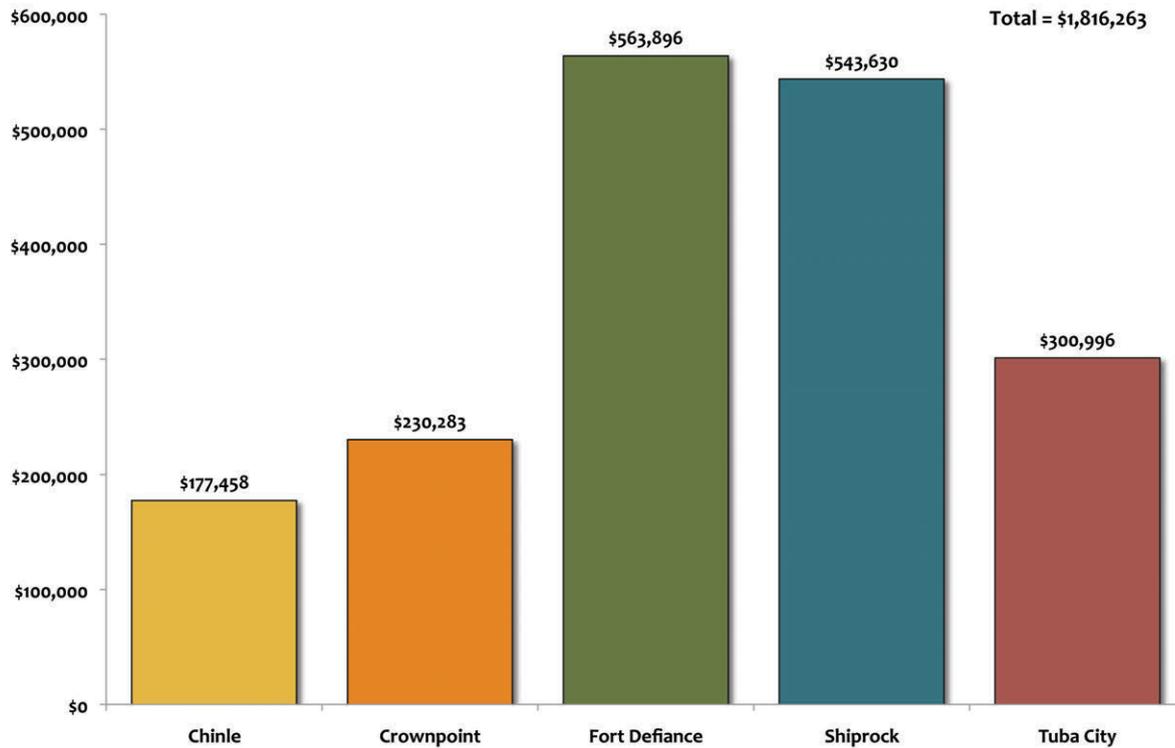
A total of 5,266 students was provided awards using federal funds in 2011. The graph to the left depicts the number of students awarded by agency.

Number of Students Receiving Awards



Navajo Nation General Funds

Amounts Disbursed by Agency



General Funds

Navajo Nation General Funds comprised 12 percent of the overall total of funding sources for scholarships and financial assistance.

Agency Award Amounts

A total of \$1,816,263 in Navajo Nation funds was disbursed in 2011. As depicted in the graph to the left, agencies awarded Navajo Nation funds in the following amounts:

Chinle Agency
\$177,458

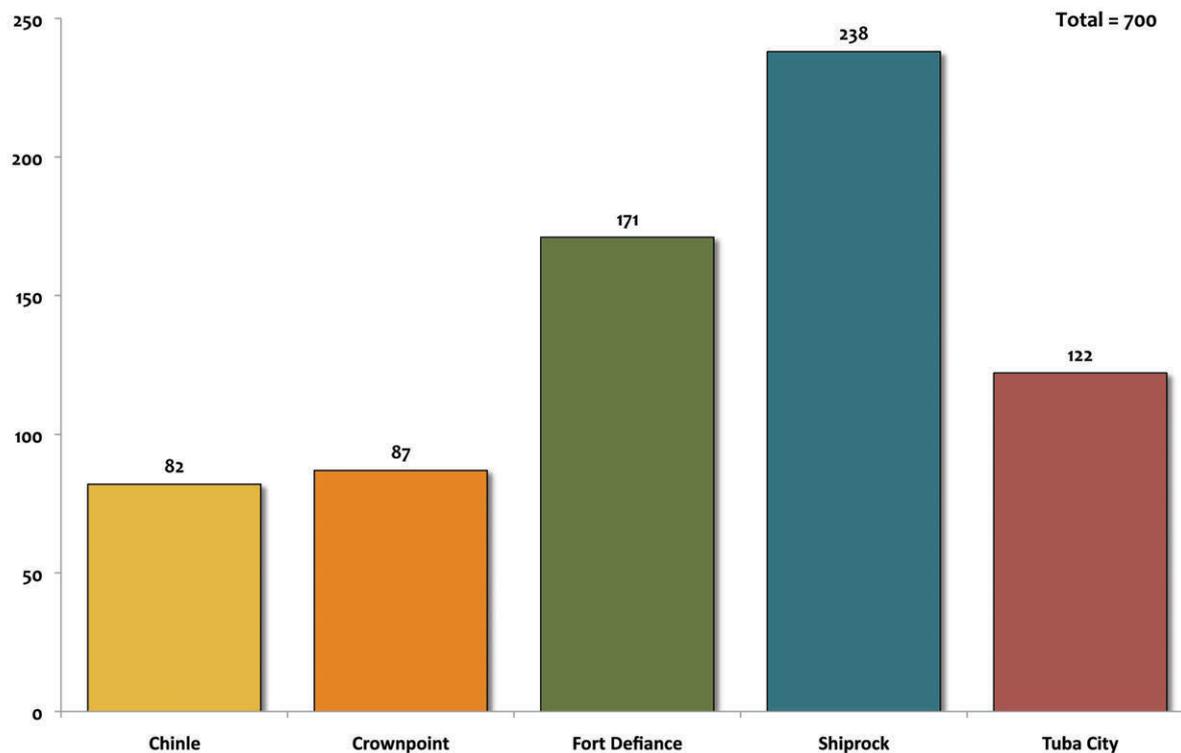
Crownpoint Agency
\$230,283

Fort Defiance Agency
\$563,896

Shiprock Agency
\$543,630

Tuba City Agency
\$300,996

Number of Students Receiving Awards



Number of Students Served

A total of 700 students was provided awards using Navajo Nation funds in 2011. As depicted in the graph to the left, the number of awards made by each agency using Navajo Nation funds is as follows:

