

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance:
Student Information System
RFP No. 25-08-3850DB

SECTION I

INFORMATION ONLY, A RESPONSE TO THIS SECTION IS NOT REQUIRED.
RESPONSE REQUIRED IN SECTION II – SCOPE OF WORK.

- A. ISSUING OFFICE:** The Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance is soliciting proposals for the purchase, installation, and maintenance of a Student Information System. We invite proposals from vendors to provide a comprehensive solution that meets our requirements.
- B. ABOUT:** The Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance (ONNSFA) provides enrolled members of the Navajo Nation an opportunity to achieve their educational goals. Formerly known as the Navajo Higher Education Office, the ONNSFA was established in 1972 when the Navajo Nation entered a P.L. 93-638 contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to administer the Higher Education Grant. The ONNSFA is housed within the Department of Diné Education of the Navajo Nation government. The ONNSFA awards financial aid and scholarships from several sources including federal funds and Navajo Nation sources. ONNSFA offices are in Tuba City, Ariz., Chinle, Ariz., Shiprock, NM, Crownpoint, NM, and Window Rock, Ariz. Each office is staffed with a Senior Financial Aid Counselor, a Financial Aid Counselor and Office Specialists. Agency staff provide presentations at high schools, chapters, and other career fairs held across the Navajo Nation on ONNSFA policies and procedures and other funding sources. The program received 14,281 applications in 2024 and the number of applications has been as high as 17,291. Over a span of 17 years, 2007-2024, ONNSFA has funded students attending at least 1,571 institutions, whether it is for 4-year, 2-year, graduate, trade, or licensure schools.
- C. PURPOSE:** This RFP contains the instructions governing the proposal to be submitted and the material to be included therein, mandatory requirements which must be met to be eligible for consideration, and other requirements to be met by each proposal.
- D. PROCUREMENT OF RFP:** This procurement shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable Navajo Nation laws and regulations including the Navajo Business Opportunity Act. All applicable rules, regulations, and laws shall also be followed. Prospective Vendors shall familiarize themselves with Navajo Nation regulations prior to submitting responses to this RFP, and may obtain a copy of Navajo Nation procurement regulations from the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller's website at any time up to the Deadline for Proposals.
- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| E. SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES | DEADLINE |
| 1. Public Advertisement | August 29, 2025-September 8, 2025 |
| 2. Prospective respondent/offeror's written question deadline. | September 8, 2025 |

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No inquiries accepted after this date

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 3. Responses to inquiries | Immediate |
| 4. RFP proposal submission deadline | September 8, 2025 at 5pm MDT |
| 5. Opening of proposals and
evaluation by Review Team on or by | September 15, 2025 |

- F. INQUIRIES:** Prospective respondents shall make written questions concerning this RFP to obtain clarification of requirements through e-mail to [contact person and email]. No inquiries will be accepted after the inquiry deadline listed in section E.
NOTE: Inquires shall reference ONNSFA – Student Information System for the Navajo Nation RFP No. 25-08-3850DB
- G. ADDENDUM OF SUPPLEMENT TO THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:** In the event that it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, an addendum will be issued.
- H. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:** Proposal must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. MDT, September 8, 2025. Respondents who are mailing their proposals should allow sufficient time for mail delivery to ensure receipt by the time specified. If mailed, it is recommended that proposals be sent by certified mail to the address indicated on the cover sheet of the RFP. **NO ELECTRONIC SUBMITTALS. LATE PROPOSAL WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
- I. FOUR SETS OF PROPOSAL ARE REQUIRED:** Four sets of the proposal must be delivered in a sealed envelope. The outside of the envelope should be clearly marked with the project name- “ONNSFA – Student Information System for the Navajo Nation RFP Number No. 25-08-3850DB” –and the name, address and priority status of the firm submitting the proposal.

