the Chickasaw Nation

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DNA Testing to Establish Paternity

A paternity DNA test is required by the Chickasaw Nation Office of Tribal Citizenship and Tribal Government Services if the Chickasaw parent is not listed on the child's birth certificate before the child turns five years of age. The Chickasaw Nation reserves the right to request a DNA test for other instances, in accordance with associated policies, procedures, and guidelines.

Requirements for an acceptable DNA test to establish paternity:

- ☐ DNA testing must be conducted with an accredited laboratory (**home testing kits are not acceptable**). For information regarding accredited laboratories in the parent/legal guardian/applicant's area, the parent/legal guardian/applicant may contact the Chickasaw Nation Office of Tribal Citizenship and Tribal Government Services.
- ☐ DNA samples must be collected by laboratory personnel.
- ☐ The DNA test results must be signed by the lab director and must be notarized.
- ☐ To qualify for Chickasaw citizenship, the DNA test results must show a statistical probability of paternity at 98% or greater.
- ☐ The parent/legal guardian/applicant will then obtain a court order establishing paternity (if one has not already been provided that is not a Default Order). The court order must also state the genetic parent by name. All court documents must display the judge's signature.
- ☐ Once the DNA test results and court order establishing paternity are obtained, the parent/legal guardian/applicant will need to obtain an amended state-certified birth certificate to add the genetic father/parent. This is not required if the child has been legally adopted by another father/parent. This can be conducted at the vital records office in the state where the child was born, where the parent/legal guardian/applicant will need to present the DNA test results and the court order establishing paternity. This can be done in person or can be sent through the mail.
- ☐ When the parent/legal guardian/applicant has obtained the amended state-certified birth certificate, the parent/legal guardian/applicant will submit the following documents with the parent/legal guardian/applicant's application for a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)/Chickasaw citizenship.

    - State-certified birth certificate before the amendments adding the Chickasaw parent
    - DNA test results showing a statistical probability of paternity at 98% or greater
    - Court order establishing paternity
    - Amended state-certified birth certificate with the Chickasaw parent being added

IMPORTANT: Photocopies, hospital, short-form, city, or county birth certificates are not acceptable. The Chickasaw Nation Office of Tribal Citizenship and Tribal Government Services requires the original birth certificates as received from the state vital records office.