



June 2009

To our Students;

On behalf of The CIRI Foundation Board of Directors, we are proud to support your continued hard work and focused study. We are confident that an education is the best dividend we can offer to our CIRI original enrollees and their descendants.

In order to support future generations of Our People, we have to be wise stewards of our financial resources. This letter restates the current financial realities for The CIRI Foundation (TCF) previously outlined in the November 2008 open letter to our students.

**In 2009, TCF will focus our adjusted resources on supporting students who meet all of the stated eligibility requirements. In the past, we occasionally had flexibility in funding to consider late applications, requests for special consideration, and applications from individuals with a slightly low GPA, and that will not be possible during 2009.**

Until further notice, The CIRI Foundation is no longer offering Kick Start Awards, Jump Start Awards, General Fellowships, or Cultural Fellowships.

Here are several steps you can follow during this period of reduced funding availability:

- Begin working on your application early and turn it in **before** the stated deadline. Late applications received after the deadline will not be considered.
- Focus on doing well in your studies and maintaining a strong GPA. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher to be considered for funding.
- Complete all courses and credits for which you are funded. Students in an infraction situation will be required to sit out for two award deadlines from the date of determination. Requests for Special Consideration will not be considered.

If you are facing challenges in achieving your educational plans, we encourage you to utilize all available resources at your institution and in your life. Seek out guidance from your academic advisor, your financial aid office, your professors, your peers, and your family. Take advantage of the knowledge and expertise that your school and counselors may be willing to share. In many situations, there is academic and financial assistance available to you at your institution.

Additional scholarship and grant funding resources can be found in TCF's Education Resource Handbook at [www.thecirifoundation.org](http://www.thecirifoundation.org). Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your eligibility.

Remember, we are in this together.

Sincerely,  
THE CIRI FOUNDATION



Susan A. Anderson, M.Ed.  
President / CEO