



Colorado River Indian Tribes Department of Health and Social Services

Office of Social Services

12302 Kennedy Drive
Parker, AZ 85344
Phone: 928-699-8187
Fax: 928-669-8881

CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance Program Policies and Procedures

Approved by Tribal Council on 7/12/2024

Program Purpose: The purpose of CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance is to provide one-time assistance for temporary relief to enrolled Colorado River Indian Tribes, (CRIT) members who are in need of financial assistance to meet emergency expenses after having applied to other available resources.

Procedure: Applicants will apply at the CRIT DHSS/Office of Social Services at 12302 Kennedy Drive, Parker, Az. Eligibility to qualify for CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance is based on annual household income (gross). The DHSS Office of Social Services will review income sources, and verify income for all applicants. Upon the DHSS Office of Social Services review, the application will be processed for approval or denied due to ineligibility. Applicants will be notified in either circumstance.

Program Eligibility:

- a) CRIT Tribal Members, eighteen (18) years of age and older, may apply for the CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance.
- b) Caregivers and parents with CRIT enrolled children residing in the household, whom they have custody or guardianship of, may apply for the CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance. Proof of custody or guardianship is required and all household members must be listed.

Program Ineligibility:

- a) Non-CRIT Tribal Members are not eligible to apply for CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance except as stated above.
- b) CRIT Tribal Members who reside off of the CRIT Reservation.
- c) CRIT Tribal Members having already received a one-time CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance are not eligible to apply a second time, regardless of the amount they first received.

POLICY

I. Proof of CRIT Enrollment

Procedure: Tribal Members must provide proof of CRIT enrollment by providing the required documents with the submission of application to the CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance Application.

- i. CRIT Tribal identification/Certificate of Indian blood
- ii. Social Security Cards for all household members, (CRIT Enrolled or Not)
- iii. Birth certificates for all children in household.
- iv. Custody or legal guardianship documents.
- v. Income verification, payroll stubs, SSI/SSA award letter, survivor's benefits.
- vi. Verification of public assistance (SNAP, TANF, AHCCCS).
- vii. Must provide copies of invoices, bills, disconnection notices, eviction notice.
- viii. Other documents requested by the OSS staff or Manager.

POLICY

II. Income Verification for Financial Assistance

Income Eligibility: Income must be verified and meet the DHSS Office of Social Services income eligibility limits for all applicants to qualify for the CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance. (See eligibility criteria below).

Income guidelines are 185% of the poverty level

Income eligibility guidelines maximum household occupancy	Income eligibility maximum (applicant's annual gross income cannot exceed the amount)
1	\$40,000
2	\$54,289.51
3	\$68,579.02
4	\$82,868.53
5	\$97,158.03
6	\$111,447.54
7	\$125,737.05
8	\$140,026.56
9	\$154,316.07
10	\$168,605.58

POLICY

III. CRIT Programs and Department Resources

CRIT tribal members in need of assistance must first submit requests to all other CRIT program/departments to seek relief through all applicable resources that CRIT provides. All CRIT programs/departments will assess if a CRIT tribal member qualifies for assistance from their respective departments using their eligibility criteria.

Procedure: If a Tribal Member does not qualify for assistance through all other available CRIT programs, the tribal member must submit denial letters to the DHSS Office of Social Services with the completed CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance Application. The Tribal Member may apply for the Supplemental Tribal Financial Program Assistance with the DHSS Office of Social Services. The final assessment of the Tribal Member's application for CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance will be reviewed, approved/denied by the DHSS Office of Social Services Manager, and confirmed by the DHSS Executive Director.

CRIT Departments and Programs

CRIT Office of Social Services Tribal Assistance Application (TAA) 928-669-8187	Medical, Bill Payment, Food, Lodging, Home, Legal, School, Event Fees, Car, Other Costs.
CRIT Office of Social Services General Assistance (GA) 928-669-8187	General assistance - monthly cash assistance.
CRIT Community Health Representatives (CHR) 928-575-4431	Medical appointment transportation. Durable medical equipment (DME).
CRIT Office of Social Services Low Income Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) 928-669-8187	Assistance with household electricity costs.
CRIT Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) 928-669-5243	Substance Abuse Services/Treatment.
CRIT Behavioral Health Services 928-669-3256	Outpatient Behavioral Health Services.
CRIT Food Distribution Program 928-669-1284	Assistance with supplemental commodity foods.
CRIT Education Department 928-669-8831	Assistance with school supplies.
CRIT Employment Development and Training (ED&T) 928-669-8555	Educational assistance.
CRIT Accounting Collection Specialist 928-669-1239	Financial assistance, school grants, burial assistance.
CRIT Revolving Credit 928-669-8847	Loans available to CRIT Enrolled Tribal Members employed by CRIT.
CRRMC Housing 928-669-2293	Lodging, some home costs.
CRIT Housing Improvement Program (HIP) 928-669-6738	Seniors/Elders only.
CRIT WIC Program 928-669-5588	Children 0-5 years. Nutrition assistance for Women, Infants and Children

POLICY

IV. Types of Emergency Assistance. \$1500.00 One-Time Maximum Payment

1. CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance cannot exceed \$1500.00 as a one-time emergency assistance source.
2. CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance is a one-time source of emergency relief at the current cost of the allowed emergency relief amount.
3. CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance is not a cumulative up to \$1500.00 full benefit, but a one-time emergency assistance resource.

