



CNMI SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE

2023 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.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donna M. Flores, Chairperson
Monique B. Sablan, Vice-Chairperson
Dr. Emma C. Itibus, Member • Diana B. Hocog, Member

STAFF



ADMINISTRATOR

Mildred Sablan-Camacho

COMPLIANCE & REPAYMENT

Jocelyn T. Blas & Jovene R. Ogo

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Aileen M. Farley

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Monica V. Manibusan & Jaime A. Igsiar

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Carmen P. Sablan

WHO ARE WE

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Mildred Sablan-Camacho
Administrator

Donna M. Flores
Chairperson

STRATEGIC GOALS

Student Access

Providing scholarship programs to fill highly needed job categories in our workforce;

Streamline the application, disbursement and compliance process.

Student Success

Collecting academic achievement data and employment data of graduates;

Implement online student loan repayment;

Implement online student portal for compliance.

High School

- Commonwealth College Access Grant (CCAG)

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)

Graduate & Post Graduate

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

I AM A CNMI Scholar Campaign

Featured **18** Graduates in our workforce.

Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

WUE
\$1,330,000

+

WRGP
\$67,005

+

PSEP
\$14,333

=

1322%
Return on Investment

FY23 WICHE DUES
\$0

+

PSEP
\$114,333

HIGHLIGHTS

Compliance, Repayment & Collections

Increased compliance notices of graduate students by **3%**;

Work Service Repayment (WSO) program increased by **15%**;

Updated Recipient Index & completed **95%** of Recipient Masterlist.

WICHE

Continued the WICHE Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP);

WUE Savings **\$1.33** million (**98** undergraduates);

WRGP Savings **\$67,005** (**2** graduate students);

PSEP Savings **\$114,333** (**1** Professional Healthcare Students);

1322% Return on Investments through WICHE membership.

Scholarships & Grants

Disbursed approximately **\$126,331** in scholarships & loans;

Awarded **765** scholarships and grants;

Offered **8** (eight) programs: Educational Assistance Program (EAP),

Nursing School Scholarship (NSS),

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.

