

Coronavirus (COVID-19) General Welfare Emergency Assistance Program

The Tribal Council approved Resolution TC-2020-007 Declaring a State of Emergency and Authorizing and Directing the Tribal Chairman to take all Necessary Steps to Obtain Emergency Assistance on March 16, 2020. At that time, the Tribal Council recognized that COVID-19 was rapidly spreading and may result in undue human suffering and hardship, health risks, severe economic distress, and have a substantial impact on the health care, social services, and other governmental services provided by the Tribes. It also acknowledged The Klamath Tribes responsibility to prevent, prepare, respond and to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 among Tribal Members.

The Klamath Tribal Council understands that Klamath Tribal members continue to be disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 as a result of ongoing health, social and economic challenges faced by Tribal Members.

On October 1, 2020, the Tribal Council approved to revise the existing Coronavirus (COVID-19) General Welfare Emergency Assistance Program to provide assistance to Klamath Tribal Members in their response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The Tribal Council wants to stress that all Tribal Member households, who are 18 years and older, no matter income level and/or residence, are eligible for Emergency Assistance, if they continue to be impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) as listed below:

- COVID-19 related medical expenses not otherwise covered;
- Costs and Expenses necessary to protect and preserve individual health;
- Costs and Expenses needed to protect against unexpected, long-term isolation including but not limited to the emotional and psychological toll resulting from the loss of traditional family association and Tribal customs;
- Emergency medical response expenses, including emergency medical transportation;
- Expenses and costs to maintain quarantine or in quarantining individuals;
- Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements in connection with school closures;
- Expenses related to sanitation and improvement of physical distancing measures;
- Expenses associated with the provisions of economic support in connection with the COVID-19 public health emergency;
- Expenses related to overdue rent or mortgage payments to avoid eviction or foreclosure;
- Unforeseen financial costs for funerals;
- Expenses and costs that directly affected your household's ability to provide food, housing, or other subsistence needs;
- Costs for elder assistance with technology, internet and equipment; and
- Other individual emergency needs to preserve or protect Klamath Tribal lives, traditions and customs.

Additional COVID-19 Emergency Assistance will begin on October 19, 2020 through December 30, 2020. To receive this general welfare emergency assistance, you will need to complete a program application and return the application to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) General Welfare Emergency Assistance Program.

Applications will be available at Tribal Administration and will be mailed out to all Tribal Members whom we have addresses on file. The application will also be available on The Klamath Tribes Website at: www.klamathtribes.org.

Additional Information: Sissy Weiser 541-783-2219, ext. 192