Chinle Agency
82 students

Crownpoint Agency
87 students

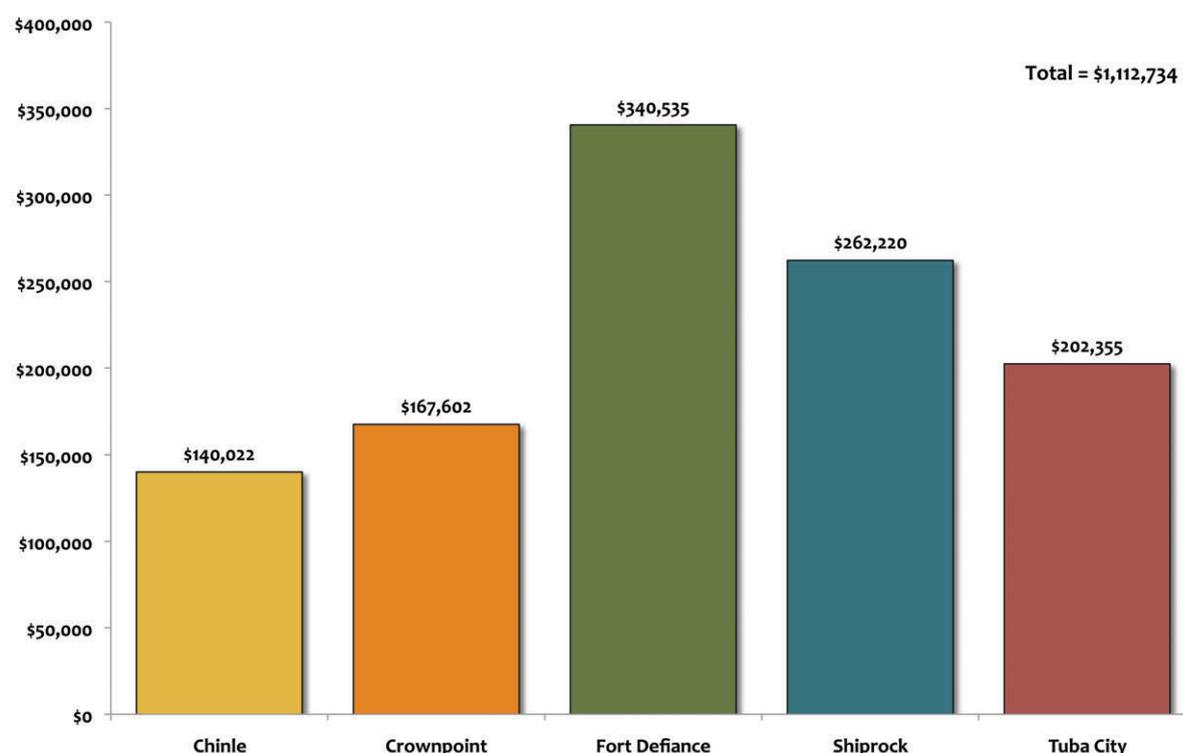
Fort Defiance Agency
171 students

Shiprock Agency
238 students

Tuba City Agency
122 students

Trust Funds

Amounts Disbursed by Agency



Trust Funds

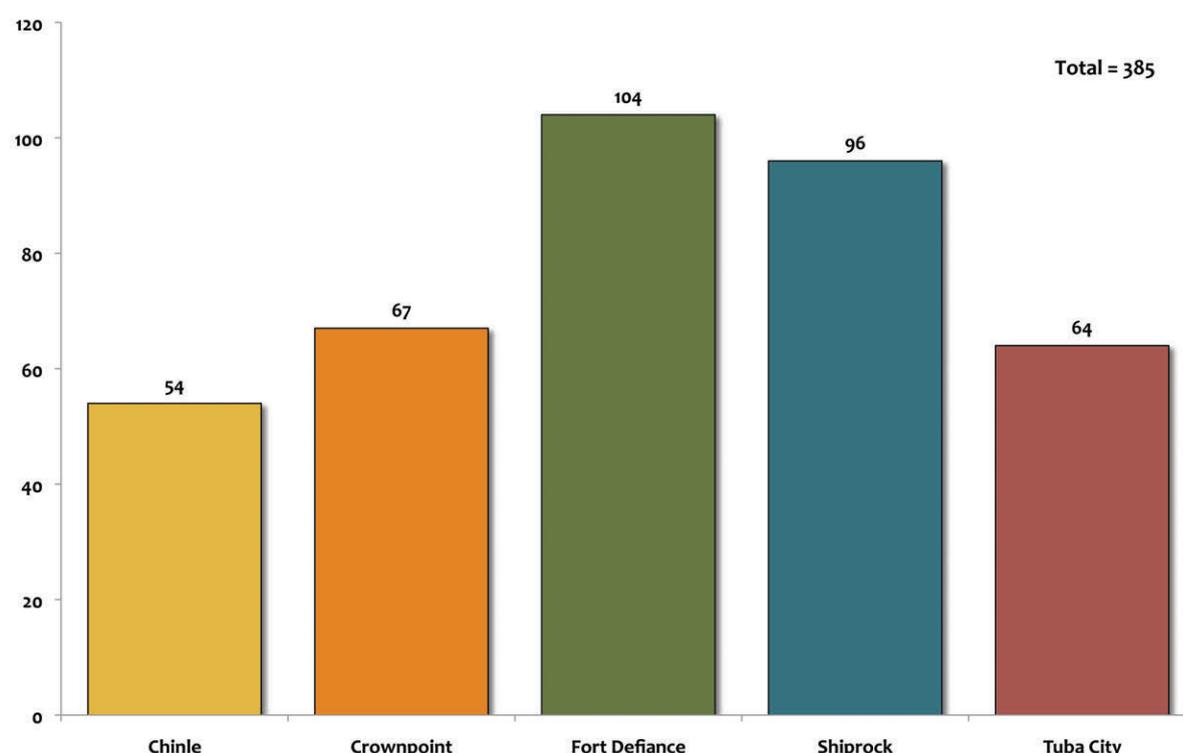
Interest from trust funds comprised 8 percent of the overall total amount of funding sources for scholarships and financial assistance. Trust funds include the Graduate Trust Fund, the Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority Trust Fund, the Vocational Education Trust Fund and the Tucson Electric Trust Fund

Agency Award Amounts

A total of \$1,112,734 in trust fund revenue was disbursed in 2011. The top graph depicts the amounts awarded by each agency.

- Chinle Agency
\$140,022
- Crownpoint Agency
\$167,602
- Fort Defiance Agency
\$340,535
- Shiprock Agency
\$262,220
- Tuba City Agency
\$202,355

Number of Students Receiving Awards



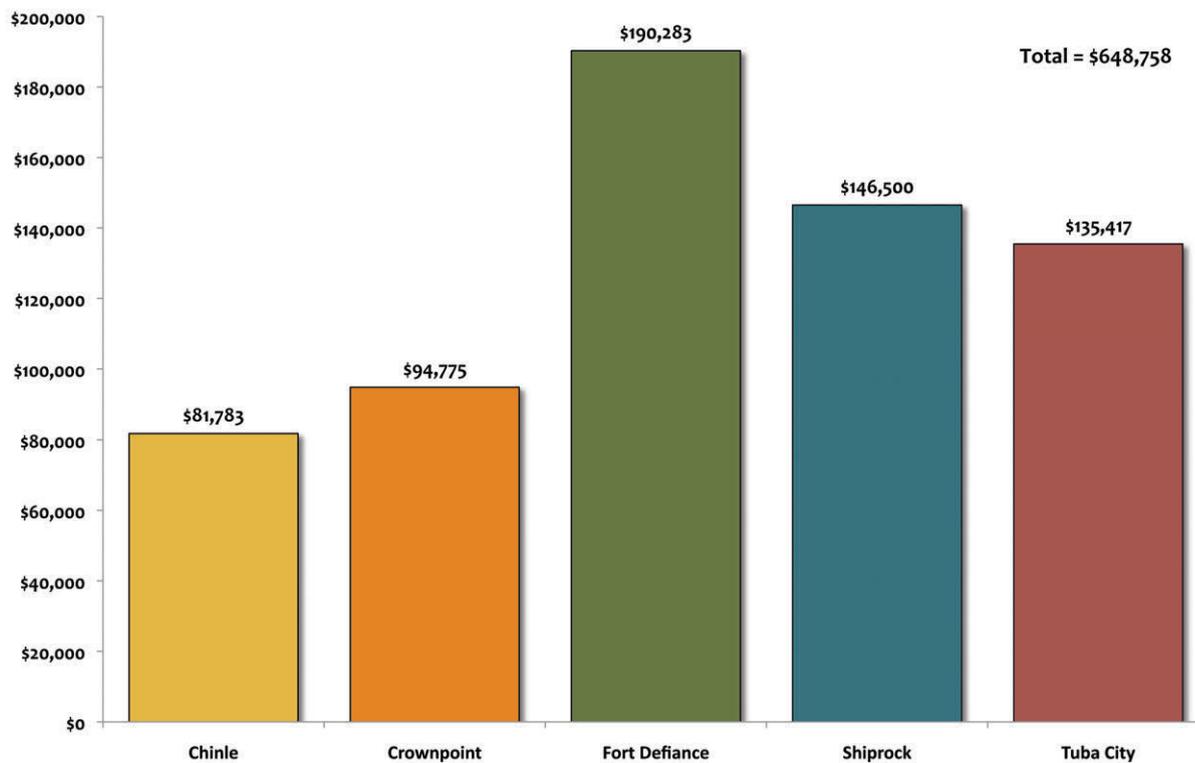
Number of Students Served

A total of 385 students was provided awards with proceeds from trust funds.

- Chinle Agency
54 students
- Crownpoint Agency
67 students
- Fort Defiance Agency
104 students
- Shiprock Agency
96 students
- Tuba City Agency
64 students

Corporate Funds

Amounts Disbursed by Agency



Corporate Funds

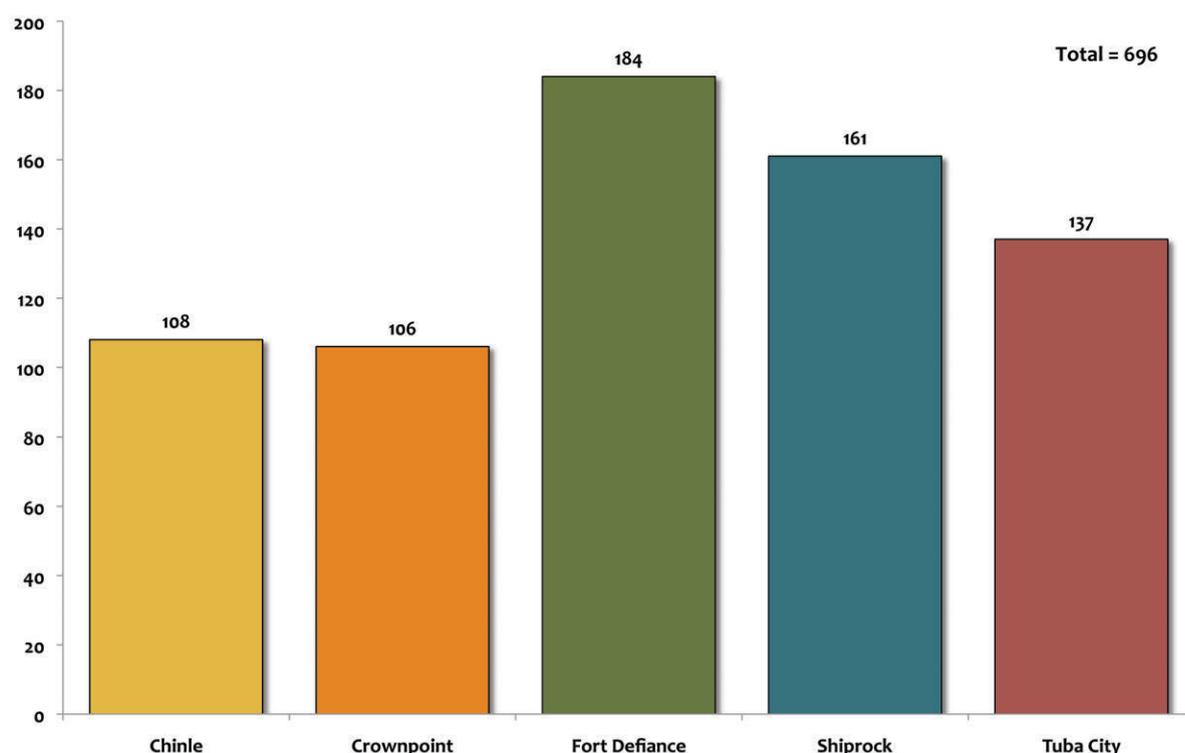
Corporate contributions made up 4 percent of the overall total of funding sources for scholarships and financial assistance. Contributors included Peabody Western, Chevron Mining, Inc. (formerly Pittsburgh & Midway Coal), Four Corners Power Plant (APS) and El Paso Natural Gas.

