

# 2022

# SHEFA CITIZEN-CENTRIC REPORT

## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DAVID MUNDO APATANG TO ALL GRADUATING STUDENTS IN THE CNMI AND ABROAD

Congratulations to the graduating students of all grades in Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and in the states on your momentous achievements. We join your proud parents, siblings, friends, and teachers in celebrating another milestone in your life.

Remember, there are no two ways about it. Hard work brings rewards. Be assured that we will always be behind you as you begin a new journey after your graduation.

To all teachers and school administrators, Si Yuus Maase, Ghilisow, Thank You, Salamat Po for all your dedication in helping our students succeed.

*Congratulations and good luck!*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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## ABOUT US

SHEFA was created by Saipan Local Law 13-21 to provide supplemental financial assistance to qualified Saipan & Northern Island residents pursuing post-secondary education on Saipan or abroad. SHEFA is primarily funded through the appropriation from PL 20-10 Casino Gross Revenue Tax.



## OUR MISSION

The mission of the SHEFA program under the Municipality of Saipan, Office of the Mayor, is to expand educational opportunities and provide financial assistance to qualified residents of Saipan (inclusive of the Northern Islands) for the betterment of our workforce.



High School: Early Admission Program or 2+2 Program avail to the Grant-In-Aid



Trades/Vocational School : Grant-In-Aid  
Undergraduate: Grant-In-Aid, Priority Field of Awards, and Merit Incentive Awards



Masters Program: Grant-In-Aid, Priority Field of Awards, and Merit Incentive Awards  
Advanced/Doctorate Programs: Grant-In-Aid

## Financial Assistance

1. Grant-in-aid: Type of financial assistance available to a student from Saipan pursuing postsecondary education in a U.S. accredited college or university or trade certification at the Northern Marianas Trades Institute or recognized trade institution approved by the SHEFA Board. If a grant recipient does not return to Saipan after completion of his or her studies or non-enrollment, the grant automatically becomes a loan and the recipient must repay the SHEFA fund plus interest in accordance with the terms and conditions of attached promissory note/memorandum of agreement.
2. Priority Field of Study (temporarily suspended as of fall 2020): Student pursues a field of study that has been identified by SHEFA as a priority field of study for the island of Saipan, and having met other established criteria. The priority field of study award is granted only to Junior and Senior college level students and those pursuing advance degrees.
3. Merit Incentive Award (temporarily suspended as of fall 2020): Type of financial assistance that is based on academic performance (3.5 GPA) at the end of every semester or quarter. Applicants in their first term of college are not eligible to receive the merit incentive award. Students taking remedial courses or developmental courses in fulfillment of a full-time status are not eligible for the merit incentive award.

Award amount per term  
Vocational/Trade Institutions - \$600/On-Island and Online Institutions - \$800  
Off-Island Institutions - \$1200/Advanced Degrees - \$4500



# SHEFA at - a - glance

TERM	NO. OF RECIPIENTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENT Fall 2021-Fall 2022 \$1,923,900
Fall 2022	615	\$635,700
Spring 2022	671	\$611,100
Fall 2021	589	\$677,100

## CREDENTIALS CONFERRED

Certificate/Degree	Total
Vocational/Trades Certificate	0
Associates Degree	72
Bachelors Degree	30
Masters Degree	3
Advanced Degree	0

## TOP MAJORS

Business  
Education  
Liberal Arts  
Nursing  
Criminal Justice



### NORTHERN MARIANAS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE DATA

#### Top 3 Chosen Trades

Culinary Arts  
Automotive  
Electrical

Term	Students	Disbursed
Fall 2021	22	\$13,200
Spring 2022	14	\$8,400
Fall 2022	8	\$4,800

## EDUCATION LEVEL

FRESHMAN 408  
SOPHOMORE 203  
JUNIOR 228  
SENIOR 139  
GRADUATE 58  
DOCTORATE 32

### NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE

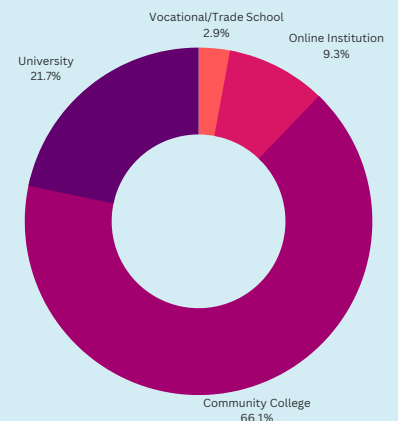
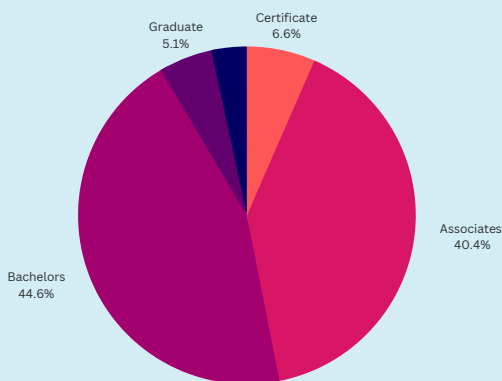
#### Top 3 Chosen Majors



Liberal Arts  
Business  
Education

Term	Students	Disbursed
Fall 2021	411	\$328,800
Spring 2022	360	\$288,000
Fall 2022	414	\$331,200

