



CNMI SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE

2022 Citizen Centric Report

EST: 2014

The CNMI Scholarship Office (CSO) is an autonomous agency created by PL 18-40 and is governed by five board of directors and managed by an Administrator.

CSO strives to provide college student access programs and related resources to promote student success. Furthermore, CSO is fully committed to continuing with the streamlining of the application, scholarship disbursement, and compliance process. The stewardship of CSO funds remains a priority by ensuring all CSO funds are used by what is priority in our workforce.

MISSION

Our Approach

To provide college access programs to eligible CNMI residents who wish to pursue their post-secondary, graduate, and postgraduate degree; or, a certificate in the trades.

VISION

Desired Future Position

To have an educated and well-trained human capital to support our economic growth and promote the prosperity of the people in the CNMI.

WHO ARE WE

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Mildred Sablan-Camacho
Administrator

GERALYN C. DELA CRUZ
Chairwoman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GERALYN C. DELA CRUZ, Chairwoman
TIANNA HOFSCHEIDER-SAN NICOLAS, Member • ZERLYN TAIMANAO, Member
DIANA B. HOCOG, Member

ADMINISTRATOR

MILDRED SABLAN-CAMACHO

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

CARMEN P. SABLAN

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

MONICA V. MANIBUSAN

COMPLIANCE & REPAYMENT

JOVENE R. OGO
JOCelyn T. BLAS

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

AILEEN M. FARLEY

STRATEGIC GOALS

Student Access

To Continue to implement scholarships programs to fill highly needed job categories in our workforce;

Continue to streamline the application, disbursement and compliance process.

Student Success

Increase the collection of academic achievement data and employment data of graduates;

Implement online student loan repayment;

Implement online student portal for compliance.

Staff Development

Staff enrolled online to pursue higher degrees ranging from associates to bachelors degrees;

Enable staff to participate at local & national training and conferences to gain knowledge on initiatives and best practices relating to their fields of work;

Trained 2 interns who participated in the 2022 Governor's Youth Summer Employment Program.

EMPLOYEES



CSO Interns pictured here are wearing grey CSO uniform; to Carmen's right is Kimora Jo Quitigua and to Carmen's left is Lallayne B. Toreggosa.

High School

- Commonwealth College Access Grant (CCAG)

Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education



Undergraduate

- Bachelor Program
- Educational Assistance Program Base (EAP Base)
- Incentive Award
- Marianas Employees Financial Aid (MEFA)
- Nursing School Scholarship (NSS)
- Priority Field of Study (PFoS)
- WICHE Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

HIGHLIGHTS

Compliance, Repayment & Collections

Increased student loan repayment collection by **3%**;

Continued audits & program evaluation of TCHR PL10-58 program;

Updated Recipient Index & completed **90%** of Recipient Masterlist.

Scholarships & Grants

Disbursed approximately **\$1,423,773** in scholarships & loans;

Awarded **803** scholarships and grants;

Offered **8** (eight) programs: Educational Assistance Program (EAP), Nursing School Scholarship (NSS),

Through successful collaborations we have included: the Department of Public Safety & Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, Division of Customs & Biosecurity, and the Department of Corrections.

Commonwealth College Access Grant (CCAG),

Priority Fields of Study (PFoS),

Marianas Employees Financial Assistance (MEFA),

VocAid for trades schools, and Graduate School Student Loans (GSSL), and Incentives.

Graduate & Post Graduate

- Graduate School Student Loan (GSSL)
- Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP)
- Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)

WICHE

Continued the WICHE Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP);

WUE Savings **\$1.6** million (**117** undergraduates);

WRGP Savings **\$28,205** (**2** graduate students);

PSEP Savings **\$126,067** (**5** Professional Healthcare Students);

980% Return on Investments through WICHE membership.

I AM A CNMI Scholar Campaign

Featured **28** Graduates in our workforce.