Agency Award Amounts

A total of \$648,758 in corporate funds were awarded by each agency as follows:

- Chinle Agency
\$81,783
- Crownpoint Agency
\$94,775
- Fort Defiance Agency
\$190,283
- Shiprock Agency
\$146,500
- Tuba City Agency
\$135,417

Number of Students Receiving Awards

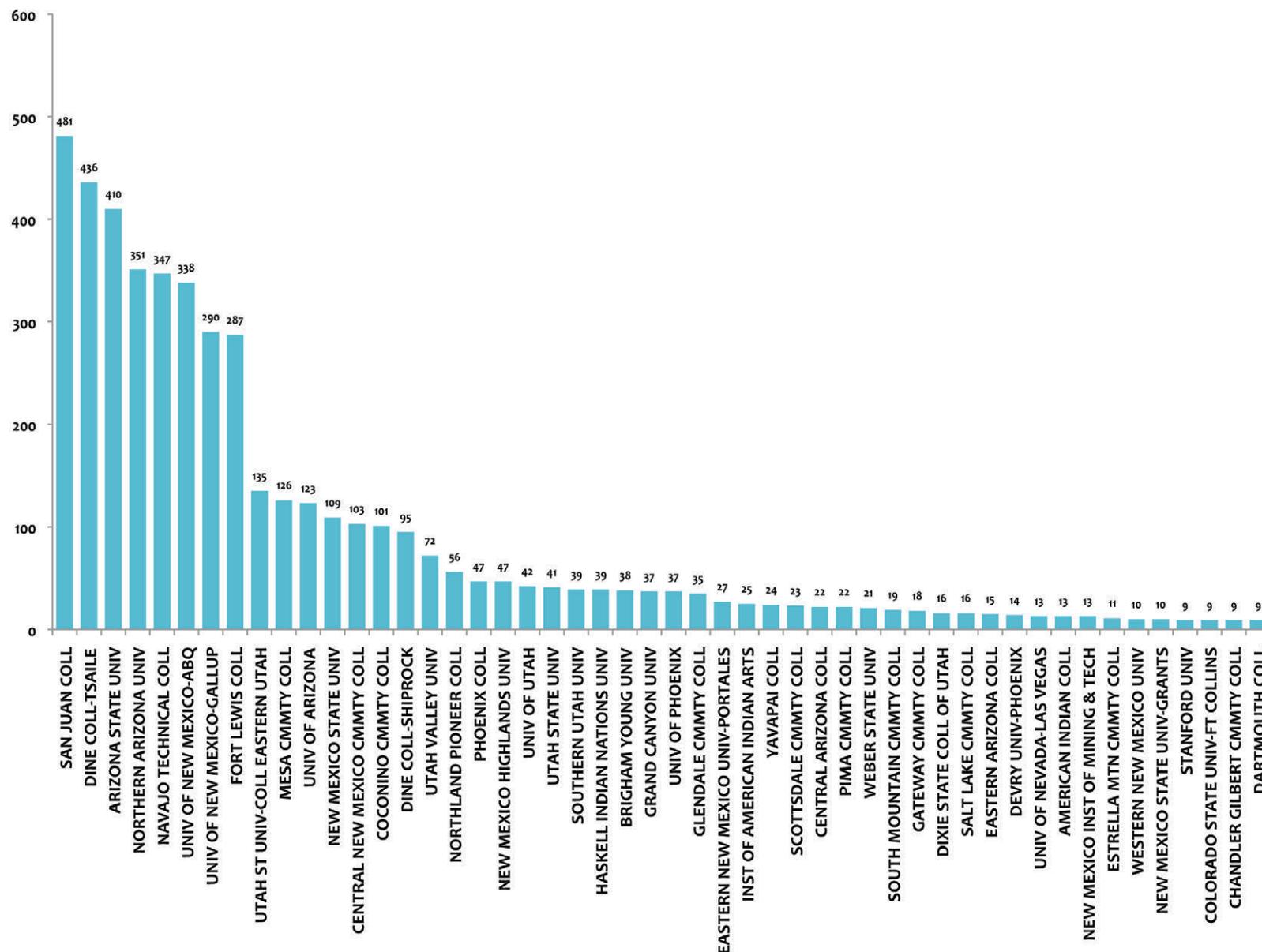


Number of Students Served

A total of 696 students was provided awards using corporate funds in 2011.

- Chinle Agency
108 students
- Crownpoint Agency
106 students
- Fort Defiance Agency
184 students
- Shiprock Agency
161 students
- Tuba City Agency
137 students

Top 50 Undergraduate Colleges



Top 50 Undergraduate Colleges

The graph above represents the top 50 college and universities attended by the 5,069 undergraduate students who have received funding for the 2011 Calendar Year including the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter semesters.

Diverse Colleges Represented

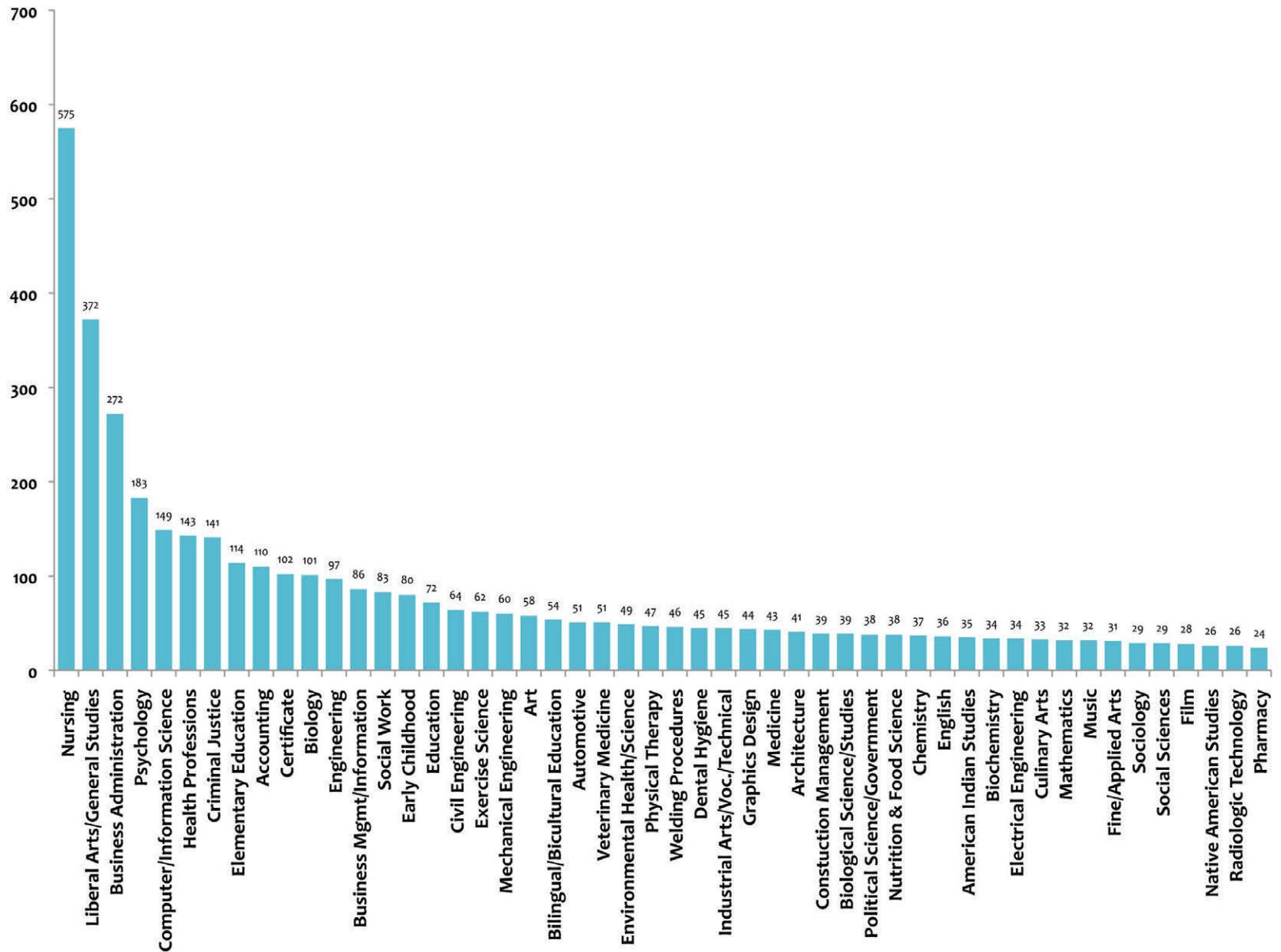
Undergraduates at 338 post-secondary institutions received scholarship or financial assistance awards. Students attended a diverse range of colleges and universities including Dartmouth College, Stanford University, Haskell Indian Nations College, Creighton University, Southwest University of Visual Arts and Pacific Union College.

Leading Institutions

A high number of undergraduates stayed close to home attending colleges and universities within the four-corners area. About 9 percent or 481 undergraduates receiving awards attended San Juan College in Farmington, N.M.; another 9 percent or 436 students attended Diné College in Tsaile, Ariz., and 8 percent or 410 students attended Arizona State University.

Funding from the Navajo Nation Scholarship Office is limited to students attending colleges or universities regionally accredited in accordance with its policy. (Chapter Two, General Policies and Procedures, Article 6, § 18).

Top 50 Undergraduate Majors



Top 50 Undergraduate Majors

The graph above represents the top 50 majors being pursued by the 5,069 undergraduate students who have received funding from the Navajo Nation Scholarship Office for the 2011 Calendar Year. The data is inclusive of the 2011 Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter semesters.

Nursing, Liberal Arts Majors Lead

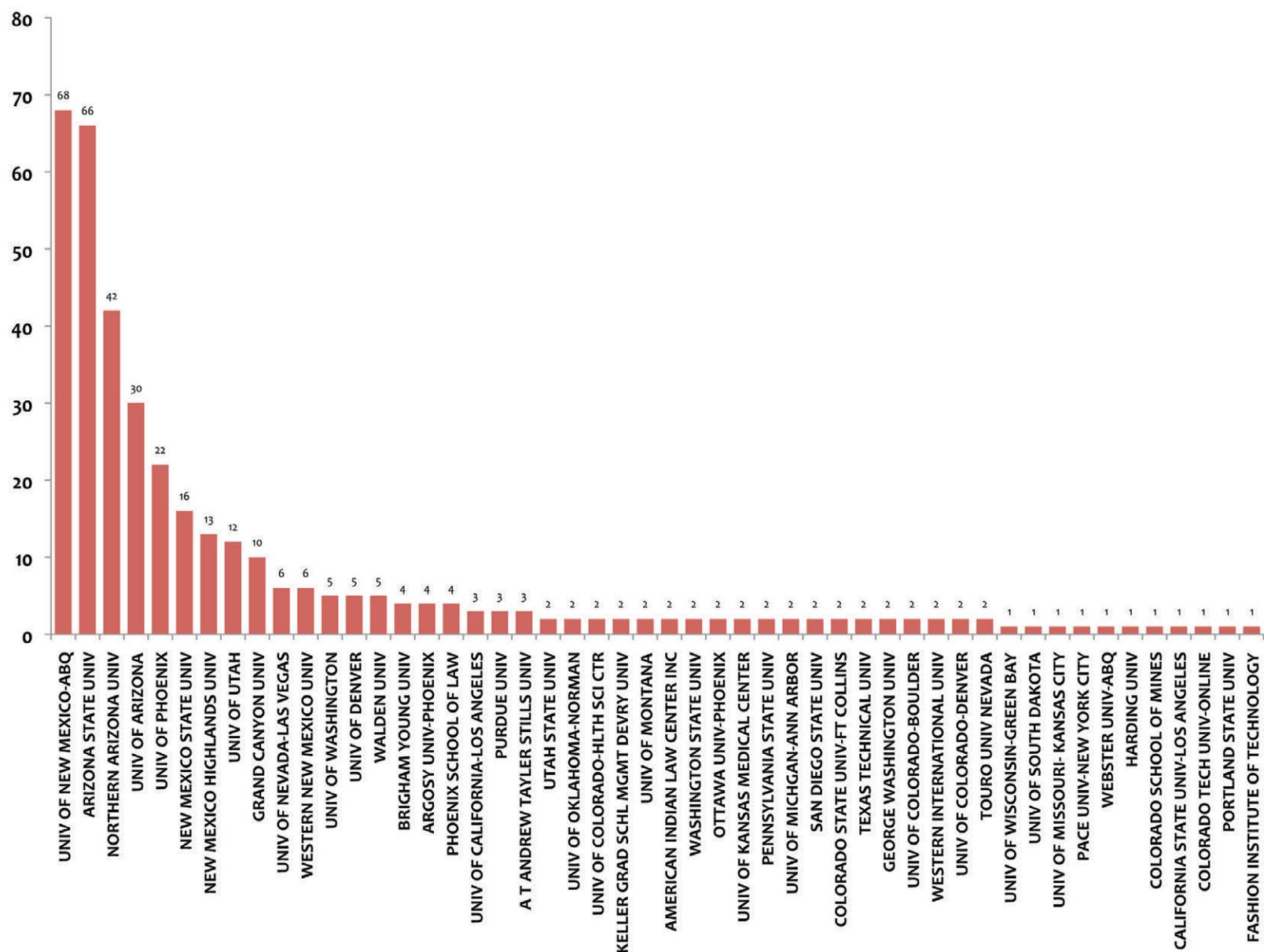
According to data collected by the Navajo Nation Scholarship Office, degrees in a total of 220 majors were being pursued by student funded in 2011. Nursing, with 575 students (11 percent), was the most popular; following were majors in Liberal Arts/General Studies with 372 students (7

