

## Department of Diné Education Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance

P.O. Box 1870 • Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Ph: 928.871.7444 • Toll-Free: 1.800.243.2956 • Fax: 928.871.7410



Jonathan Nez President Myron Lizer Vice President

## **Public Service Announcement**

For Immediate Release: January 21, 2022

## DELAYS DUE TO COVID-19: A MESSAGE FROM THE ONNSFA

The Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance (ONNSFA) continues to be impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic, and award decisions for the Spring/Winter 2022 term are delayed. We apologize for the inconvenience.

There have been 4 to 5 exposures to the virus in past weeks, forcing affected staff to quarantine for 5 to 10 days. Unfortunately, this has led to temporary closures of entire offices in some cases. For example, the Crownpoint office was closed this week, and the Tuba City office just reopened. Currently, more ONNSFA employees are out of the office due to COVID-19 related issues.

Direct services staff do not telework due to student privacy issues. Therefore, financial-aid decisions are put on hold when employees cannot be in the office due to COVID-19. We hope that colleges and universities schools will implement policies to eliminate late fees at this time. The safety of the students we serve and our employees is of utmost importance. We thank everyone for their patience and understanding.