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship Office
and Financial Assistance
1 Morgan Boulevard, Navajo Education Center Rm 120
Window Rock, AZ 86515
ATTN: Rose Graham, Department Manager II

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MAILING ADDRESS:

Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship Office
and Financial Assistance
P.O. Box 1870
Window Rock, AZ 86515
ATTN: Rose Graham, Department Manager II

Proposal Format:

Respondents shall provide information in the following format:

Part A. Written Proposal

- a. Section 1: Cover Letter and Respondent overview*
- b. Section 2: Company Credentials, Qualification and Staff Resume
- c. Section 3: Experience
- d. Section 4: List of similar services provided to other clients on Navajo Nation in proportion to requested services for the last three years, if applicable.
- e. Section 5: Signed W-9 Form and Suspension/Debarment Form
- f. Section 6: Certification of Insurance

Part B. Cost Proposal (Sealed separately in envelope)

- g. State total cost for Part I and for each optional services in Part II.

***Respondent must include a statement in Cover Letter (Section I) that they agree to terms of the sample Navajo Nation contract template (see attached).**

- J. COST PROPOSAL:** Cost proposals shall be sealed separately and not part of the proposal. Only when respondents have met the minimum qualification will the cost proposals be opened. If the respondent fails to submit cost separately from the proposal, then the respondent's entire proposal will be deemed non-responsive.
- K. REJECTION OF PROPOSALS:** ONNSFA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. This RFP may be canceled at any time and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when ONNSFA determines it is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation.
- L. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION:** Any restriction on the use of data contained within any proposals must be clearly stated in the proposal itself. Proprietary information submitted in response to this RFP will be handled in accordance with applicable purchasing

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procedures. Each and every page of the proprietary material must be labeled or identified with the word “proprietary”.

M. SUFFICIENT APPROPRIATION: A contract awarded as a result of this RFP is contingent upon the availability of funds. A contract may be terminated or reduced in scope if sufficient funds do not exist. Sending written notice to the Vendor shall effect such termination or reduction in scope. The DGS Division Director’s decision to terminate or reduce the scope due to insufficient appropriations shall be accepted as final by the Vendor.

N. EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA:

1. An evaluation team will judge the proposals received in accordance with the general criteria used herein. The team may request oral presentations by respondents. Respondents should be prepared to provide any additional information the team feels necessary for the fair evaluation of proposals.
2. Failure of a respondent to provide any information requested in the RFP may result in disqualification of the proposal. All proposals must be endorsed with the signature of a responsible official having the authority to bind the respondent to the execution of a contract.
3. The sole objective of the review team will be to select the respondent who is most responsive to the needs of ONNSFA. The specifications in this RFP represent the minimum performance necessary for a response. On the basis of the evaluation criteria established in this RFP the review team will select and recommend the respondent who best meets this objective. If there is only one responsive bid, the ONNSFA may elect to evaluate RFP solely.
4. Evaluation Criteria: The following criteria will be used by an adhoc committee in the selection process for contract award. Vendors and proposals will be evaluated to determine the best opportunity for ONNSFA.

Qualifying Point Criteria:

- a. Company Credentials & qualifications in performing the services sought.
0-25 points
- b. Resume or other description of qualifications of relevant experience
and knowledge. 0-15 points
- c. Responsiveness to Scope of Work 0-15 points

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- d. List of similar services provided to other clients on Navajo Nation in proportion to requested services for the last three years. 0-15 points
- e. W9 and/or Debarment forms. 0-10 points

Subtotal, possible points 80*

*Must obtain a minimum of 35 points to qualify for opening of cost proposal. Otherwise, respondent is disqualified.

