



September 26, 2016

RE: Tribal Services Department Benefits 2016-2017

Dear Tribal Member,

The Tribal Services Department has gone through a number of policy, program, and budget changes in preparation for the new fiscal year which will begin on October 1, 2016. The purpose of this letter is to inform you for those changes so you can best prepare for the upcoming year based on the benefits you have available to you. Please remember that programs and benefits are subject to change throughout the year.

NEW PROGRAMS:

1. Tribal Services Housing Benefit, this program allows for a \$1,000 monthly benefit, one per household to eligible tribal members to assist with housing, utilities, and home repair. Additional eligibility requirements may apply, please contact Richard Bonifant with your questions and applications.
2. Tribal Services Down Payment Assistance, this program provides up to \$10,000 to eligible Tribal Members to assist with down payment and closing costs. Additional eligibility requirements may apply, please contact Audrey Castleberry with your questions and applications.
3. HUD-on campus student housing is a new program offered under HUD guidelines. This program allows enrolled Tribal Members to access up to \$3,500 to assist with the costs of on-campus housing and dormitory fees. This program is only accessed one time per fiscal year. If you are an enrolled student who lives or is looking to live on campus please contact Audrey Castleberry.
Note: The Education Department will no longer be supplying funding for on campus living or dormitory fees.
4. Elder's Birthday Gift is now being processed by the Tribal Services Department. You must be an Elder (55+) and have a current W-9 on file to be eligible. A check will be mailed the first week of your birthday month. Any questions please contact Rhonda Spencer.

NEW FORMS:

1. HUD Request Form-must now be submitted for every utility bill or rent request, signature is required.
2. Tribal Services Change Form- for any changes to income, location, or household size will require this form to be submitted within 7 business days of change.

CURRENT PROGRAM UPDATES:

1. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a federally funded program administered by the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe's Tribal Services-Housing. Based on state median income the program coverages are as follows:
 - 80% or below are eligible for rent/utilities, elders minor home repair, and down payment assistance.
 - 81-100% are eligible for rent/utilities and elders minor home repair.For questions and to verify your eligibility coverage for this program please contact Lonzell Maddock.



2. Childcare- The Snoqualmie Tribe has been approved to implement a new Childcare and Development plan. The Childcare program now uses the same income eligibility as HUD and Food Assistance. If you are qualified for either program and have tribal children under the age of 13 and attending childcare or before/after school care you may qualify. You must still reside in the five county service area to apply. In addition, the required co-payment amounts have been lowered. For additional eligibility requirements and a full list of updates to this program please contact Rhonda Spencer.
3. Baby Corner program is able to assist with obtaining formula, diapers, and gentle used items. Please remember items are not guaranteed as we work through a non-profit to obtain items based on availability. Please contact Rhonda Spencer with any questions or applications.
4. Food Assistance program continues to remain the same, however accessing is now a single application in conjunction with the HUD program. Please contact Richard Bonifant with any questions.
5. Emergency Assistance eligible items have changed. The Emergency Assistance program no longer covers rent and mortgage. The Emergency Assistance program will now cover transportation costs which include gas, bus, ferry, toll fees, etc. (This does not cover air travel or rental cars). If you have additional questions regarding eligible items please contact Richard Bonifant.
6. Funeral & Burial Assistance benefit exists to assist the legal executor of estate for a Tribal Member with the costs associated with burial, funeral, and celebration of life expenses. Please contact Audrey Castleberry with any questions regarding this benefit.

DISSOLVED/TERMINATED PROGRAMS:

In order to better serve the Tribal community at large some benefits have been discontinued as of October 1, 2016.

- Bus Program
- Elders Minor Home Repair & Support-\$500

Both benefits have historically been underutilized and have now been absorbed into other benefits.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact any of the Tribal Services Department staff below, we look forward to serving you in 2016-2017.

Thank you,
TRIBAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
generalresources@snoqualmieltribe.us

SHAUNA SHIPP-MARTINEZ
Tribal Services Officer

LONZELL MADDOCK
Housing Director

RICHARD BONIFANT
Tribal Services Specialist

AUDREY CASTLEBERRY
Tribal Services Manager

RHONDA SPENCER
Childcare Administrator