

News Release

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Dispersal of Needs-Based CARES Act Funding Checks Begins

Mission, OR – The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), through its Enrollment and Finance Departments, has begun processing the first round of applications received for financial support through the CARES Act funding approved by the Board of Trustees. In this initial effort to begin to review applications and provide one-time financial support to Tribal members, approximately 800 checks have been prepared and are being mailed out today, November 6, 2020.

The Board of Trustees approved the financial assistance to Tribal members through a Resolution approved on Monday, October 12th. By Friday, October 23rd, the Enrollment Department had mailed grant application packets, including a cover letter from Board of Trustees Chair Kat Brigham that was accompanied by a Frequently Asked Questions document, to all Tribal member households for which a current address was on file. As early as the week of October 26th, applications began to be received and processed by Enrollment so that Finance could begin to prepare the payments for issuance.

Chair Brigham emphasized the importance of providing this assistance to Tribal members, stating "the Board is aware that a lot of people are struggling because of COVID creating financial difficulties through the closure of schools for our children and businesses that provided work for our people. We know money can't solve all the problems but hope these funds will be helpful."

The CTUIR will continue to accept and process applications that are completed and received by the deadline for submission, which is Friday, December 18, 2020. For those Tribal members who may not have received the paper application packet through the mail, an application is available and fillable on the CTUIR website at: https://ctuir.org/departments/enrollment/covid-19-needs-based-assistance/.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation is made up of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla Tribes, formed under the Treaty of 1855 at the Walla Walla Valley, 12 Stat. 945. In 1949, the Tribes adopted a constitutional form of government to protect, preserve and enhance the treaty rights guaranteed under federal statute.