Cost Point Criteria:

- f. Delivery of all services at a reasonable cost. 0-20 points

Total possible points=100

- O. STANDARD CONTRACT:** The Navajo Nation reserves the right to incorporate standard contract provision into any contract negotiations as a result of a proposal submitted in response to the RFP (see attached contract template).
- P. TAX:** All appropriate taxes should be included in cost of services including the Navajo Sales Tax. All work performed within the territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation is subject to the Navajo Sales Tax of 6% (24 N.N.C. Section 601 et. seq.).
- Q. TERM:** The term of this contract will be for [ENTER TERM] years from the date of award and encumbered annually.
- R. SOVEREIGNTY:** The Navajo Nation will not relinquish any of its sovereignty rights.
- S. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS:** The successful Vendor shall comply with all Federal, Tribal, State, and Local laws, regulations and Navajo Nation rules and policies pertaining to work under its charge, and shall, at its expense, procure any permits that may be required.
- T. INDEMINIFICATION:** To the fullest extent permitted by law, or as otherwise defined in the Contract, the successful Vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless the Navajo Nation and its officials, employees and agents from and against all claims, liens or demands that result in losses, liabilities, defense costs and expenses (including but not limited to attorney's fees and costs of litigation) arising out of the term, conditions and performance under the contract. The Vendor further agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Navajo Nation, its agents, or employees, against claims or liability arising from or based upon the violation of any federal, state, county, city, or other applicable laws, bylaws, ordinances, or regulations by the Vendor, its agents, associates, or employees.

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The indemnification provided above shall obligate the Vendor to defend at its own expense or to provide for such defense, at the Navajo Nation's option, of any and all claims of liability and all suits and actions of every name and description that may be brought against the Navajo Nation which may result from the operations and activities under any Contract resulting from this RFP.

The award of this Contract to the Vendor shall obligate the Vendor to comply with the foregoing indemnity provision.

SECTION II

A. PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. The primary goals of this Student Information System project are:
 - i. Provide integration between students, staff, financial and administrative processes.
 - ii. Create an online application for students.
 - iii. Enhance user experience and navigation to facilitate easier access to information for applicants and staff, allowing them to find and process information more efficiently.
 - iv. Eliminate paper-intensive manual processes.
 - v. Increase information analysis capabilities that support enhanced decision-making capabilities.
 - vi. Allow ONNSFA to easily develop and deliver reports and information that meet all Navajo Nation, Federal and State requirements.
 - vii. Provide modern processing capabilities, including drill-down, audit trails, workflow approvals, and student degree checklist/status updates.
 - viii. Provide a consistent user interface, online documentation, and context-sensitive help.
 - ix. Provide reliable hosting, backup of data, and load balancing during peak traffic volume.
 - x. Provide simple, standardized APIs for robust, stable integrations and third-party products.
 - xi. Enhancing user experience with a system that requires a short learning curve for users to gain proficiency.
 - xii. Enhance user experience and navigation to facilitate easier access to information for both applicants and staff.
 - xiii. Ensure the student portal is mobile-friendly and responsive across all devices and web browsers.

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- xiv. Upon launch, provide complete training for staff training and IT staff training
- xv. Establish a fully transparent and detailed post-launch SIS maintenance and improvement plan.
- xvi. Pricing Transparency: no surprise fees or charges to unlock features. The total cost of hosting, maintenance and support is fully disclosed upfront, ensuring that it aligns with budgetary requirements.

B. SCOPE OF WORK

1. The requested proposals are for a comprehensive, fully integrated Student Information System with streamlining processes for student and staff, enhancing the user interface, providing access to the student and staff portal, and facilitating reporting.
2. Hosting, data security and privacy compliance.
 - i. Comply with FERPA, HIPPA, Federal, State and Navajo Nation Government privacy laws.
 - ii. Provide reliable hosting, backup of data, and load balancing during peak traffic volume.
 - iii. Provide and maintain using appropriate firewalls, intrusion detection, authentication, high level of security and protection.
3. Data Migration and Implementation
 - i. Flexible configuration with easy configuration of the system, including the student portal access, screens, fields, user interface, reporting, dashboards that easily adapt of needs and requirements.
 - ii. Data Migration: migrate all existing data.
 - iii. Production and Sandbox (pre-prod) environment.
 - iv. Friendly User interface of the student portal and staff use.
 1. Student Document upload.
 2. Student Portal should be responsive and mobile friendly.
 - v. Flexible integration with other possible software.
 1. Ability to interface with other Navajo Nation offices, including the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller (NNOOC) Microsoft platform, Vital Records and Navajo Nation M365 Email.
 2. Transcript services with National Student Clearinghouse and Parchment
4. Financial Aid Management
 - i. Budget overview and management including:

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1. A feature that allows students to be awarded scholarships in accordance with established policies.
2. A financial system feature with the capability to create 100+ accounts for scholarship budgets.
3. Automated calculations.
4. An automated feature to run data for check processing, create files and/or integrate an automated file transfer to the NNOOC system to produce a voucher listing and process/print checks.
5. Data reporting features of various data types, including check number lookup, refund, awards, etc.
6. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) or Automated Clearing House (ACH) to the Universities Financial Aid department.
7. A feature for quick turnaround on adjustments and refunds.
5. Audit log for account creation, online application submission, document submission, check number creation, login, financial refund and awards.
6. Accessible Data
 - i. Provide clean and organized data for data analytics and statistics.
 - ii. Dashboard overviews.
 - iii. Custom reporting.
7. Compliance Reporting
 - i. Navajo Nation Government, Federal government, and State reporting requirements which will be used for reports to secure funding.
8. Training and Technical Support
 - i. Training and support will be provided via a ticketing system, phone, email, webinars. Training will be provided in-person and online.
 - ii. Provide/create comprehensive “how-to” modules or videos for student users and staff users.
9. System Updates
 - i. Scheduled or Emergency Maintenance to be provided
 1. Display a temporary unavailable screen for downtime.

C. PROJECT TIMELINE:

Begin building/formatting the SIS	September 22, 2025
Completion of the Database	February 20, 2026
Testing Date	February 23, 2026
Training	March 2, 2026
Launch SIS – public	April 13, 2026

**Request for Taxpayer
Identification Number and Certification**

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

**Give form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.**

Before you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1 Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.)	
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above.	
	3a Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes. <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> C corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate <input type="checkbox"/> LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) _____ Note: Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) _____	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) _____ Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) _____ (Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.)
	3b If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions <input type="checkbox"/>	
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions.	Requester's name and address (optional)
	6 City, state, and ZIP code	
7 List account number(s) here (optional)		

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. See also *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number											
				-				-			
or											
Employer identification number											
					-						

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and, generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person	Date
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General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they

must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN), which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid).
- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds).
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds).
- Form 1099-NEC (nonemployee compensation).
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers).
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions).
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third-party network transactions).
- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), and 1098-T (tuition).
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt).
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property).

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

Caution: If you don't return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See *What is backup withholding*, later.

By signing the filled-out form, you:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued);
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding; or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee; and
4. Certify to your non-foreign status for purposes of withholding under chapter 3 or 4 of the Code (if applicable); and
5. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting is correct. See *What Is FATCA Reporting*, later, for further information.

Note: If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States;
- An estate (other than a foreign estate); or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding. Payments made to foreign persons, including certain distributions, allocations of income, or transfers of sales proceeds, may be subject to withholding under chapter 3 or chapter 4 of the Code (sections 1441–1474). Under those rules, if a Form W-9 or other certification of non-foreign status has not been received, a withholding agent, transferee, or partnership (payor) generally applies presumption rules that may require the payor to withhold applicable tax from the recipient, owner, transferor, or partner (payee). See Pub. 515, *Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities*.

The following persons must provide Form W-9 to the payor for purposes of establishing its non-foreign status.

- In the case of a disregarded entity with a U.S. owner, the U.S. owner of the disregarded entity and not the disregarded entity.
- In the case of a grantor trust with a U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner, generally, the U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner of the grantor trust and not the grantor trust.
- In the case of a U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust), the U.S. trust and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

See Pub. 515 for more information on providing a Form W-9 or a certification of non-foreign status to avoid withholding.