percent), Business Administration with 272 students (5 percent), Psychology with 183 students (4 percent) and Computer/Information Science with 149 students (3 percent).

Other Areas of Interest

Students funded by the Navajo Nation Scholarship Office also pursued degrees in Criminal Justice, Elementary Education, Social Work, Veterinary Medicine, Graphic Design, Architecture, Political Science, Chemistry, English Engineering, Mathematics, Native American Studies and Pharmacy. All students receiving awards attended regionally accredited colleges or universities or the appropriate accrediting associations for highly specialized majors.

Top 50 Graduate Colleges



Top 50 Graduate Colleges

The graph above represents the top 50 colleges and universities attended by graduate students receiving funds from the Navajo Nation Scholarship Office in 2011 including the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter semesters.

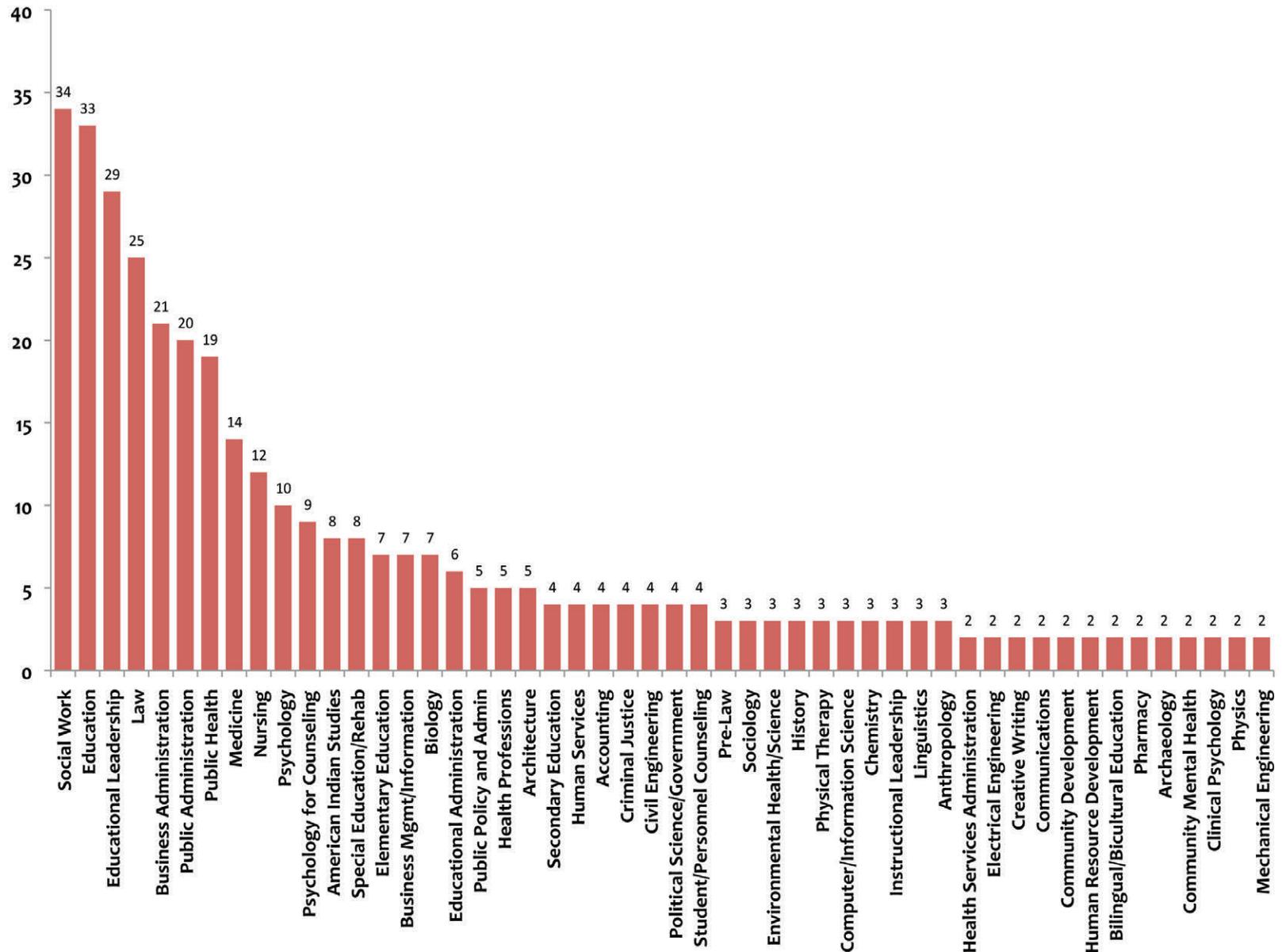
According to the data collected of graduate students in 2011, the highest number of graduate students 68 (16 percent) attended the main campus of the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. Sixty-six or 15 percent of graduate students attended Arizona State University and 42 graduate students or 10 percent attended Northern Arizona University.

Distance Learning

Notably, 21 percent of graduate students at these institutions took courses online or participated in distance learning programs.

Graduate students receiving funding from the Navajo Scholarship Office also attended the University of Arizona, the University of Phoenix, Claremont Graduate University, Brown University, the University of Utah, Purdue University, the University of Montana, the University of Kansas Medical Center, Webster University, Colorado School of Mines, the Fashion Institute of Technology and George Washington University.

Top 50 Graduate Majors



Top 50 Graduate Majors

The graph above represents the Top 50 majors being pursued by 426 graduate students funded in part by the Navajo Nation Scholarship Office in the 2011 Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter semesters.

Graduate Majors Represented

Graduate students sought degrees in a total of 103 majors in 2011. The most popular being Social Work with 34 graduate students or 8 percent of graduate students funded, followed by Education with 33 students or 7 percent, Educational Leadership with 29 students at 7 percent, Law at 25

students or 6 percent and Business Administration with 21 students or 6 percent.

Graduate Majors Being Pursued

Other majors being pursued by graduate students are Public Administration, Psychology for Counseling, Public Policy Administration, Criminal Justice, Political Science/Government, Environmental Health/Science, Computer Information Science, Chemistry, Linguistics, Electrical Engineering, Creative Writing, Communication, Community Development, Human Resources Development, Pharmacy, Archaeology, Clinical Psychology and American Indian Studies.

