

## For Immediate Release

August 1, 2019

Contact: Deenise Becenti, NTUA: 928-729-6221

## NTUA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDS \$178,000 ADDING UP TO \$1.5 MILLION IN 12 YEARS

**FORT DEFIANCE, AZ** – The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority is proud to announce \$174,000 in 2019-2020 scholarship awards for college/university bound students - which includes a combined \$20,000 contribution from Choice NTUA Wireless (NTUAW) and ATN International, Inc. (ATN).

Each year NTUA offers Navajo students an opportunity to apply for scholarships for fields of study related to the multi-service utility industry. This year NTUA welcomed new partners – NTUAW and ATN. Combined this new partnership will award 90 students.

"Our scholarship program has always been our commitment to our people and our communities," said Walter Haase, NTUA General Manager. "We are thankful that Choice NTUA Wireless and ATN understood and joined our commitment to give back and to help families support their children who are seeking to advance their educational endeavors."

The NTUA scholarship application is open to any enrolled Navajo Nation tribal member who is in a field of study related to the multi-service utility industry, e.g. business, management, administration, accounting, engineering, environmental studies, or information technology, and communications is eligible.

"It is very important for us to support the communities in which we serve, especially opportunities for young men and women," said Joe Moravec, President of U.S. Telecom of ATN. "We believe in giving back, and are eager to support these students' goals to reach their potential."

This year, the NTUA Scholarship program awarded 90 students out of 171 applicants. The regular award is up to \$2,000 distributed over two semesters, while the enhanced award is \$2,500 and includes a paid internship with NTUA. In the past 12-years NTUA has awarded \$1.5 million equaling 792 scholarships.

"Being a member of the Navajo Nation, I understand the many challenges our young people face in pursuing a higher education," said Velena Tsosie, Deputy General Manager of NTUAW. "Because of this, I am very proud to work for a Navajo company that recognizes the need to give back. Awarding these scholarships is one example."

All 90 students are enrolled in Bachelor's Degree programs -- including engineering, information technology, finance/accounting, environmental science, business administration and management. This year's awardees primarily attend state universities in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado as well as Navajo Technical University and Dine' College.