# Progress



Male : 405  
Female: 663



No. of Outreach: 8



No. of Green card holders/US Permanent Residents : 17



No. of students assisted : 3697

# Our Finances

## Annual Award Appropriations

Year	Appropriation	Public/Saipan Local Law
2004	\$1,200,000	SLL 14-13
2005	\$2,400,000	SLL 14-28
2006	\$3,000,000	SLL 15-5
2007	\$3,000,000	SLL 15-5
2008	\$3,000,000	SLL 15-26
2009	\$3,000,000	SLL 16-4
2010	\$3,000,000	SLL 16-10
2011	\$3,000,000	SLL 17-9
2012	\$3,000,000	SLL 17-14
2013	\$3,000,000	SLL 18-3
2014	\$3,000,000	SLL 18-7
2015	\$3,000,000	SLL 18-24
2016	*\$1,000,000 allocated from SHEFA business account unit 3359 to the Northern Marianas College to assist in the repair and renovations of the facilities caused by Typhoon Soudelor.	SLL 19-6
	\$3,000,000	SLL 19-II
2017	\$3,000,000	SLL 19-27
2018	\$1,500,000	SLL 20-24
2019	\$450,001	SLL 21-5
	\$500,000	SLL 21-10
2020	\$625,000	SLL 21-16
2021	\$950,000	SLL 22-2
2022	\$500,000	SLL 22-10

Advertisement	\$8,117
Board Honorarium	\$600
Communications	\$6,238
Office Supplies	\$446
Operations Supplies	\$2,036
Printing & Photocopying	\$250
Rental Office Equipment	\$180
Repair & Maintenance	\$60
Utilities	\$5,721
Vehicle Purchase	\$25,695
Technology Equipment	\$3,434



**Operations Expense:**  
\$52,779.44



**Personnel Expense**  
(4 employees)  
\$141,814.05



**Loan Collections**  
\$567,534.81  
(\$85,516 from Oct 1-October 15, 2022)

YEAR	OPERATIONS	PERSONNEL <small>(NO. OF EMPLOYEES)</small>
2018	\$46,060	\$142,013 (5)
2019	\$21,181	\$155,740 (5)
2020	\$21,422	\$128,105 (4)
2021	\$19,842	\$140,336 (4)
2022	\$52,779	\$141,814 (4)

# Outlook



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Our new and improved SHEFA website [www.saipanshefa.com](http://www.saipanshefa.com). Here, students are able to create a student account portal, apply online, upload and submit documents online, and see their status in real time up until they receive their award.
- With the implementation of the new Muniz System under the Department of Finance, checks are processed and disbursed much more efficiently and quicker than in the past. With that said, timely disbursements of aid were made to all recipients in a timely manner.
- The SHEFA Board of Directors approved and awarded eligible applicants under the US Customs and Biosecurity Academy program to receive financial assistance from SHEFA. A total of 17 applicants were approved. The total amount disbursed was \$13,600.
- The SHEFA Board of Directors also approved and awarded 25 eligible applicants under the 9th Department of Corrections cycle. These students completed intense accelerated courses while also earning 40 college credits in less than 1 year. The award amount disbursed was \$20,000.
- Even with the limited funding that SHEFA received this year, the program was still able to provide financial assistance to all eligible applicants. This included students attending NMTI, NMC, on-line and off-island institution, from trades school students pursuing certification in their chosen field to advanced degrees in the doctorate level.
- Also, with the funding provided earlier this year, by the Saipan and Northern Islands Delegation (SNILD), SHEFA was not only able to finally purchase a much needed vehicle for the office but also purchased 3 new laptops that is being used in our student service area. Students who seek our assistance are able to visit our office to use the student service area to apply online and print, copy, scan or upload required documents to their portal for review or compliance.
- Human Capital Management (HCM) Muniz Timekeeper training was completed by our Administrative Assistant and Timekeeper, Mrs. Doreen C. Masga.
- With the implementation of SHEFA Board Resolution No. 2021-002, which requires first-time applicants (undergraduate) to complete their first 2 years of college here on Saipan, 98% of our first time applicants are enrolled at NMC or NMTI.

## GOALS

- To continue expanding educational and vocational/trade opportunities in the Commonwealth.
- Invest in professional development opportunities for our staff and student volunteers.
- Continued commitment to increase transparency and accountability.
- To create a system that would better link our graduates with the public/private sector for internship, development, financial assistance and/or career opportunities.
- To improve collection of academic, graduate and employment data.
- To improve compliance, collections and enforcement efforts.
- To provide more convenient ways for loan payments to be made such as having online payments as an option or check allotments as oppose to students having to send in checks or money orders, or even paying cash in person at the Department of Treasury.

## CHALLENGES

- Continued reduction in annual appropriation for the SHEFA program. Many students have expressed their worries with this current predicament, since many rely on the programs assistance to help defray the cost of rising tuition and fees.
- Being that the poker industry is our main revenue source, the continued reduction in poker license fees greatly affects our program.
- Timely appropriation and release of SHEFA funding.
- The need for 1 more Compliance Officer or a Compliance Officer Assistant to handle the current workload.
- Collection of graduate data/tracking previous recipients. Although there has been an increase in former recipients complying with the Memorandum of Agreement obligations, it is still a very small number.

Please note these numbers are based on the number of previous recipients who submitted their supporting documents for compliance purposes.

# 363

No. of previous recipients currently in the workforce

# 2,935

No. of students in default

# \$20,604,950

Total in receivables