Remedial Education in Academic Year 2011

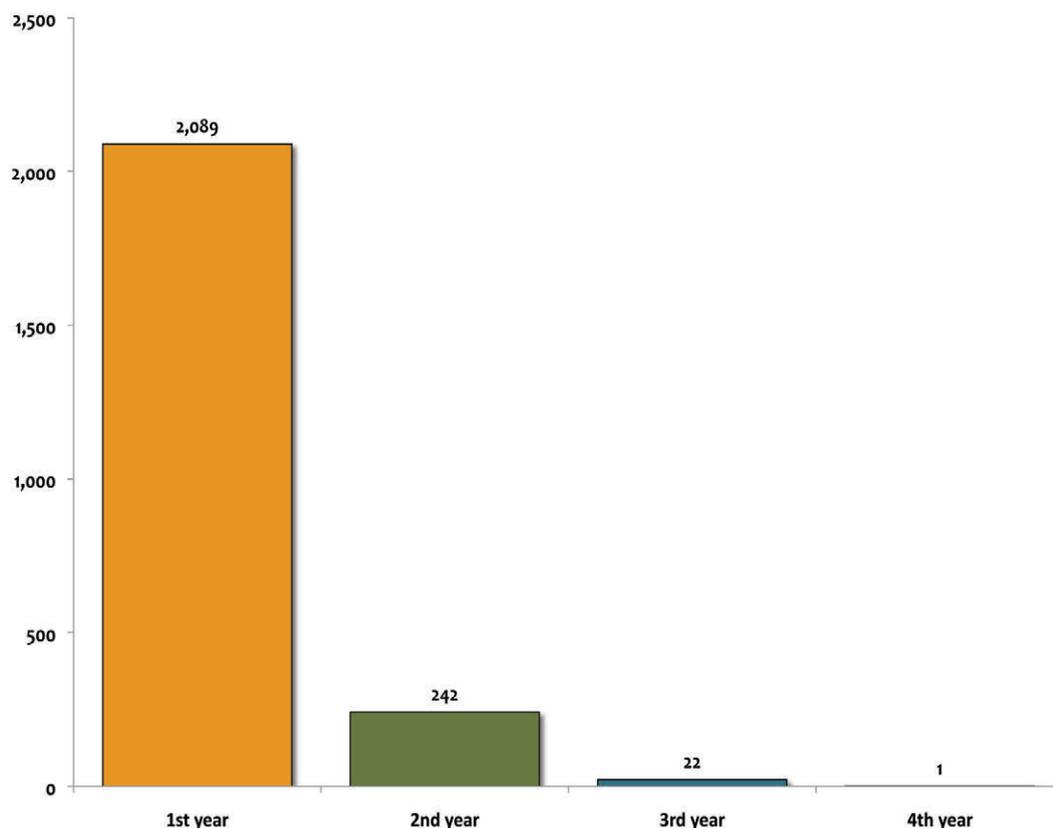
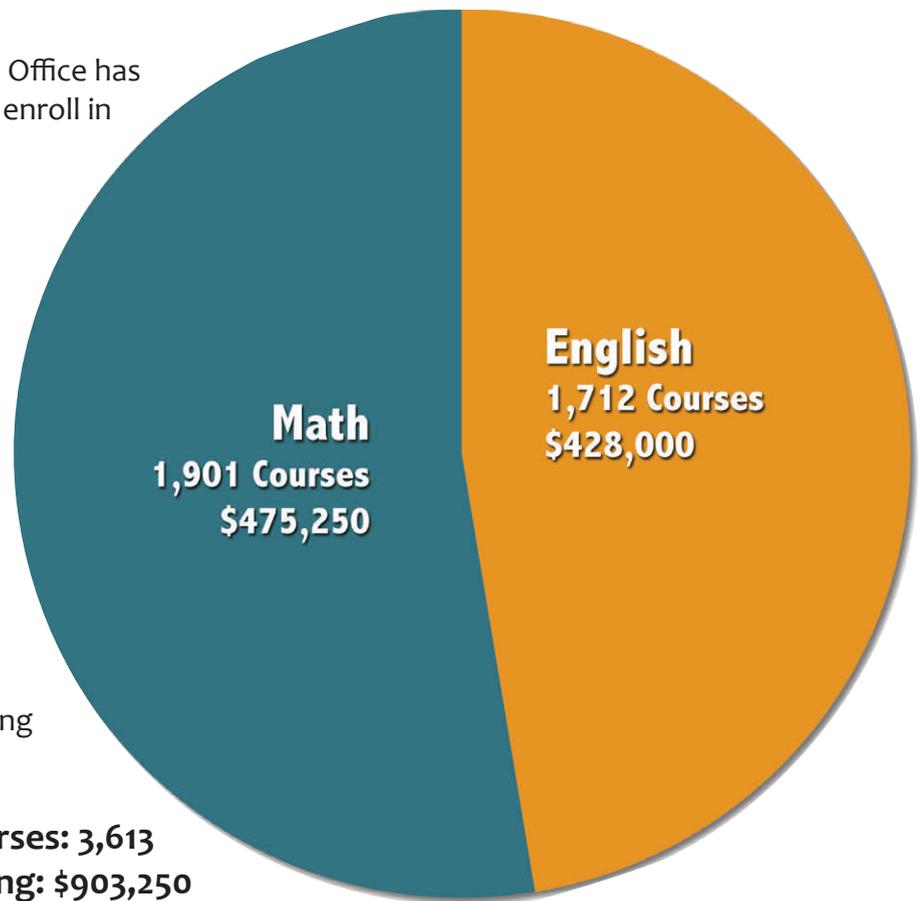
Remedial English and Math Courses

For the last few years, the Navajo Nation Scholarship Office has provided funding to entering college freshmen, who enroll in remedial courses in English and Math.

In 2011, the cost of remedial coursework - \$903,250 - consumed six percent of total scholarship funding. The Navajo Scholarship Office funded 1,901 remedial Math courses and 1,712 remedial English courses. (See graph to the right.)

For a number of reasons still largely unknown, students are not gaining foundational English and Math knowledge and skills required to successfully complete college-level coursework.

Officials have pointed out that the true intent of Navajo scholarship funding is to fund college-level coursework. The Navajo Nation Scholarship Office is currently in discussion on how to alleviate the on-going need for remedial education.



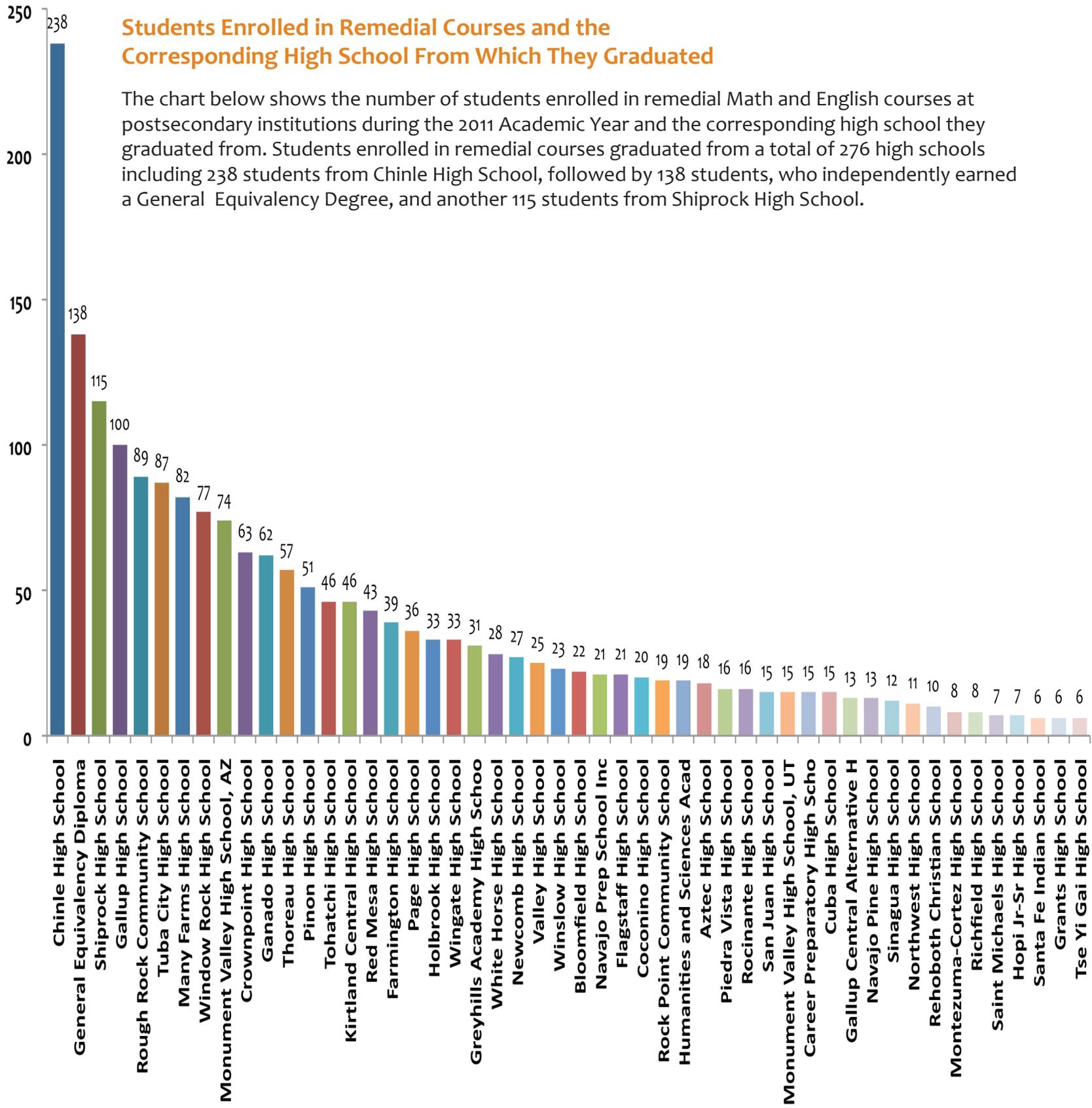
Students Enrolled in Remedial Courses by Year in School

The chart to the left shows the numbers of undergraduate students enrolled in remedial courses by year in school.

A total of 2,354 undergraduate students were enrolled in remedial courses including Freshmen (first year), Sophomores (second year), Juniors (third year) and Seniors (fourth year).

The numbers of students enrolled in remedial classes were as follows: 2,089 Freshmen, 242 Sophomores, 22 Juniors and 1 Senior.

Remedial Education in Academic Year 2011



Student Awards (by Chapter)

Chapter Affiliation

In filling out an ONNSFA application, students are asked to state their chapter affiliation. This information is used to determine which of the five agency offices students will be assigned to. The information is also used for reporting purposes.

