

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR CITIZENS AND HOUSEHOLDS

FAQ'S

Q: *What is the EACH program?*

A: The Economic Assistance for Citizens and Households (EACH) program offers direct monetary assistance to Chickasaw citizens living in households that have been negatively economically impacted by COVID-19.

Q: *Who is eligible?*

A: Enrolled Chickasaw citizens living in households that have been negatively economically impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Q: *How do we apply for assistance?*

A: Applications are available at **Chickasaw.net/EACH**. If you are unable to access the online application, application packets are available at the Carl Albert Service Center located at 1001 N. Country Club in Ada or they can be mailed with a prepaid return envelope. Applications can also be processed over the phone.

Q: *What do I do if I don't have a bank account and my local bank will not cash my EACH check?*

A: We have worked out an arrangement with our issuing bank, Vision Bank in Ada, OK, whereby your local bank may contact Vision Bank to confirm the check's validity by providing some necessary information. Please have your bank contact Vision Bank at (580) 332-5132. Your bank will need to provide the passcode "Economic," the account number listed on the bottom of the check, the check number and the amount. Vision Bank will then confirm its validity.

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Q: *How may I cash an economic assistance payment made payable to my minor child?*

A: Many banks will allow you to endorse the check on your child's behalf and cash or deposit the check. You may also cash the check at the bank listed on the check. Below are options for checks made payable to minors:

▶ Endorse check for minor:

- Write your child's name on the back of the check, followed by "minor."

Example: Johnny Doe – Minor

- If your child is old enough to write or sign their own name you can have him/her write in his/her own name.
- Sign your name under the minor's name and print, "mother," "father" or "guardian" next to or under your signature. **Example:** Janet Doe – Mother
 - Alternatively, you may also endorse the check as: "Janet Doe, mother of Johnny Doe".
- **Please note:** each bank may have its own preference for this endorsement.

▶ Open a bank account for your child or open a joint bank account with your minor. Most banks allow you to open bank accounts for minors. This helps teach valuable financial lessons.

▶ Deposit your minor's check into your own personal bank account.

Q: *How long after my application has been reviewed/approved will it take to get my check?*

A: You can expect to receive your payment in the form of a check, for the amount of \$2,000, in 14 days. The check will be mailed to the address listed on your application.

Q: *Why is the application timing out?*

A: The online application period is limited to 60 minutes from the time it is started, and the time available may be shortened by your browser's settings. A paper application with a prepaid return envelope can be mailed, if preferred.

Q: *Why am I unable to see all information on the online application?*

A: We are so sorry you are experiencing this issue. The application works best if you are using Google Chrome as your browser.

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Q: *Do I qualify if I have shared custody of a Chickasaw dependent?*

A: In the case of a Chickasaw dependent in shared custody, applications are processed in the order they are received and will not be duplicated. Payments will be made payable to the dependent and mailed to the address provided on the first household application that was received.

Q: *Do I qualify if I am the biological parent of a Chickasaw dependent in foster care?*

A: In the case of a Chickasaw dependent in the care of Indian Child Welfare, applications have already been processed on the child's behalf, and payment will be provided to the minor in their current home. For additional questions, please contact Indian Child Welfare Services.

Q: *Is this assistance taxable income?*

A: This is not a taxable income.

Q: *How will a payment be made?*

A: Assistance will be provided in the form of a paper check that will be mailed to the address listed on your application.

Visit Chickasaw.net/EACH for more information or to complete an application. If you have questions, please contact the **EACH Program** at **(580) 276-8508** or **(866) 537-0438**.

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