

Fundraising Your NHI Program Tuition

Congratulations on applying to the next NHI program. The time is now to plan accordingly so that you meet tuition deadlines and secure your space in next summer's NHI program. Programs fill up quickly, so it is important to be proactive in your approach to funding your NHI program.

There is often a misconception that students or families have to pay for the entire tuition on their own. While you can choose that as an option, at least **80%** of all NHI students fundraise at least a portion, if not all, of their tuition. You have many options to pay your tuition, including:

- Pay for the program yourself (savings or part-time job)
- Parents/Family
- School or school district
- Community organizations & businesses
- NHI's Online Fundraising program

Nothing is more fulfilling than being invested in the process where you are gaining new skills on how to be creative and resourceful. Regardless of which option you choose, take ownership in financing your NHI program tuition. This means creating a plan, identifying all potential sponsors (people willing to make a donation towards your tuition), communication, and follow up.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The biggest reason many students do not reach their goal is they DO NOT follow up with people or businesses they approached.

To better help you be successful, we have provided you some tips on how to fundraise your tuition.

NHI'S ONLINE FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

This is fastest way to fundraise your tuition besides asking your parents or family.

1. Go to <http://nhiyouthfund.kintera.org> & register your name
2. Write your story & upload your photo
3. Collect emails from family & friends
4. Email family & friends your link to your fundraising page
5. Send another email reminder after a week
6. Follow up

SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT

My recommendation is to be strategic about approaching your school or school district. Some tips are:

1. Make a list of school officials that make decisions about school funds (ex. Principal)
2. Create support group of teachers and counselors that will endorse you
3. Determine the amount you are asking
4. Write a bio about yourself to give to school officials
5. Provide a copy of NHI literature & acceptance letter to school officials
6. Present to school officials in a professional manner with a detailed explanation of what you will gain from the experience
7. Follow up

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS & BUSINESSES

The same tips from above apply for community organizations & businesses. The challenge here is that you will need many more options to request donations. Focus on smaller businesses that do not require permission from their corporate office for approval. Also, seek smaller amounts with a minimum of \$50. Some options include: banks, churches, doctors, dentists, attorneys, restaurants, and local organizations. Regardless, think in terms of numbers.