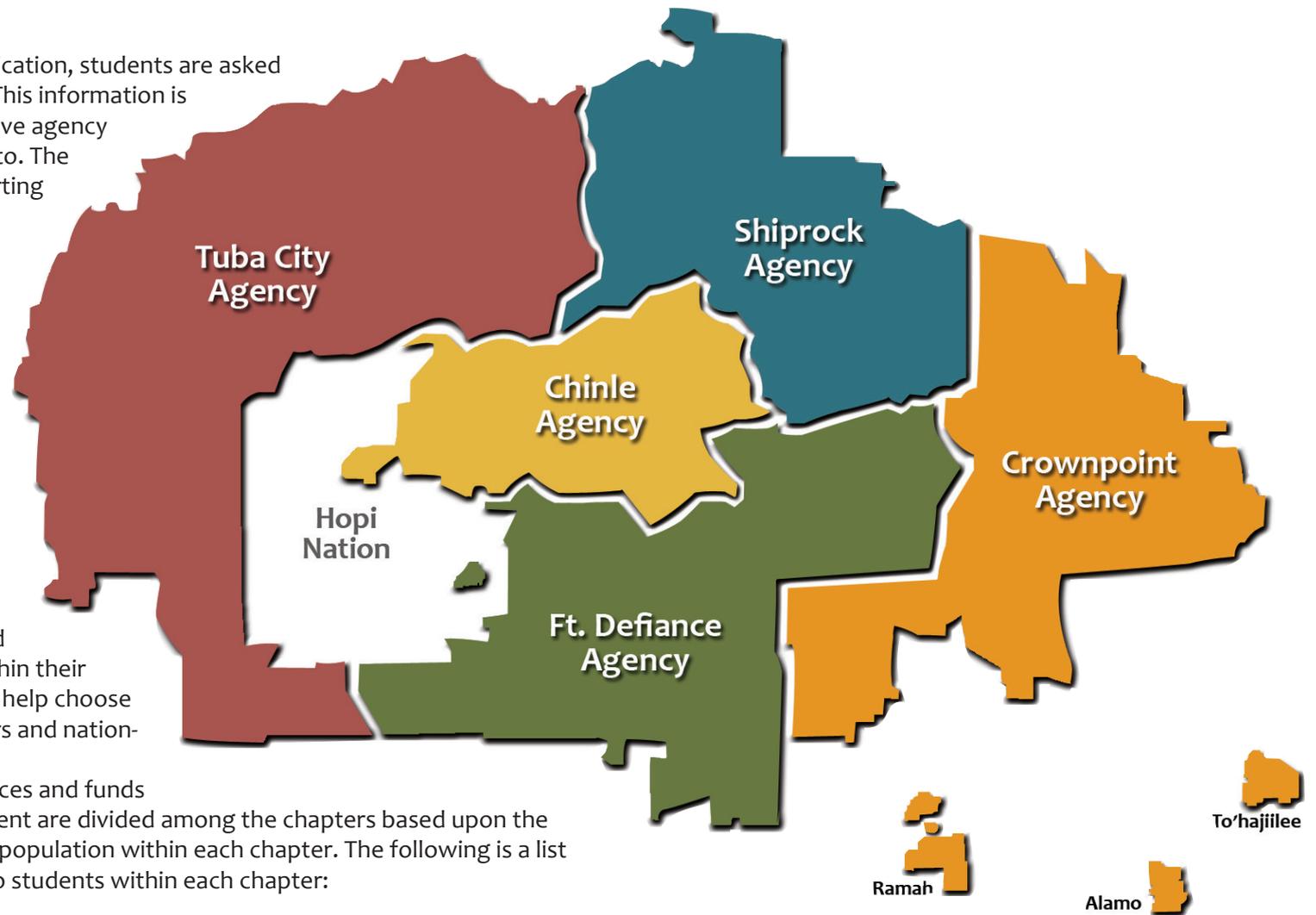
Choosing a Chapter

On occasion, students inquire about which of the Navajo Nation's 110 chapters they should state on the application. We encourage students to consider the chapter nearest to their residence or the chapter at which their parents are registered.

Voter Registration

Students also are encouraged to become a registered voter within their chapter. As a voter, students can help choose leadership locally at their chapters and nationally for the entire Navajo Nation.

In addition, many of the services and funds provided by the Navajo government are divided among the chapters based upon the number of registered voters and population within each chapter. The following is a list of the number of awards made to students within each chapter:



Ft. Defiance Agency

1,369 Students

- Cornfields - 36
- Coyote Canyon - 41
- Crystal - 40
- Dilkon - 51
- Ft. Defiance - 236
- Ganado - 58
- Houck - 46
- Indian Wells - 32
- Jeddito - 46
- Kinlichee - 57
- Klagetoh - 24
- Low Mountain - 27
- Lower Greasewood - 33
- Lupton - 31
- Mexican Springs - 35
- Nahata Dziil - 31
- Naschitti - 51
- Oak-Pine Springs - 24
- Red Lake - 41
- Sawmill - 51
- Steamboat - 57
- St. Michaels - 123
- Teestoh - 36
- Tohatchi - 46

(Ft. Defiance Agency)

- Twin Lakes - 50
- White Cone - 34
- Wide Ruins - 32

Crownpoint Agency

913 Students

- Alamo - 6
- Baca/Haystack - 34
- Becenti - 35
- Bahaali - 29
- Casamero Lake - 16
- Chichiltah - 54
- Church Rock - 84
- Counselor - 17
- Crownpoint - 122
- Huerfano - 48
- Iyanbito - 16
- Lake Valley - 15
- Littlewater - 16
- Manuelito - 24
- Mariano Lake - 19
- Nageezi - 20
- Nahodishgish - 8
- Ojo Encino - 20
- Pinedale - 32

(Crownpoint Agency)

- Pueblo Pintado - 22
- Ramah - 25
- Red Rock - 24
- Rock Springs - 45
- Smith Lake - 25
- Standing Rock - 24
- Thoreau - 40
- Tohajiilee - 26
- Torreon/Star Lake - 28
- Tsayatoh - 21
- Whitehorse Lake - 10
- White Rock - 8

Shiprock Agency

1,271 Students

- Aneth - 85
- Beclabito - 35
- Cove - 25
- Gadí' ahí - 22
- Mexican Water - 30
- Nenahnezad - 68
- Newcomb - 30
- Red Mesa - 57
- Red Valley - 48
- Rock Point - 55

(Shiprock Agency)

- San Juan - 24
- Sanostee - 57
- Sheepsprings - 41
- Shiprock - 399
- Sweetwater - 39
- Tíis Tsoh Sikaad - 18
- Toadlena/
- Two Grey Hills - 27
- Teec Nos Pos - 59
- Tsé Daa K'aan - 60
- Upper Fruitland - 92

Tuba City Agency

1,053 Students

- Birdsprings - 21
- Bodaway/Gap - 36
- Cameron - 42
- Chilchinbeto - 25
- Coalmine Canyon - 37
- Coppermine - 26
- Dennehotso - 46
- Inscription House - 40
- Kaibeto - 33
- Kayenta - 116
- Lechee - 46

(Tuba City Agency)

- Leupp - 65
- Navajo Mountain - 26
- Oljato - 69
- Shonto - 56
- Tolani Lake - 21
- Tonalea - 62
- Tónaneesdizi - 286

Chinle Agency

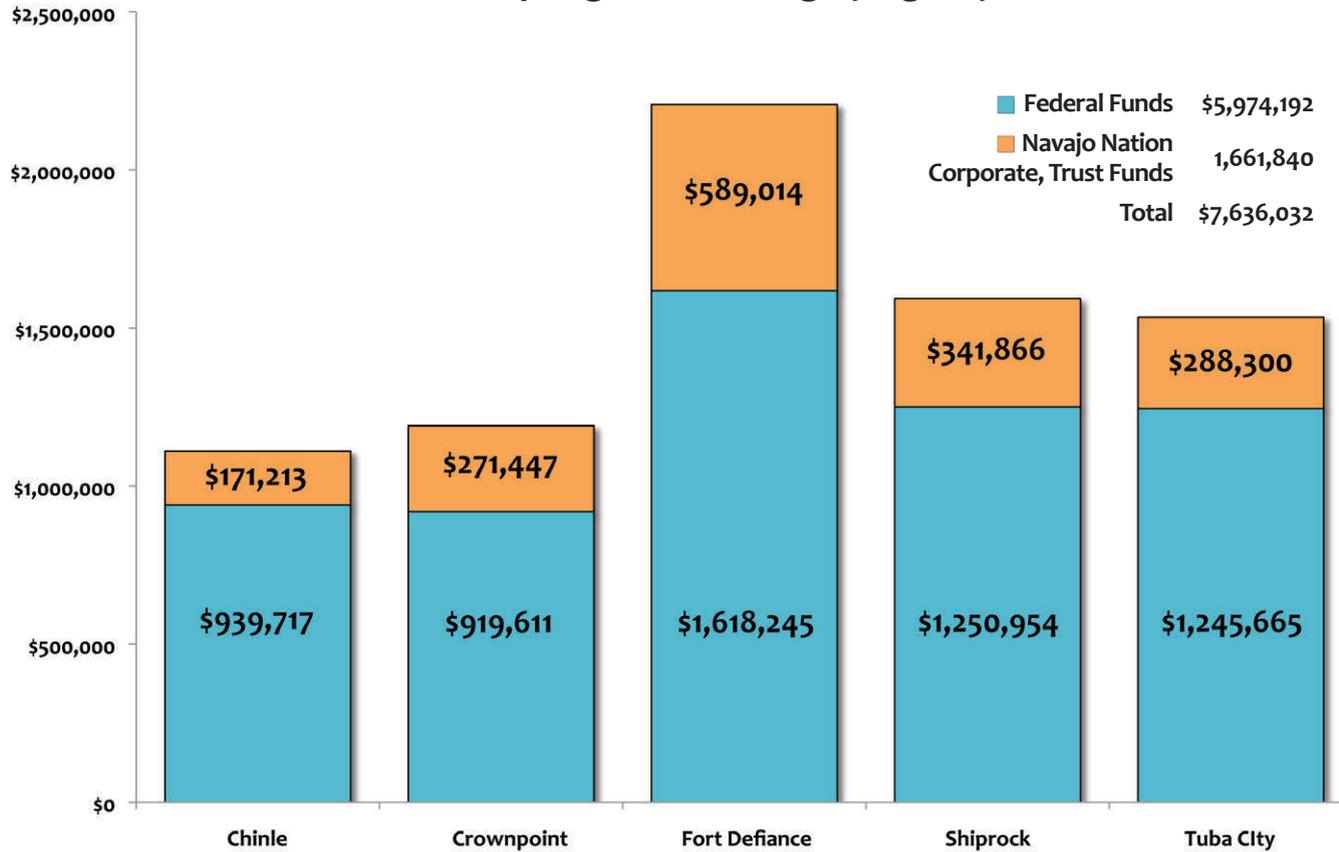
888 Students

- Black Mesa - 25
- Chinle - 272
- Forest Lake - 19
- Hard Rock - 33
- Lukachukai - 81
- Many Farms - 90
- Nazlini - 35
- Pinon - 66
- Rough Rock - 37
- Round Rock - 49
- Tachee/Blue Gap - 26
- Tsaile/Wheatfields - 71
- Tselani/Cottonwood - 50
- Whippoorwill Springs - 34

