

**MIAMI TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
COVID-19 PUBLIC EMERGENCY FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Frequently Asked Questions

Will this affect my social security or disability?

No. The Miami Tribe COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program is a general welfare grant paid from CARES Act funding. This grant is a one-time benefit for Tribal Members who complete an application demonstrating loss of income or who have incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19 from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020. *This general welfare benefit is excluded from gross income under the general welfare exclusion and is not subject to tax withholding or reporting as has been clarified by IRS Revenue Procedure 2014-35 and the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act, 26 U.S.C. § 139E.*

Will this affect my ability to get food stamps or commodities?

No. The Miami Tribe COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program is a general welfare grant paid from CARES Act funding. This grant is a one-time benefit for Tribal Members who complete an application demonstrating loss of income or who have incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19 from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020. *This general welfare benefit is excluded from gross income under the general welfare exclusion and is not subject to tax withholding or reporting as has been clarified by IRS Revenue Procedure 2014-35 and the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act, 26 U.S.C. § 139E.*

Will this affect my SSI payment?

No. The Miami Tribe COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program is a general welfare grant paid from CARES Act funding. This grant is a one-time benefit for Tribal Members who complete an application demonstrating loss of income or who have incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19 from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020. *This general welfare benefit is excluded from gross income under the general welfare exclusion and is not subject to tax withholding or reporting as has been clarified by IRS Revenue Procedure 2014-35 and the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act, 26 U.S.C. § 139E.*

I am retired, do I fill this out?

Yes. The Miami Tribe COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program is a one-time grant for Tribal Members who complete an application demonstrating loss of income *or who have incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19* from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020.

I didn't have a loss of income or job, am I still eligible?

Yes, if you have incurred financial expenses as a result of COVID-19. The Miami Tribe COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program is a one-time grant for Tribal Members who complete an application demonstrating loss of income *or who have incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19* from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020.

Do I need to provide receipts when submitting the application?

No. If a tribal member is applying for the one-time Miami Tribe COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant the applicant should *keep receipts in the event the Department of Treasury requests receipts from each individual at a later date.*

What expenses should be considered as valid financial costs incurred as a result of COVID-19.

Examples of valid financial costs include but are not limited to the following: Medical expenses, increased utility and/or food costs (sheltering at home), internet for homeschooling, purchase of electronics for telemedicine or homeschooling, funeral expenses, cleaning supplies to mitigate the spread of the disease, personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, face shields), child care because schools closed, etc.

I have power of attorney over the tribal member, can I fill out the application on their behalf?

Each application must be signed by the individual to which the grant will be paid. This signature certifies the accuracy of the information. If a tribal member has a legal representative, that legal representative should review the legal documents in place to ascertain powers and duties granted by the legal document.

My child does not live with me but is enrolled, can I still put them down?

A parent must have custody of the child and must have incurred expenses because of the child to receive a grant for the child's expenses. The Miami Tribe COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant is in place to help offset costs impacting tribal members as a result of COVID-19 from March 1, 2020 through September 11, 2020. If a tribal member has incurred additional costs and expenses providing for an enrolled minor child whom they have custody of during the COVID-19 pandemic a parent could list the child on the application.

If I mail it on the due date will it still be taken if it is postmarked correctly?

Yes. Applications for the COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant must be postmarked on or before September 11, 2020 or submitted by email no later than September 11, 2020. Applications postmarked after September 11th or received by email (**COVIDGRANT@miamination.com**) after 11:59 PM on September 11th will not be considered.

What if I have a child born on September 11th but they are not added to the roll until October?

The COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant for COVID-19 related costs will be considered for enrolled minor children *on the tribal roll as of September 11, 2020*.

Who is going to see my application?

Employees in the Miami Tribe Adult Service office will review applications. Each tribal employee has signed a confidentiality statement and is precluded from discussing documents or confidential information they view in the scope of their employment.

How am I supposed to use this money?

The COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program benefit is intended to help tribal members *off set loss of income or additional expenses incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic from March 1, 2020 through September 11, 2020*.

Can I apply for other Tribal programs if I ask for this?

Yes. The COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant is a one-time benefit intended to provide financial assistance for tribal members who have experienced a loss of income or who have incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19 from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020.

Is there an income requirement to get this money?

No. The COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant is a one-time benefit intended to provide financial assistance for tribal members who have experienced a loss of income or who have incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19 from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020.

Can I include my adopted children?

No. The COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant is a one-time grant for tribal members and enrolled minor tribal members who have experienced a loss of income or who have incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19 from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020.

What if I am retired but had to take in my adult children and their family because they lost their jobs?

The COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant is a one-time benefit for tribal members and enrolled minor tribal members who have *experienced a loss of income or who have*

incurred financial expenses as a result of the COVID-19 from March 1, 2020 to September 11, 2020.

NOTE: Each tribal member 18 years and older must complete an individual application regardless of their physical address (living with other family members).

My spouse is not a Tribal member can she apply for this grant?

No. The COVID-19 Public Emergency Family Assistance Program grant is only available to enrolled tribal members.

Can you help me step by step fill out the application?

No. Applicants must complete the application. Read the instruction sheet and fill in all fields on the application requesting information.

I did not receive an application by mail, why and what should I do?

Contact the Enrollment Office at (918) 541-1300 to verify the address the Tribe has on file for you, and then contact the Adult Services office at (918) 541- 1389. You can also access an application on the Miamination.com website under Adult Services Program. Completed applications can be submitted by mail or email at COVIDGRANT@miamination.com.

Are checks going to be printed and mailed as applications are processed and sent to accounting?

Yes. Checks will be processed as they come in and approved in microix. Checks are mailed one time per week. There is a process that must be followed before the checks can be run.

Is there a cutoff date for people to be enrolled prior to the September 11, 2020 cutoff date for the forms to be in?

Members must be enrolled on or before September 11, 2020 to be considered for the one-time grant payment. The Enrollment Committee recommends enrollment applications be submitted no later than **August 17, 2020** to be considered. The enrollment process takes several weeks.

There will be a Regular Monthly Business Committee meeting on September 8, 2020 and Leadership will receive information from the Enrollment Committee on tribal member enrollment applications submitted and reviewed. Those approved for the rolls will be authorized through tribal Resolution on September 8th.

Members can check with the Enrollment office on September 9th to see if an individual was approved for the rolls on the 8th. A grant applicant should then complete the grant application listing the new enrollment information and submit via email to COVIDGRANT@miamination.com on or before September 11, 2020.

If a parent sends in a grant application form and list a child/children that are not yet enrolled, but they are also sending in the Enrollment Application hoping the child/children is enrolled prior to the cutoff, will that grant application be set aside and processed after all people listed on the grant application are added to the MTO rolls?

No. All applications must be complete when submitted. Any incomplete application will not be considered.

If an enrollment application for minors is submitted and pending Business Committee approval the parent should contact the Enrollment Office on the morning of the 9th to see if the child was approved and added to the rolls at the September 8th meeting. The parent can then EMAIL the completed COVID-19 grant application on or before September 11, 2020 at 11:59 PM to COVIDGRANT@miamination.com.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TIMELY AND MUST BE COMPLETE OR THE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.