Foreign person. If you are a foreign person or the U.S. branch of a foreign bank that has elected to be treated as a U.S. person (under Regulations section 1.1441-1(b)(2)(iv) or other applicable section for chapter 3 or 4 purposes), do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Pub. 515). If you are a qualified foreign pension fund under Regulations section 1.897(l)-1(d), or a partnership that is wholly owned by qualified foreign pension funds, that is treated as a non-foreign person for purposes of section 1445 withholding, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use Form W-8EXP (or other certification of non-foreign status).

Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien. Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a saving clause. Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items.

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.
2. The treaty article addressing the income.
3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.
4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.
5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

Example. Article 20 of the U.S.-China income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if their stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first Protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on their scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8 or Form 8233.

Backup Withholding

What is backup withholding? Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 24% of such payments. This is called “backup withholding.” Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include, but are not limited to, interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, payments made in settlement of payment card and third-party network transactions, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester;
2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the instructions for Part II for details);
3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN;
4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only); or
5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding, as described in item 4 under “*By signing the filled-out form*” above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See *Exempt payee code*, later, and the separate Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

See also *Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding*, earlier.

What Is FATCA Reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all U.S. account holders that are specified U.S. persons. Certain payees are exempt from FATCA reporting. See *Exemption from FATCA reporting code*, later, and the Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Updating Your Information

You must provide updated information to any person to whom you claimed to be an exempt payee if you are no longer an exempt payee and anticipate receiving reportable payments in the future from this person. For example, you may need to provide updated information if you are a C corporation that elects to be an S corporation, or if you are no longer tax exempt. In addition, you must furnish a new Form W-9 if the name or TIN changes for the account, for example, if the grantor of a grantor trust dies.

Penalties

Failure to furnish TIN. If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding. If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

Criminal penalty for falsifying information. Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

Misuse of TINs. If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Specific Instructions

Line 1

You must enter one of the following on this line; **do not** leave this line blank. The name should match the name on your tax return.

If this Form W-9 is for a joint account (other than an account maintained by a foreign financial institution (FFI)), list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of Form W-9. If you are providing Form W-9 to an FFI to document a joint account, each holder of the account that is a U.S. person must provide a Form W-9.

• **Individual.** Generally, enter the name shown on your tax return. If you have changed your last name without informing the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the name change, enter your first name, the last name as shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

Note for ITIN applicant: Enter your individual name as it was entered on your Form W-7 application, line 1a. This should also be the same as the name you entered on the Form 1040 you filed with your application.

• **Sole proprietor.** Enter your individual name as shown on your Form 1040 on line 1. Enter your business, trade, or “doing business as” (DBA) name on line 2.

• **Partnership, C corporation, S corporation, or LLC, other than a disregarded entity.** Enter the entity’s name as shown on the entity’s tax return on line 1 and any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

• **Other entities.** Enter your name as shown on required U.S. federal tax documents on line 1. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. Enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

• **Disregarded entity.** In general, a business entity that has a single owner, including an LLC, and is not a corporation, is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner (a disregarded entity). See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2). A disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Enter the owner’s name on line 1. The name of the owner entered on line 1 should never be a disregarded entity. The name on line 1 should be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income should be reported. For

example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a single owner that is a U.S. person, the U.S. owner’s name is required to be provided on line 1. If the direct owner of the entity is also a disregarded entity, enter the first owner that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. Enter the disregarded entity’s name on line 2. If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, the owner must complete an appropriate Form W-8 instead of a Form W-9. This is the case even if the foreign person has a U.S. TIN.

Line 2

If you have a business name, trade name, DBA name, or disregarded entity name, enter it on line 2.

Line 3a

Check the appropriate box on line 3a for the U.S. federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one box on line 3a.

IF the entity/individual on line 1 is a(n) . . .	THEN check the box for . . .
• Corporation	Corporation.
• Individual or	Individual/sole proprietor.
• Sole proprietorship	
• LLC classified as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes or	Limited liability company and enter the appropriate tax classification:
• LLC that has filed Form 8832 or 2553 electing to be taxed as a corporation	P = Partnership, C = C corporation, or S = S corporation.
• Partnership	Partnership.
• Trust/estate	Trust/estate.