Unknown - 1

2012 Spring Semester Funding Data

Spring 2012 Funding By Agency



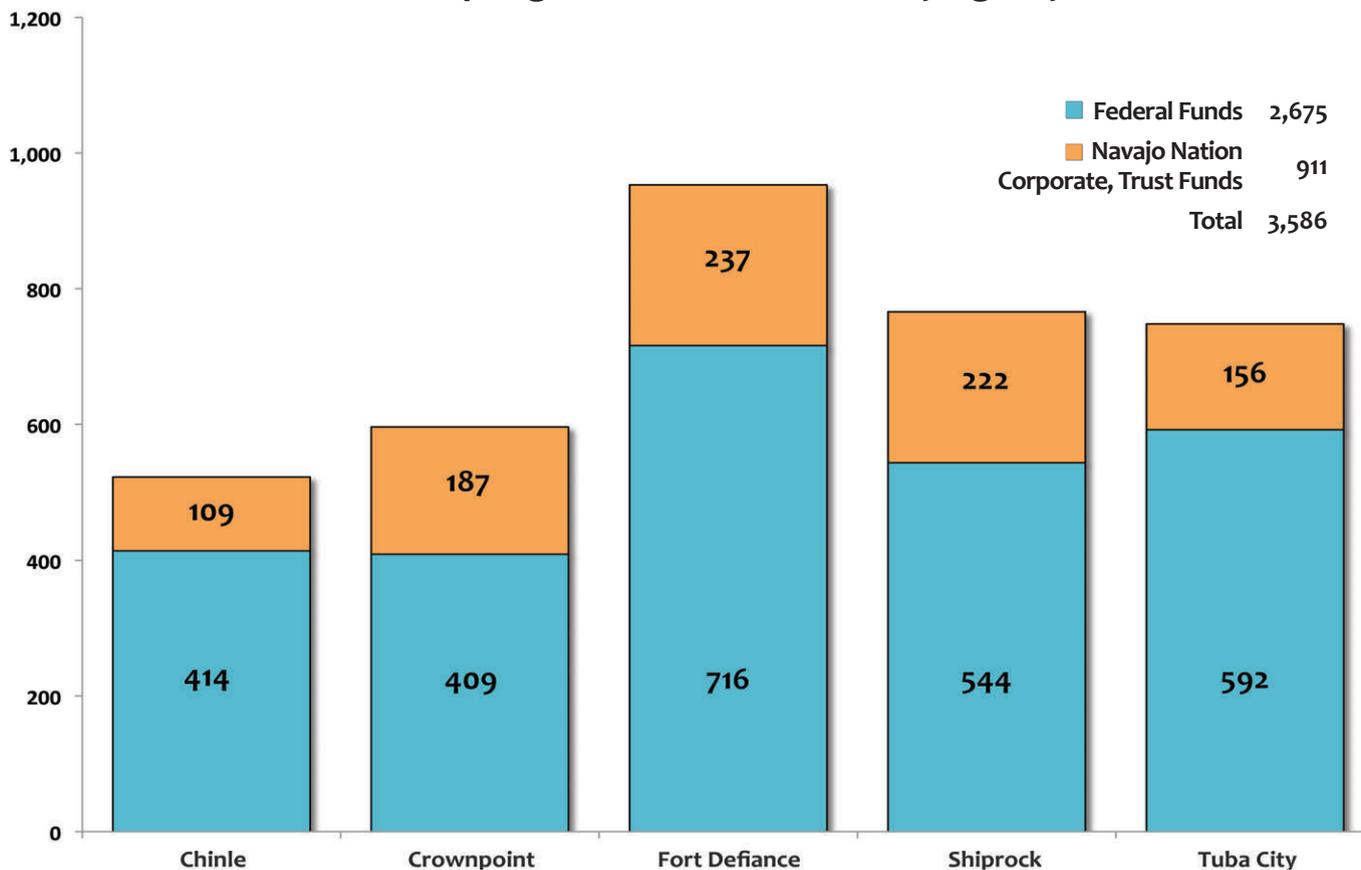
Total Funding

For the Spring 2012 semester, a total of \$7,636,032 was awarded to 3,586 students.

The total amount awarded by each agency is as follows:

- Chinle Agency \$1,110,930
- Crownpoint Agency \$1,191,058
- Fort Defiance Agency \$2,207,259
- Shiprock Agency \$1,592,820
- Tuba City Agency \$1,533,965

Spring 2012 Student Awards By Agency



Number of Students Served

The graph to the left details the number of students awarded by each agency. The total for each agency is as follows:

- Chinle Agency 523
- Crownpoint Agency 596
- Fort Defiance Agency 953
- Shiprock Agency 766
- Tuba City Agency 748

Campaign Adziil: Giving Back to the Navajo Nation

2011 Education Scholarship Gala

Navajo Vice President Rex Lee Jim unveiled Campaign Adziil, an effort to raise funds for scholarships, at the 2011 Education Scholarship Gala held on Sept. 9, 2011.

The event brought forth \$340,000 in pledges from individuals and corporations for additional scholarships.

At the event, Vice President Jim highlighted the need for the Navajo Nation to partner with former scholarship recipients and organizations willing to provide additional resources for scholarships.

Honoring Notah Begay III

During his introduction of guest of honor Notah Begay III, Vice President Jim praised Begay's academic and athletic achievements.

"Notah is an example of an individual who is admired for his ability to speak well and live well," Vice President Jim said. "When we see him," he said, "We ask, 'Who raised that individual?'"

Vice President Jim explained that Begay was invited to be the guest of honor and selected as the Grand Marshall of the Navajo Nation Fair Parade because of his personal accomplishments and commitment to philanthropy.

Begay, a member of the Navajo Nation and the San Felipe Pueblo, thanked the Vice President for welcoming him home to the Navajo Nation and hosting the event in his honor.

During his address at the gala, Begay encouraged guests to look back at their nation's traditions and history. "What it can do is tell us where to go, because there are a lot of problems out there," Begay said.

Begay's Philanthropy

Begay, a 4-time PGA Tour winner and the only full-blooded Native American on the tour, founded the NB3 Foundation in 2005. The mission of the NB3 Foundation is to aid in the fight against the epidemic of childhood obesity and type 2 diabetes among Native American youth.

His nonprofit organization, based at the Santa Ana Pueblo, works to address such issues by providing soccer, golf, health and youth leadership programs at San Felipe Pueblo within the Albuquerque



ABOVE Navajo Nation Vice President Rex Lee Jim hosted a fundraising gala on Sept. 9, 2011, honoring professional golfer and philanthropist Notah Begay III.

RIGHT Stanford alums - Wendy Greyeyes, Steven Begay and Shaun Deschine - were among those welcoming Notah Begay III home to the Navajo Nation.



area and other tribal communities in New Mexico, including To'hajiilee.

Pledges to the Navajo Scholarship Fund

In closing his address, Begay pledged a personal contribution of \$1,000 for the next four years to the Navajo Nation Scholarship Fund.

Soon thereafter, Vice President Jim and his former staff assistant, Ferlin Clark, made similar pledges to the Navajo Scholarship Fund of \$1,000 annually for the next four years.

Brad Brown, Senior Vice President of Peabody Energy Southwest, expressed

the corporation's commitment to provide scholarship support to the Navajo Nation.

In addition to his personal pledge of \$1,000 per year to the scholarship fund, Brown pledged contributions of \$80,000 per year for the next four years from Peabody Energy.

Vice President Jim ended the evening by issuing challenges to corporations and former scholarship recipients to make gifts to the Navajo Scholarship Fund with hopes of continuing to provide additional support to Navajo college students and their desire to achieve.



Corporate Giving: Making An Investment in the Nation's Future

In the last year, the Navajo scholarship fund was provided support by an enterprise of the Navajo Nation and corporations doing business on the Navajo Nation.

Corporations – including Peabody Energy, Chevron Mining Co., El Paso Natural Gas, Arizona Public Service (Four Corners Power Plant) – contributed a total of \$648,758.

The Navajo Engineering and Construction Authority, an enterprise of the Navajo Nation, contributed \$212,667 to a trust fund established by Navajo Nation law.

On December 12, 2011, Peabody Energy presented two checks totalling \$330,000 to Vice President Rex Lee Jim.

The first was an \$80,000 donation from Peabody Western, fulfilling a pledge made by the company at the fundraising gala held in September. (See separate story on page 16.)

The second, a check for \$250,000, was a combined contribution from Peabody Energy and Salt River Project.

Upon acceptance of the contributions, Vice President Jim expressed his appre-

ABOVE Navajo Nation officials accept gifts to the Navajo Nation Scholarship fund on December 12, 2011. Peabody Energy Southwest presented a check for \$80,000 and another for \$250,000 from Peabody Energy and Salt River Project.

From left - Rose Graham, Navajo Scholarship Director, Wanda Johnson, Staff Assistant to the Vice President; Navajo Nation Vice President Rex Lee Jim; Peabody Energy Southwest Senior Vice President Brad Brown; Ferlin Clark, former Staff Assistant to the Vice President; Walter Begay, Peabody Energy Southwest Manager of Tribal and Government Relations; and Randy Lewis, Director of Engineering Services for Peabody Energy Southwest.

ciation to Peabody Western for making a much-needed investment in the education of Navajo students.

“We value our children,” Vice President Jim said. “Students should not be prevented from receiving a quality education.”

“We know that education leads to success,” he said. “The scholarships made possible by the contributions help students prepare to meet the challenges the Navajo Nation is faced with.”

“Peabody is setting an example for other businesses that work with the Navajo Nation,” Vice President Jim said, issuing a challenge to other entities doing business on the Navajo Nation to do the same.

Brad Brown, Sr. Vice President of Peabody Energy Southwest, said, “Peabody is proud to be a part of the Navajo Nation Scholarship Fund.”

Contributors

Peabody Energy Southwest

 **\$355,258**
360 Students

Top 3 Majors - No. Student Awards

Nursing - 31
Liberal Arts/General Studies - 26
Business Administration - 22

Chevron Mining, Inc.

 **\$108,869**
161 Students

Top 3 Majors - No. Student Awards

Liberal Arts/General Studies - 12
Nursing - 8
Engineering - 5

El Paso Natural Gas

 **\$101,546**
20 Students

Top 3 Majors - No. Student Awards

Social Work - 4
Mining/Mineral Engineering - 1
Mass Communications - 1

Four Corners Power Plant

 **\$83,085**
155 Students

Top 3 Majors - No. Student Awards

Nursing - 14
Certificate - 7
Liberal Arts/General Studies - 7

Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority

 **\$212,667**
175 Students

Top 3 Majors - No. Student Awards

Liberal Arts/General Studies - 11
Nursing - 11
Education - 11

Honoring Excellence: 58 Students Earn Prestigious Scholarships



Fifty-eight students earned the Chief Manuelito Scholarship by the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. The students were honored at a ceremony held on July 29, 2011, in Tuba City, Ariz.

At the ceremony, Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly advised students that their first year in college would be the most important.

“For some of you it may be the first time away from your family. This is when you will have to make your education a priority above all else,” he said.

“It’s what you do as freshmen that’s important,” he said. “Take advantage of the support services that are offered at your school. Don’t be embarrassed to ask for help.”

“Take your studies seriously,” President Shelly said. “You are being provided a chance to create a successful life.”

Chief Manuelito Scholars receive \$7,000 annually to cover college costs. The scholars qualified for the merit-based scholarship by achieving a high grade point average and a commensurate ACT or SAT college testing score. Candidates also were required to complete courses in Navajo Language and Navajo Government.