STUDENT ACCESS

Applicants by Gender



No. of Outreach Conducted

11



No. of JVA's Shared

9,371



Award Counts

765



STUDENT SUCCESS

Top Areas of Study

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

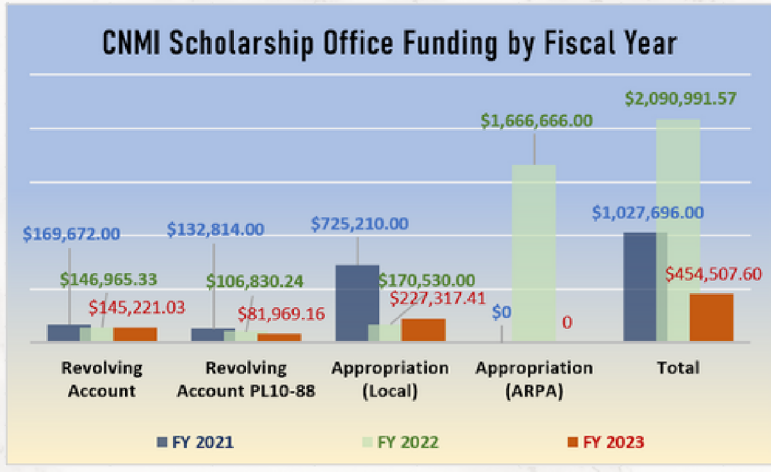
357 Graduates



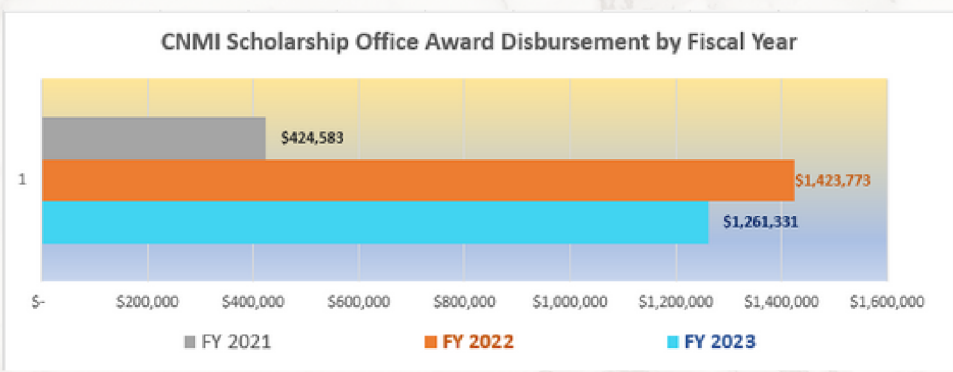
\$334,902 COMPLIED
41 COMPLIED
89 REPAYMENT
\$29,096 WORKSERVICE



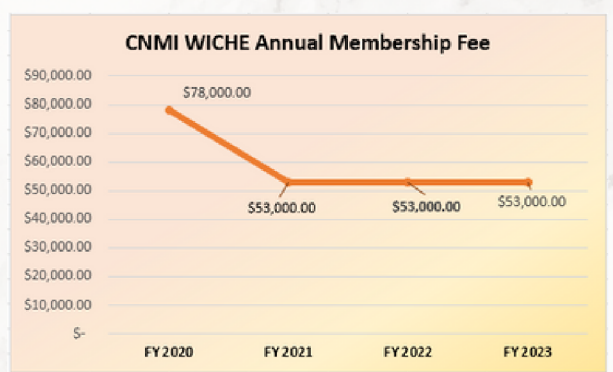
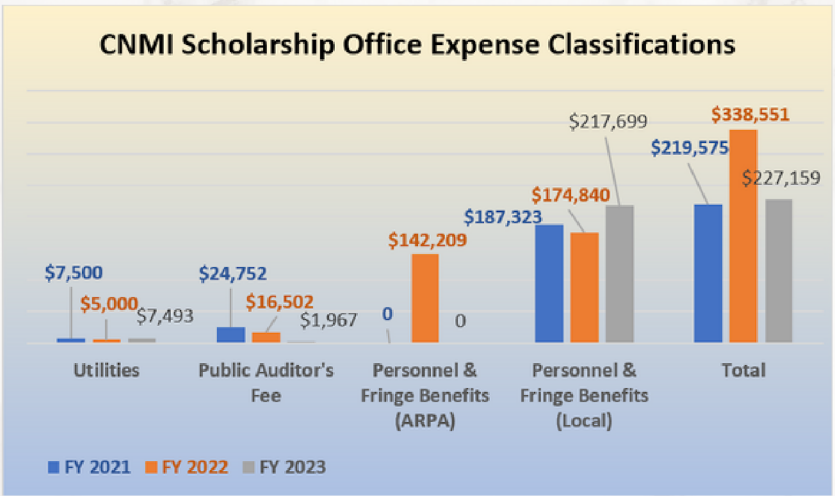
\$145,221.03 Student Loan Collections



Where Did Our Money Go



OPERATIONAL EXPENSES



Continue to provide financial assistance to eligible students.

Support students pursuing advanced degrees such as graduate and doctoral degrees.

Continued partnership with NMTech through the VocAid Program;

Strive to provide scholarships accessible to a wide range of applicants and offer accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

Continue 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;

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

1322% Return on Investments through WICHE membership.

Upgraded office computers and software, renovated building facilities;

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;

 (670) 664-4750

 @Scholarship670

 @CnmiScholarship

 Bldg #1326, Capitol Hill

 awards@cnmischolarship.net

 www.cnmischolarship.net

Innovation

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

Enable prior recipients to make online payment of student loans;

Digitalize documents for easy accessibility/less paper trail;

Increase the number of outreach conducted from the previous year, to include face-to-face presentations with Rota & Tinian Students.

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.