





Questions?

Call: (520) 562-3662 Email: TEDEvents@gric.nsn.us Visit: GRICTED.com

2025 CHIEF AZUL CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Chief Antonio Azul "Mavith Kavdom" (Lion Shield), born in 1817, is recognized as the last Head Chief of the Akimel O'otham. In a letter to the Arizona Territorial Governor in 1866, Chief Azul wrote, "The Pimas and Maricopas want nothing from the government except schools." His statement shows how the O'otham and Pee Posh people of Gila River understood the importance of education for future generations. Chief Antonio Azul passed away on October 1, 1909.

The 2025 Chief Azul Citizenship Award recognizes outstanding students who consistently demonstrate a positive attitude and friendly demeanor and serve as role models to others. Fifteen (15) High School Seniors will receive this award, contingent upon reviewing their Citizenship Award nomination and supporting documents.

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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARD

- Enrolled Members and Direct Descendants of the Gila River Indian Community
 - Direct Descendant: Mother or Father Enrolled with GRIC Certificate of Indian Blood Required
- Graduating High School Senior or early K-12 Graduate for School Year 2024-2025
- Meets or exceeds the Selection Criteria

For more information or questions call 520-562-3662 or email TEDEvents@gric.nsn.us

Gila River Indian Community Tribal Education Department

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

A school staff member or administrator, k-12 advisor, or parent must complete the nomination form and submit on behalf of the student. All nominations must be submitted on the Citizenship Award Nomination Form. The Nomination Form must be completed fully and must be signed by a school official.

All supporting application documents indicated on the checklist must be included with the Nomination Form.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Excellent attendance record for School Year 2024-2025 (Minimum 85%).
- Consistent performance at best level and demonstrates high academic engagement
- Demonstrates exemplary behavior and conduct and continuously demonstrates a positive, friendly, and cooperative relationship with students, faculty, staff and the community
- Demonstrates a desire and ability to overcome barriers and achieve their goals Individual determination to succeed, self motivated and consistently improves in academics and social endeavors
- Demonstrates knowledge of and/or interest in GRIC culture
- Documented record of participation in extracurricular activities, volunteer/community service
- No behavior referrals

JUDGING PROCESS

- Nominations will be reviewed by a panel of selected GRIC Community Members or Employees
- The panel will rank the Nominations according to how well they meet or exceed the selection criteria
- 15 High School Seniors will be selected for the award and trip to Washington, D.C. *The GRIC Tribal Education Department reserves the right to amend the travel destination.*

Gila River Indian Community Tribal Education Department

SUPPORTING APPLICATION DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST

Ц	△ Attendance Record for School Year 2024-2025	
	 2 Letters of Recommendation from school staff (Teacher, Advisor, or Counselor). Letters must be on school letterhead and address the following criteria for the student nominee: Demonstrates inspirational behavior and conduct and continuously demonstrates a positive, friendly, and cooperative relationship with students, faculty, staff, and the community Demonstrates desire and ability to overcome barriers and achieve their various goals Individual determination to succeed; self-motivated and consistently improves in both academic and social endeavors 	
	Student Personal Statement (750 word maximum, typed, double-spaced, 12 point font) Personal statement must include the following: -What impact has education had on your life? -A portion of the statement must include your knowledge of, or interest in GRIC culture and history and how it relates to your achievement of personal goals	
	Documentation of extracurricular activities, community service, awards, or certificates	
	Copy of Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB)	
	SUBMIT NOMINATION APPLICATION TO:	

By mail: Tribal Education Department ATTN: 2025 Chief Azul Citizenship Application P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147

By email: TEDEvents@gric.nsn.us

To verify if your application and supporting documents have been received, call 520-562-3662



Gila River Indian Community Tribal Education Department

2025 CHIEF AZUL CITIZENSHIP NOMINATION FORM

Please fill out completely and accurately. Attach nomination form with supporting application documents. Applications received after the deadline date of April 4, 2025 will not be considered.

Name of Nominee: ______ Grade: ______

School:		Date:
	School's Official	Use Only:
Date Received:	School Official Sign	nature:
Student's GPA:	Attendance:	(Minimum 85%)
Positive Behavior: Ye	s/No Referrals: Yes/No	
Student Accomplishm	nents (Principals list, Stude	nt Council, Honor Roll, Dean's
List etc.):		
Type of Extracurricul	ar Activities includes school	ol and community activities:
All nominations must	be completed in full and p	rior to deadline date above.

Any portion left void of information may limit the student's chances of selection.