Dr. Vanessa Jensen, a surgeon at the Tuba City Regional Health Care Corp., and a 1991 Chief Manuelito Scholar, provided

ABOVE Members of the Navajo Nation Board of Education Timothy Bitsilly, Dolly C. Begay and Dolly Manson congratulate Chief Manuelito Scholar Kaene Antonio.

the newly minted scholars with the benefit of her experience.

After graduation from Tuba City High School, Dr. Jensen chose to attend Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Ariz., to stay close to her “family, mutton and frybread.”

“I was tired of hearing about Native American student drop-out rates – I was determined to complete college successfully,” she said.

However, once on campus, Dr. Jensen found herself overextended and did not devote enough time to her studies. Her grades fell and she lost eligibility for financial aid.

To regain eligibility for financial aid, Dr. Jensen transferred to the University of Arizona in Tucson and worked three jobs to pay college expenses.

“I learned how to prioritize between academics and social activities including

clubs, sororities, friends, family ceremonies and volunteer work,” Dr. Jensen said.

One big lesson Dr. Jensen learned at that time was that every grade she earned would her transcript for the rest of her academic career.

She advised students to consider that fact when they had to decide between a movie or studying for a test the next day.

2011 Chief Manuelito Scholars

Emanuel J. Aguirre Mountain Pointe High School San Francisco Art Institute	Mathew D. Coonsis Window Rock High School Arizona State University	Melissa C. Segay St. Michael Indian School University of New Mexico
Kenneth A. Amaya Mesa High School Dartmouth College	Kalene M. Curley Flagstaff High School Northern Arizona University	Kraig J. Shirley Winslow High School Carleton College
Kaene Antonio Window Rock High School Arizona State University	Kelsey S. Davis Farmington High School San Juan College	Maho Spencer Many Farms High School Eastern NM University
Brienna R. Artis Gallup High School University of New Mexico	Jennifer N. Daw Tuba City High School University of Arizona	Naomi A. Starks Alta High School University of Utah
Evan J. Atwood Farmington High School Northern Arizona University	Ryan T. Dempsey Shiprock High School San Juan College	Amber I. Stone Murfreesboro High School University of Arkansas
Tori A. Bahe Mountain Pointe High School Stanford University	Dinee R. Dorame Albuquerque High School Yale University	Cornell Tahe Gallup High School Arizona State University
Jessica Begay St. Michael Indian School University of New Mexico	Sheldon I. Garcia Bloomfield High School University of New Mexico	Kyle N. Todacheoney Farmington High School University of New Mexico
Shawnee L. Begay Kirtland Central High School Fort Lewis College	Dominique Halwood Hopi High School University of Arizona	Danielle Tracey Chinle High School University of New Mexico
Tonisha L. Begay Rehoboth Christian School Calvin College	Kyle E. Horace Rehoboth Christian School Arizona State University	Cornelius E. Tsipai Newcomb High School Mesa State College
Ethan A. Begaye Mesquite High School Northern Arizona University	Chintelle K. James Tohatchi High School New Mexico State University	Reno H. Tsoisie Navajo Preparatory School Stanford University
Evan M. Bekes Bloomfield High School University of N. Colorado	Jeron J. Kee St. Michael Indian School University of New Mexico	Shelby L. Tulley Window Rock High School Brigham Young University
Leayah A. Benally Shiprock High School Fort Lewis College	Jae R. Manygoats Winslow High School Yavapai College	Joseph L. Weber St. Michael Indian School University of New Mexico
Loren C. Benally Mountain View High School Arizona State University	Joshlyn R. Morgan Murray High School Southern Utah College	Hannah L. Weston Navajo Preparatory School Arizona State University
Bryan K. Bennett Saint Mary High School Creighton University	Bradley A. Nash Monument Valley High School New Mexico State University	Orrin D. Whaley Monument Valley High School Brigham Young University
Samuel B. Black Monument Valley High School Dartmouth College	Anthony Nelson Navajo Preparatory School University of Arizona	Parrish M. White Farmington High School University of New Mexico
Christian N. Brown Mountain Pointe High School Yale University	Ariel D. Nephew Navajo Preparatory School NM Institute of Mining	Amanda Williams International Commerce High School University of Denver
Lorin D. Brown Bloomfield High School NM Institute of Mining	Misty Nicole Preston Many Farms High School Arizona State University	Al Cody Yazzie Navajo Pine High School Stanford University
Sha Lewis Charley Crownpoint High School Arizona State University	Amanda M. Salabye Ganado High School University of Arizona	Alden S. Yazzie Ganado High School University of Arizona
Coralie R. Clark Window Rock High School Arizona State University	Madison Schmidt Oak Hills High School University of Cincinnati	Renata O. Yazzie Cleveland High School University of New Mexico
Mariah Claw Chinle High School Dartmouth College		

ASK! Provides Information on Scholarship Opportunities

The Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance (ONNSFA) hosted the 2011 Accessing Scholarship and Knowledge! (ASK!): A High School Counselor Orientation on November 16 in Gallup, New Mexico.

Students, parents, school administrators and counselors, and community members from across the Navajo Nation and four corners region were invited for a day of conversation and presentations on scholarship opportunities available to Navajo students.

Presentations catered to the path of college bound Navajo students and their looming questions of cost and financial aid. Presentations began by confronting the intimidating realities of secondary education expenses by offering a cost break down comparison of tuition, books, supplies, and living expenses for 2-year and 4-year institutions within the four corners area.

Representatives from the Gates Millennium Scholarship, the Navajo Oil & Gas Company, the American Indian College Fund and the Indian Health Service Scholarship Program also provided information about various scholarships respectively.

In the final presentation at the event, First Nations Development Institute offered strategies for financial planning as students prepare for college.



ABOVE ASK! provided information about higher education issues to students and high school counselors.

LEFT Crownpoint Agency Senior Financial Aid Counselor Winona M. Kay provided information about the Chief Manuelito Scholarship.



In addition, the orientation provided the opportunity for ONNSFA staff as well as leaders within the Department of Diné Education to network and be present for the benefit of the Navajo public. Students were able to meet personally with scholarship representatives and discuss concerns and questions in anticipation of their next steps.

Audit of Higher Education Grant Reveals No Preliminary Findings

The Navajo Scholarship Office received notice that no preliminary findings were identified in the audit conducted on the higher education grant for the year ending Sept. 30, 2011.

The notice was provided at a pre-exit meeting with auditors from the KPMG firm held on April 5, 2012.

KPMG auditors explained the process used to conduct the compliance audit of the Higher Education Grant administered by the Navajo Scholarship Office.

Auditors carefully surveyed operations



of the program by examining files, documents, contracts and financial transactions of the Navajo Scholarship Office.

At the close of the auditors' report, Timothy Benally, Assistant Superintendent

LEFT KPMG auditors described the process used to examine the operations of the Navajo Scholarship Office.

of the Department of Diné Education, expressed appreciation for the diligence exhibited by the scholarship office and the staff's compliance with federal laws and regulations.

"The Navajo Scholarship Office is an exemplary program," Benally said.

In agreement, Rose Graham, director of the scholarship office, noted the contributions of the ONNSFA staff. "Accountability is important for our program."

Advocates of Navajo Education Named To Key BIA Posts

BIA Navajo Regional Office Director

On October 19, 2011, Bureau of Indian Affairs Director Michael S. Black announced that he had named Sharon A. Pinto as regional director of the BIA's Navajo Regional Office in Gallup, N.M.

Pinto had been serving as the regional deputy director since October 28, 2007, and as the acting regional director since May 4, 2011.

"Sharon Pinto is a proven and capable senior federal manager, and her commitment to the welfare of the Navajo people makes her an outstanding choice for regional director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Navajo Regional Office," Black said. "I have every confidence in her ability to successfully lead the office in carrying out the BIA's mission to serve the Navajo Nation."

Advocating for Higher Education

Rose Graham, Director of the Navajo Scholarship Office, said Pinto, as part of the Navajo Region BIA management team, always went out of her way to assist the scholarship office. "We look forward to working with her to ensure that needs of Navajo college students are addressed," Graham said.

The Navajo Region BIA oversees the Higher Education Grant, which provides a majority of funding to the Navajo Scholarship Office.

In the news release announcing her appointment, Pinto said she looked to maintain the BIA's Navajo Regional Office's high standard of service to the Navajo Nation.

The Navajo Regional Office oversees five agencies serving the Navajo Nation. As the acting Navajo Regional Office regional director, Pinto was responsible for the oversight and management of 420 employees and the administration of over \$170 million in BIA programs and \$90 million in P.L. 93-638 Indian self-determination contracts.

A Career of Public Service

Pinto graduated from Northern Arizona University in 1991 with a degree in Criminal Justice. She then spent the next 11 years working for the Navajo Nation, the state of New Mexico and the private sector.

She began her federal career in October 2001 as an Indian self-determination



specialist with the BIA's Southwest Regional Office in Albuquerque, N.M.

There she helped provide 638 training to BIA and tribal employees, working with 23 tribes on administrative support cost issues, and seeking ways to improve the distribution of regional indirect cost funds.

She served in that position until her promotion to the post of Indian self-determination officer in the Navajo Regional Office in December 2004.

BIE Associate Deputy Director Director

On October 3, Bureau of Indian Education Director Keith O. Moore announced that he named Dr. Charles M. "Monty" Roessel as the associate deputy director overseeing 66 BIE-funded schools on the Navajo Nation reservation.

Roessel had served since 2007 as superintendent of Rough Rock Community School, a BIE-funded, tribally operated K-12 boarding school.

In a news release, Moore said, "Dr. Roessel's demonstrated leadership and experience in school administration, Indian education and community development make him an important addition to my team."

ABOVE Former Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs for the Department of the Interior (center) formally announced the appointments of Dr. Charles Roessel as associate deputy director of the Bureau of Indian Education and of Sharon Pinto as regional director of the BIA's Navajo Regional Office during the Navajo Nation Council's Fall Session.

Roessel said that like Pinto he was looking forward to working with the BIE management team to improve the quality of education in the BIE schools.

Indian Education Advocacy

The Rough Rock Community School opened in 1966 as the first American Indian-operated, and the first Navajo-operated, school within what was then the Bureau of Indian Affairs school system, now administered by the BIE.

Roessel started at Rough Rock in August 1998 as the director of community services. In July 2000, he became the school's executive director, where he served until he was named superintendent in 2007.

Roessel holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Photo-Communication/Industrial Arts from the University of Northern Colorado-Greeley; a Master of Arts degree in Journalism from Prescott (Ariz.) College (1995) and a Doctorate of Education degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from Arizona State University in Tempe (2007).