Line 3b

Check this box if you are a partnership (including an LLC classified as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes), trust, or estate that has any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate, in which you have an ownership interest. You must check the box on line 3b if you receive a Form W-8 (or documentary evidence) from any partner, owner, or beneficiary establishing foreign status or if you receive a Form W-9 from any partner, owner, or beneficiary that has checked the box on line 3b.

Note: A partnership that provides a Form W-9 and checks box 3b may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065). For more information, see the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

If you are required to complete line 3b but fail to do so, you may not receive the information necessary to file a correct information return with the IRS or furnish a correct payee statement to your partners or beneficiaries. See, for example, sections 6698, 6722, and 6724 for penalties that may apply.

Line 4 Exemptions

If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space on line 4 any code(s) that may apply to you.

Exempt payee code.

- Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding.
- Except as provided below, corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, including interest and dividends.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third-party network transactions.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding with respect to attorneys’ fees or gross proceeds paid to attorneys, and corporations that provide medical or health care services are not exempt with respect to payments reportable on Form 1099-MISC.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding. Enter the appropriate code in the space on line 4.

1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2).

- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities.
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or territory, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities.
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities.
- 5—A corporation.
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. commonwealth or territory.
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.
- 8—A real estate investment trust.
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a).
- 11—A financial institution as defined under section 581.
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian.
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947.

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

IF the payment is for . . .	THEN the payment is exempt for . . .
• Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 7.
• Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012.
• Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 4.
• Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 ¹	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5. ²
• Payments made in settlement of payment card or third-party network transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4.

¹ See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Information, and its instructions.

² However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney reportable under section 6045(f), and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

Exemption from FATCA reporting code. The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements. A requester may indicate that a code is not required by providing you with a Form W-9 with "Not Applicable" (or any similar indication) entered on the line for a FATCA exemption code.

A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37).

B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities.

C—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or territory, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities.

D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i).

E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i).

F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state.

G—A real estate investment trust.

H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a).

J—A bank as defined in section 581.

K—A broker.

L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1).

M—A tax-exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan.

Note: You may wish to consult with the financial institution requesting this form to determine whether the FATCA code and/or exempt payee code should be completed.

Line 5

Enter your address (number, street, and apartment or suite number). This is where the requester of this Form W-9 will mail your information returns. If this address differs from the one the requester already has on file, enter "NEW" at the top. If a new address is provided, there is still a chance the old address will be used until the payor changes your address in their records.

Line 6

Enter your city, state, and ZIP code.

Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. If you are a resident alien and you do not have, and are not eligible to get, an SSN, your TIN is your IRS ITIN. Enter it in the entry space for the Social security number. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

Note: See *What Name and Number To Give the Requester*, later, for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

How to get a TIN. If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office or get this form online at www.SSA.gov. You may also get this form by calling 800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at www.irs.gov/EIN. Go to www.irs.gov/Forms to view, download, or print Form W-7 and/or Form SS-4. Or, you can go to www.irs.gov/OrderForms to place an order and have Form W-7 and/or Form SS-4 mailed to you within 15 business days.

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and enter "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, you will generally have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

Note: Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon. See also *Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding*, earlier, for when you may instead be subject to withholding under chapter 3 or 4 of the Code.

Caution: A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if item 1, 4, or 5 below indicates otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on line 1 must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code*, earlier.

Signature requirements. Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.

1. Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

2. Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983. You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.

3. Real estate transactions. You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.

4. Other payments. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third-party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).

5. Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), ABLE accounts (under section 529A), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

What Name and Number To Give the Requester

For this type of account:	Give name and SSN of:
1. Individual	The individual
2. Two or more individuals (joint account) other than an account maintained by an FFI	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account ¹
3. Two or more U.S. persons (joint account maintained by an FFI)	Each holder of the account
4. Custodial account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor ²
5. a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee)	The grantor-trustee ¹
b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law	The actual owner ¹
6. Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual	The owner ³
7. Grantor trust filing under Optional Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A))**	The grantor*

For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
8. Disregarded entity not owned by an individual	The owner
9. A valid trust, estate, or pension trust	Legal entity ⁴
10. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553	The corporation
11. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization	The organization
12. Partnership or multi-member LLC	The partnership
13. A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee
14. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments	The public entity
15. Grantor trust filing Form 1041 or under the Optional Filing Method 2, requiring Form 1099 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(B))**	The trust

¹ List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

² Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

³ You must show your individual name on line 1, and enter your business or DBA name, if any, on line 2. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.

