

Quapaw Nation  
Emergency Financial Assistance  
Policy & Procedures



# QUAPAW NATION TRIBAL MEMBER EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

## OVERVIEW

The Quapaw Nation may provide emergency financial relief to assist tribal members in personal situations for which there is no other alternative assistance. The financial assistance offered is for the direct benefit of members of the Quapaw Nation, regardless of their household income or jurisdiction of residency. **Assistance to businesses and organizations is not permitted under these guidelines.** Individuals should attempt to apply for all other forms of assistance that may be available before applying for emergency assistance with the Quapaw Nation. **A denial letter from other programs/ agencies/ organizations will be required to show evidence that the attempts have been made.** The primary purpose and intent is to provide assistance to tribal members who are unemployed, economically disadvantaged, medically/physically challenged, and who are experiencing extraordinary circumstances. **THIS IS NOT AN ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM.** Assistance requests are reviewed on a first-come- first served basis. In order for the circumstances to be considered, the applicant must meet criteria approved by the Quapaw Nation Business Committee to ensure fairness and equity. Quapaw Nation tribal members are allowed, if requirements are met and approved for funding, **ONETIME assistance per household within the current fiscal year.** The Emergency Financial Assistance Program has a **MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE AMOUNT OF \$500.** When at all possible, financial assistance will be paid directly to vendors. Any request over 30 days and no action have been made will be denied and will need to reapply. The staff of the Quapaw Nation will assist, in the form of referrals to a variety of resources/support programs/agencies/organizations, to aid the Quapaw tribal members in their time of need.

The applicant must follow through and provide all necessary documentation as required to the committee making a determination of assistance. **If fraudulent information is provided by the applicant, reimbursement from the applicant to the tribe of any funds allocated will be required. Any violation of the program will result in NO FURTHER ASSISTANCE from the Emergency Assistance Program.** The Quapaw Nation may also take all legal actions available to the full extent of the law. All decisions made by the Emergency Financial Assistance Committee are final.

**QUAPAW NATION  
EMERGENCY FINANCIAL  
ASSISTANCE  
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

**Section 1. Policy.**

The Emergency Assistance Policy and Procedure is adopted by the Quapaw Nation Business Committee, pursuant to its authority granted under the Governing Resolution of the Quapaw Nation, for the purpose of addressing tribal member assistance requests submitted. The Quapaw Nation Business Committee shall approve funds, for the purpose of providing emergency financial assistance to tribal members that may otherwise go as an unmet need. The Quapaw Nation Tribal Member Emergency Financial Assistance application must be submitted on the approved application and turned into the Emergency Financial Assistance Clerk at the Quapaw Tribal Office, for review and approval of the Emergency Financial Assistance Committee. It is not to be assumed that if the applicant's request was previously funded that the request will automatically be funded in the current funding cycle.

**Section 2. Purpose.**

The Quapaw Nation Business Committee recognizes that there are occasions when a tribal member or a tribal member family may be at a point in their lives where they need assistance. The Quapaw Nation Tribal Member Emergency Financial Assistance is designed to provide, upon approval, direct benefits to those members of the Quapaw Nation of Oklahoma who submit requests for assistance in meeting their needs that otherwise may go unmet.

**Section 3. Scope.**

This policy will apply to all tribal members of the Quapaw Nation seeking assistance from the Quapaw Nation Business Committee. **Assistance to businesses and organizations is not permitted under the Quapaw Nation Tribal Member Emergency Financial Assistance Policy & Procedure.**

**Section 4. Definitions**

For the purpose of the Quapaw Tribal Member Emergency Financial Assistance Policy and Procedure, the following definitions shall apply:

- 4.1 “ **Tribal Member**” shall mean an enrolled member of the Quapaw Nation per the Membership Ordinance of which a tribal enrollment number has been Established.
- 4.2 “**Emergency Financial Assistance Committee**” shall mean a group of individuals established by the Quapaw Nation Business Committee to review tribal member assistance requests. The Emergency Assistance Committee shall consist of at least five (5) members.
- 4.3 “**Immediate Family**” shall mean the parent, spouse, child of sibling of an enrolled tribal member.
- 4.4 “**Emergency/Crisis**” shall mean an unforeseen event not due to one’s personal choice.
- 4.5 “**Extraordinary Circumstance**” shall mean an unforeseen event not due to one’s personal choice not covered or stated as such in this policy, that may be taken into consideration by the Emergency Financial Assistance Committee.

## **Section 5. Purpose and Intent**

The Quapaw Nation Tribal Member Emergency Financial Assistance Policy & Procedure has been established with the purpose and intent to provide emergency/crisis financial support to members of the Quapaw Nation, who find themselves in need, and who are unable to resolve that need without financial assistance and or resource referrals.

- 5.1 Tribal member assistance requests will be considered, but not limited to, the following purposes and intent:
- a) Natural results of devastation as an act of God.
  - b) Life threatening conditions
  - c) Bereavement activities/travel
  - d) Emergency housing/shelter or home repair
  - e) Period of transition(such as leaving a treatment facility or adjusting to a change in family situation)

## **Section 6. Limitations to the Disbursement of Funds.**

No one is entitled to emergency assistance funds or to any particular amount of funds. The Quapaw Nation Business Committee’s ability to provide assistance is dependent upon the availability of funds. Assistance requests are reviewed on a first-come-first-served basis. In order

for the circumstances to be considered, the applicant must meet the criteria approved by the Quapaw Nation Business Committee to ensure fairness and equity. Quapaw tribal members are allowed, if requirements are met and approved for funding, **ONETIME assistance per household within the current fiscal year.** The Emergency Financial Assistance program has a **MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE AMOUNT OF \$500.** When at all possible, financial assistance will be paid directly to the vendors. The staff of the Quapaw Nation will assist, in the form of referrals to a variety of resources/support programs/agencies/organizations, to aid the Quapaw tribal members in their time of need.

6.1 The Quapaw Nation Tribal Member Emergency Financial Assistance Funds **WILL NOT BE USED TO PAY:**

- **CABLE/SATELLITE/INTERNET SERVICE**
- **TELEPHONE BILLS**
- **CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS**
- **TAX PAYMENTS**
- **DEPOSITS OF ANY SORT (HOUSING, UTILITIES, CAR, ETC.)**
- **INSURANCE**
- **LATE FEES OR RECONNECT FEES**
- **DOWN PAYMENT OF ANY SORT**
- **CURRENT BILLS**
- **MEDICAL BILLS**
- **RENT UNLESS EVICTION NOTICE**
- **CAR PAYMENTS**
- **FINES AND LEGAL FEES**
- **TIRES**
- **ANY WORK STARTED OR COMPLETED PRIOR TO REQUEST AND APPROVAL**
- **UTILITIES**
- **OR ANY SIMILAR NON-ESSENTIAL EXPENSES.**