STUDENT ACCESS

Applicants by Gender



No. of Outreach Conducted

6



No. of JVA's Shared

11,245



Award Counts



803

STUDENT SUCCESS

Top Areas of Study

- #1 Business
- #2 Education
- #3 Nursing

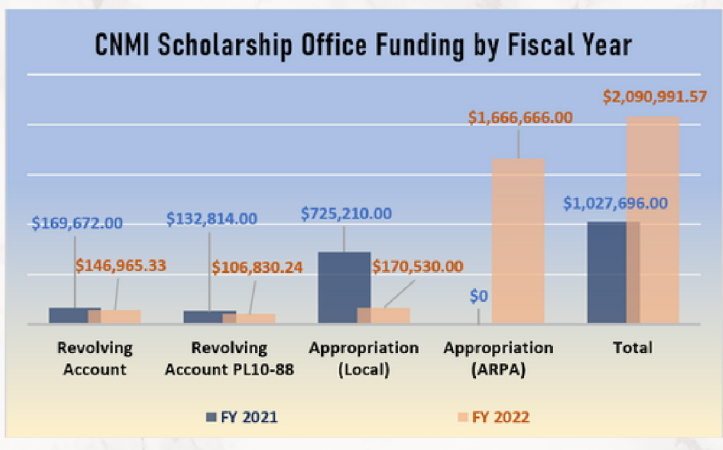
439 Graduates



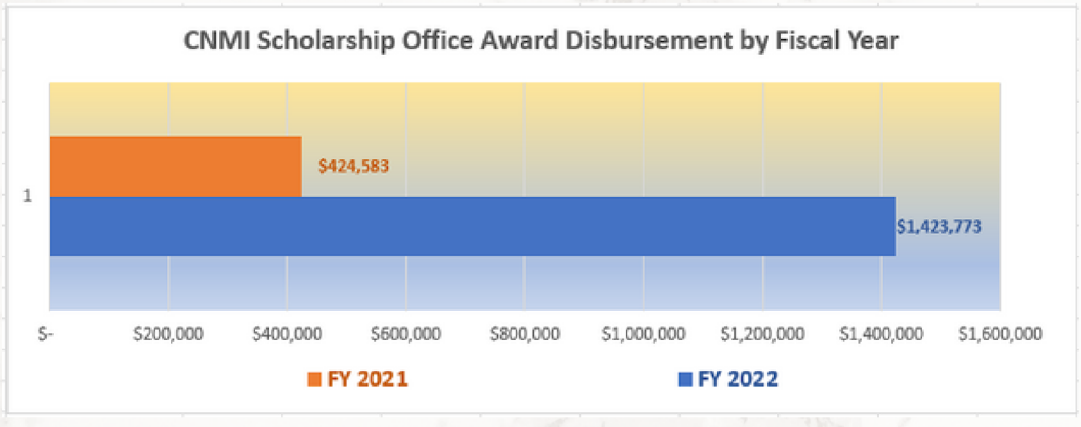
\$229,590 COMPLIED
43 COMPLIED
\$460,250 REPAYMENT WORKSERVICE



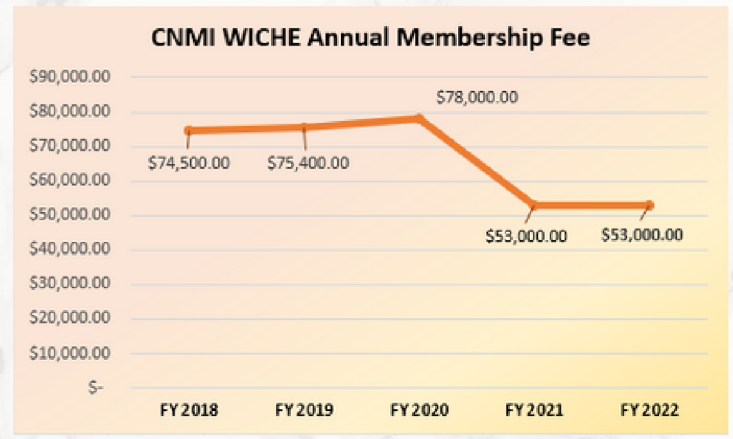
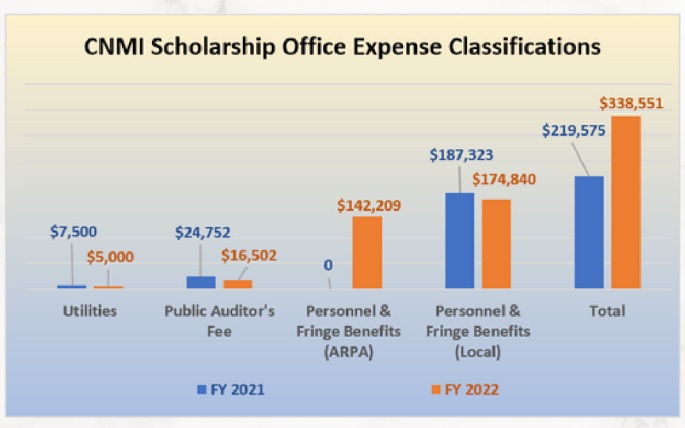
\$146,965.33 Student Loan Collections



Where Did Our Money Go



OPERATIONAL EXPENSES



Additional Highlights

Reinstated and disbursed scholarship awards at their maximum amount through ARPA funds;

Collaborated with the Division of Customs & Biosecurity, the Department of Corrections, University of Guam - Triton Athletics, and NMTech to fund training/education for graduates;

Established a collaborative partnership to build capacity in the workforce and trade skills with the Workforce Investment Agency, and the Northern Marianas College helping establish the Apprenticeship Program;

Increased scholarship award disbursement amounts through all 8 scholarship programs by 30%;

Streamlined the CSO website's student access & increased award application/deadline announcements through social media;

Collected graduate data states the increase in graduates by 51%;

980% Return on Investments through WICHE membership.

Increased Compliance and Repayment by 3%;

Upgraded office computers & software, renovated building facilities;

Trained 2 interns through the Governor's Summer Youth Employment Program.

Challenges

Collection of student achievement & compliance data from graduates;

Increasing salary to encourage retainment of the Scholarship & Grants employees;

Collection of work service data through the Office of Personnel Management and Office of Information Technology;

Projecting the availability of ARPA funds for students through FY 2023;

Innovation

Upgrading our website software to allow students the option to upload documents;

Enable prior recipients to do online payment of student loans;

Digitalize documents for easy accessibility/less paper-trail;

Administer the newly created scholarship program for Behavioral Health Graduate Degree Program; and,

Increase number of outreach conducted from previous year.

Portfolio

Create a sustainable portfolio for the Scholarship Office to allow CSO to eventually be financially self-sufficient;

Increase collection of defaulted/overdue accounts; and,

Utilize other sources of collection, such as acquiring a lawyer dedicated to collecting defaulted accounts.