⁴ List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.)

* **Note:** The grantor must also provide a Form W-9 to the trustee of the trust.

** For more information on optional filing methods for grantor trusts, see the Instructions for Form 1041.

Note: If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

Secure Your Tax Records From Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information, such as your name, SSN, or other identifying information, without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax return preparer.

If your tax records are affected by identity theft and you receive a notice from the IRS, respond right away to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter.

If your tax records are not currently affected by identity theft but you think you are at risk due to a lost or stolen purse or wallet, questionable credit card activity, or a questionable credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 800-908-4490 or submit Form 14039.

For more information, see Pub. 5027, Identity Theft Information for Taxpayers.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a systemic problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 800-829-4059.

Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing schemes.

Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to phishing@irs.gov. You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at spam@uce.gov or report them at www.ftc.gov/complaint. You can contact the FTC at www.ftc.gov/idtheft or 877-IDTHEFT (877-438-4338). If you have been the victim of identity theft, see www.IdentityTheft.gov and Pub. 5027.

Go to www.irs.gov/IdentityTheft to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

Privacy Act Notice

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons (including federal agencies) who are required to file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, or certain other income paid to you; mortgage interest you paid; the acquisition or abandonment of secured property; the cancellation of debt; or contributions you made to an IRA, Archer MSA, or HSA. The person collecting this form uses the information on the form to file information returns with the IRS, reporting the above information. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and territories for use in administering their laws. The information may also be disclosed to other countries under a treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce civil and criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism. You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Under section 3406, payors must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividends, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payor. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.

NAVAJO NATION CERTIFICATION
Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and
Contracting Eligibility

1. Applicant entity acknowledges that to the best of its knowledge that the Applicant entity, either in its present form or in any identifiable capacity, has not, in accordance with 12 N.N.C. § 361:
 - A. Been convicted of the commission of criminal offenses incident to obtaining or attempting to obtain a public or private contract or subcontract, or in the performance of any such contract or subcontract;
 - B. Been convicted of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, receiving stolen property, or other offenses indicating a lack of business integrity or honesty, which currently, seriously, and directly affect responsibility as a Navajo Nation contractor;
 - C. Been convicted under antitrust statutes arising out of the submission of bids or proposals;
 - D. Violated contract provisions, including:
 - i. Deliberate failure, without good cause, to perform in accordance with the contract specifications or within the time limit provided in the contract,
 - ii. A recent record of failure to perform or of unsatisfactory performance with the terms of any contract, or
 - iii. Any other cause so serious and compelling as to affect responsibility as a Navajo Nation contractor, including debarment by another governmental entity.
2. Applicant acknowledges that if the Navajo Nation determines that the executed Certification provided herein is untrue or not wholly accurate, it shall be grounds for the Navajo Nation to terminate the contract and pursue other legal remedies, at the Navajo Nation's discretion.
3. Applicant certifies to the best of its knowledge that it is eligible to do business with the

Navajo Nation, in its present form or in any other identifiable capacity, pursuant to 12 N.N.C. § 1501 and 5 N.N.C. § 301. Applicant also acknowledges that per 12 N.N.C. § 1505, it will not be eligible to contract with the Navajo Nation if deemed ineligible by the appropriate department or entity of the Navajo Nation which receives the Applicant’s request for consideration for a business opportunity.

Applicant Name

Name of individual signing on Applicant’s behalf (print)

Applicant Address

Title of individual signing on Applicant’s behalf

Applicant Address

Signature of individual signing on Applicant’s behalf

Applicant Address

Date