

IMSC 14

"commIENity: Motivate, Inspire & Empower Now!"

Iu-Mien Student Conference Achievement Scholarship Award

The Iu-Mien Student Achievement Scholarship Award is an academic scholarship award developed by the Iu-Mien Student Conference (IMSC) Committee of the United Iu-Mien Community, Incorporated. For over a decade, the committee has been dedicated to awarding numerous scholarships to Iu-Mien high school seniors that demonstrate academic achievement and community involvement. IMSC has gained support from several community organizations and various Iu-Mien student groups such as the Iu-Mien Student Union (IMSU) of UC Berkeley and the Iu-Mien Student Association (IMSA) at UC Davis. IMSC understands the hardships that many Iu-Mien students may face and serves to provide educational support as they pursue higher education. The Iu-Mien Student Achievement Scholarship Award is one avenue of financial support awarded to talented and unique Iu-Mien high school seniors. Iu-Mien high school seniors who are active in the community and have taken on leadership roles are encouraged to apply.

The number of scholarships awarded varies each year depending on funds development.

Eligibility

Iu-Mien high school students who have maintained an overall 2.5 GPA or higher and are planning to attend a post-secondary institution after high school are eligible to apply.

To Apply

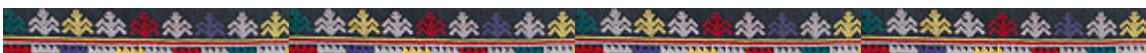
Applicants must submit an Iu-Mien Student Conference Achievement Scholarship Award application along with supporting documents:

- Personal Statement (Refer to the application package for prompts)
- Minimum of one Letter of Recommendation (from a community leader, counselor, employer, or teacher)
- Sealed official transcript
- Resume (*Optional*)

All applications packages must be completed and mailed by **MARCH 9th, 2012.**

Submit your application package by mail to:

IMSC Achievement Scholarship Award
United Iu-Mien Community, Inc.
Mutual Housing of Lemon Hill
6000 Lemon Hill Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824-3264



HONORS & AWARDS RECEIVED TO DATE

SCHOLARSHIPS (List all the scholarship awards you intend to apply for, have applied for, received or will receive)

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please type your essay on a separate page and attach it to the application package. All parts of the prompt must be completed. The format is **12 point font, double-spaced on 1” margins**. Please limit your personal statement to **2-3 pages**.

- Note: To allow creativity, we will allow an alternative to the 2-3 page written personal statement. You may choose to respond to the personal statement questions in forms such as a video (burned copy of your computer formatted video clip no longer than 10 minutes), painting, audio (on CD no longer than 10 minutes), poem etc. However, in addition to your submission piece, you must at least describe what you are presenting to us and why you chose to respond to the personal statement in this form (1-2 paragraphs). Remember, ALL parts of the personal prompt must be addressed.

ESSAY PROMPTS

A. SELECT AT LEAST 2 out of 3 questions. You are free to answer ALL questions if you wish:

- *Describe the Mien American Refugee experience. How has this affected you and your family’s life in America? How has this shaped your perspective on life as an Iu-Mien American?*
- *Share an experience in which you were faced with a challenge or obstacle and describe how you managed to overcome such adversity. What did you learn from it?*
- *What does it mean for you to be Iu-Mien Aa-me-li-gaa (Iu-Mien American) and how will you continue to contribute to the Mien American community’s progress?*

B. REQUIRED

- *Take a step back and analyze your comMIENity. What is one issue (social, health, etc..) that is most prevalent and affects the Iu-Mien community? What are two possible solutions for this issue? Please explain how you can Motivate, Inspire and Empower change in your community Now.*

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Include a letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, community leader or employer. Please ask your recommender to address the following:

- Years of acquaintance
- Your strengths and qualifications
- A personal evaluation of your leadership skills
- Describe your achievements
- Illustrate your potential
- Any substantial information he/she wishes to provide us to aid our selection process.

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

Please attach a sealed transcript from your high school registrar. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

RESUME (*Optional*)

We highly encourage that you attach a resume to your application package. This may serve to enhance our understanding of your accomplishments and interests.

Thank you for applying for the Iu-Mien Student Conference Achievement Scholarship Award. We appreciate your time in completing the application and we look forward to reading your application.

Signing here confirms that everything on this application is accurate. Any false information provided may be subject to dismissal of scholarship awards.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE

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*A Look at Last Year's 13th Annual Iu Mien Student Conference
"My Life. My Strife. My MIENtality."*

Last year at the 13th Annual Iu-Mien Student Conference (IMSC 13), over 300 Iu-Mien American students were rallied together to embark a journey of self-discovery. As a sequel to the 12th Annual Iu-Mien Student Conference—which focused on renewing community pride and redefining what it means to be an "Iu-Mien Aa-me-li-gaa"—IMSC 13 focused on empowering students to realize their strength to overcome adversity and understand how life lessons will continue to shape their lives as individuals. Workshops highlighted students' personal life experiences and addressed the strife they have faced as Iu-Mien Americans. By providing a safe space for these individuals to openly express their personal and academic concerns, students felt their stories were valid and that they have a voice for change. As a result, students left the conference with a heightened sense of pride and confidence in their ability to contribute to the progress of the Iu-Mien community.

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14th Annual Iu-Mien Student Conference Committee

*Presents*

**"comMIENity: Motivate, Inspire & Empower Now!"**

March 23, 2012

University of California, Davis

10AM – 4PM

Empowered by the momentum of IMSC 12 and IMSC 13, this year's conference will focus on motivating a new generation of strong community leaders. Students will engage in workshops that will connect Iu-Mien history to the experiences they face in their personal life. Not only will students gain an insight on life during war, status as refugees, and the displacement during migration to America, but they will be equipped with the tools necessary to take a more proactive role in their community. By engaging in critical dialogues, students will realize the value of their accomplishments and feel empowered to pursue their academic and personal goals—which will ultimately contribute to the greater good of society. We hope to motivate, inspire, and empower students to build a "comMIENity" that they are proud to be a part of for now and for future generations to come.