Emergency Financial Assistance Type(s)	Assistance Costs Allowed
Emergency Needs Payments	Utilities, Reconnection Fees, Deposits, Replacement Food Post-Power Outage
Emergency Vehicle Repairs	Radiator, A/C, Tires, Batteries, Repair Fees
Emergency Lodging	Maximum of 7-Days Temporary Lodging
Housing Emergencies	Costs to Avoid Eviction
Durable Medical Equipment	Wheelchairs, Lifts, Adaptive Equipment
Emergency Fuels	Gasoline, Propane, Natural Gas
Emergency Transportation	Family Emergencies, Travel Costs
Emergency Food/Supplies	When Other Available Food and Supply resources are not available.

POLICY

V. General Welfare Exclusion

- A. The Policy is promulgated in compliance with the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-168) and the Internal Revenue Service’s Rev. Proc. 2014-35 which outline how Indian general welfare benefits provided under a Tribal government program may qualify for exclusion from the gross income of the individual receiving the benefit. The Assistance received does not constitute income and does not impact Tribal Members’ access to other benefits or services.
- B. This Policy is to provide for the needs of Tribal Members and to provide services that promote the general welfare of the Tribe. The Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-168) and the Internal Revenue Service’s Rev. Proc. 2014-35 support this Policy. This Policy is intended to affirm the Tribe’s inherent sovereign rights to promote the general welfare of the Tribe and provide qualifying assistance and Policy benefits on a tax-free basis. The Policy benefits authorized by this Policy are intended to qualify for tax-free treatment to the fullest extent permitted by law consistent with established safe harbors.
- C. The Policy is established in recognition of the following:

1. Tribal Members have housing, home repair, and utility needs including, but not limited to, those identified in the Rev. Proc. 2014-35 under 5.02(2)(a). Rev. Proc. 2014-35 states that it is allowable to have “[p]rograms relating to principal residences and ancillary structures that are not used in any trade or business, or for investment purposes that (i) [p]ay mortgage payments, down payments, or rent payments . . . [and] (iv) [p]ay utility bills and charges.”
 2. Tribal Members have healthcare, health insurance, and wellness needs, including, but not limited to health insurance premiums, co-pays, prescription costs, durable medical equipment, and non-prescription drug costs. This Policy provides benefits for those qualified medical expenses that are excludable from gross income under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, Section 9021 Section 139D and shall be administered in accordance with Sections 139D(a)–(c), which limit the exclusion to payments, reimbursements, or coverage of “medical care” within the definition of Section 213 of the Internal Revenue Code. This Policy also provides for non-prescription drug costs as provided in Rev. Proc. 2014-35.
 3. Tribal Members have unmet needs related to food and clothing, cleaning, transportation, and basic hygiene including, but not limited to those needs outlined in Rev. Proc. 2014-35.
- D. The distribution of benefits under this Policy shall not discriminate in favor of any person, including the members of the Tribal Council.
 - E. The benefits available under this Policy are not granted as compensation for services.
 - F. The benefits available under this Policy are not lavish or extravagant taking into account needs unique to the Tribe as well as the social purpose being served by this particular Assistance.
 - G. The Policy shall be discretionary and subject to the amount appropriated by the Tribal Council. The authorization of the Policy does not create any liability on the part of the Tribe for any future payment, nor shall any member have any vested right in benefit payments. The Assistance may be terminated at any time by the Tribal Council.
 - H.



Colorado River Indian Tribes

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CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance Application

CRIT DHSS General Welfare Assistance Application

Name: _____ Phone: () _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Residential address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Tribal ID#/CRIT Enrollment # _____

Applicant's Household Information

Household Member Names (Last, First, Middle)	Date of Birth	C.R.I.T Tribal Enrollment Number(s)
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

Amount

Explain Need

\$ _____ Vehicle repair _____

\$ _____ Temporary Lodging _____

\$ _____ Medical Equipment _____

\$ _____ Housing/Rent _____

\$ _____ Travel Expenses _____

\$ _____ Emergency Fuel _____

\$ _____ Emergency Food _____

\$ _____ Utilities/Reconnection _____

Please explain your hardship further, if needed.

Applicant Acknowledgement: I understand that I must provide proof of my need to the Office of Social Services. I understand that Tribal General Welfare Assistance is only available to CRIT enrolled tribal members who live and reside on CRIT reservation lands. I understand that payments will be made directly to the vendor that I have listed, unless otherwise needed to allow direct payment to the applicant for specific needs.

Applicant Name (print)

Signature

Date

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Eligibility Determination by CRIT DHSS/OSS Manager

 <p>Office of Social Services 12302 Kennedy Drive Parker, AZ 85344 Phone: 928-669-8187 Fax: 928-669-8881</p>	<p>Date of Application _____</p> <p>Date of Interview _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Approved: Date _____ Initials _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Denied: Date _____ Initials _____</p> <p>Reason for Denial _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Eligible to Reapply: Date _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not Eligible: Reason _____</p>
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Date Application and All Required Documentation Received: ____ day of _____, 20__.