

MMIW Scholarship Announcement

Texas Christian University announces the establishment of the **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Scholarship** for the 2019-20 academic year. The recipient will receive a minimum amount of \$5000 for the upcoming year.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) refers to a social movement originating among First Nations activists in Canada working to raise awareness of the high rates of violence Indigenous women experience in the United States and Canada. A recent study by the [National Institute of Justice](#) showed that “more than four in five American Indian and Alaska Native women (84.3 percent) have experienced violence in their lifetime.” While violent crimes against Native women often go unprosecuted, the lack of any comprehensive data collection system hinders our understanding of the depth of the crisis.

This, however, is not a new issue. One study indicated that from 1979 to 1992, homicide was the third leading cause of death among Native American women, ages 15 to 34. Furthermore, Professor Sarah Deer (Muscogee/Creek) of the University of Kansas pointed out in her [2019 testimony](#) before the U.S. House subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States that, “Native women and girls have been disappearing since 1492, when Europeans kidnapped Native people for shipment back to Europe.”

Given that Indigenous women of the United States and Canada suffer from disproportionately and overwhelmingly high rates of violence, **the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Scholarship seeks to honor missing and murdered Indigenous women, raise awareness about this issue, educate future leaders who will address this and other Native American issues, and provide financial support to graduate or undergraduate students at Texas Christian University who demonstrate commitment to these issues.**

Applications must be submitted by August 1, 2019 through the TCU Financial Aid portal in PDF format. Please help us make students aware of this new scholarship by distributing the announcement and application.

To help meet the goals of the scholarship, we intend to develop respectful and meaningful programming around the MMIW issue that will manifest itself through coursework, co-curricular activities, community engagement, or other means. If you are interested in exploring the possibilities for your courses or programs, please contact us simply by replying to this email.