BEAR RIVER BAND of the ROHNERVILLE RANCHERIA

266 KEISNER RD LOLETA, CA 95551-9707 PHONE 707-733-1900 FAX 707-733-1723



OUT OF AREA FAMILY ASSISTANCE POLICY

I. MISSION STATEMENT

The Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria recognizes and understands that medical issues arise within a family that requires travel to other cities in order to provide support to a family member in need. Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria wants to ensure that Bear River families do not face financial hardship and understands that transportation costs may create serious financial hardship.

II. GOALS

To provide assistance to families with transportation, lodging and gas costs when a Bear River Tribal Member cannot cover the cost of travel when there is a need to see a family member in a medical emergency. The goal is to ensure the well-being of tribal members by supplementing the cost of travel (food, gas and lodging).

III. DEFINITIONS

• *Out-of-Area* - Any travel taking 3 hours or more one way, according to an internet web mapping service (e.g. MapQuest, Google Maps, etc.).

IV. QUALIFICATIONS

• All Bear River Tribal Members are eligible to access up to \$500.00 of assistance throughout the calendar year. Unused portions do not roll over to the following year.

V. PROCESSING

1. The tribal benefits application MUST be submitted to the Tribal Benefits Coordinator 7 days prior to departure date. Benefits application will be processed within 3-7 days if application is completed in full.

VI. LIMITATIONS FOR PAYMENT

Available Assistance

This policy can be accessed multiple times per calendar year but not to exceed the amount defined in Section IV. Qualifications. Covered items include:

- Overnight Lodging
- Food
- Gas, other transportation

Costs will be covered only if the costs are reasonable. For example, the cost of staying at a luxury hotel or fine dining would not be covered.

Additional limitations are as follow:

• Only one application for services shall be accepted per family emergency.

*Emergency situations where an individual has an immediate need to travel out of the area are exempt from the REQUIREMENTS listed in Section V. Processing. All other requirements must be met. In the event that a Tribal Member accesses this policy through an emergency situation reimbursements will be allowed.

VII. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Detailed description of the situation (who the Tribal Member will see, relationship to Tribal Member, where they are going) must be attached to the benefit request application and submitted to Bear River Benefits.
- 2. The tribal benefits application <u>MUST</u> be submitted to the Bear River Benefits, benefit application will be processed within 3-7 days if the application is completed in full.
- 3. Tribal Member must return original receipts to demonstrate expenditures for the out of the area travel.

VIII. DEFAULTS

a. A Tribal Member will be classified in default status if original receipts are not turned in within the 30 day time period. Tribal Members in default status will have their per capita garnished in order to recover the assistance when no receipts are submitted.

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This is to certify that the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria Tribal Council duly assembled in Loleta, CA and adopted the foregoing document on November 7, 2023 by a vote of $\underline{\mathbf{6}}$ For, $\underline{\mathbf{0}}$ Against, $\underline{\mathbf{0}}$ Abstentions and $\underline{\mathbf{1}}$ Absent.

Josefina Frank
Josefina Frank, Chairperson

Aileen Meyer, Vice-Chairperson

John D. McGinnis, Member-at-Large 1

Edward Bowie, Member-at-Large 2

Derek Bowman, Member at Large 3

Out of Area Family Assistance Policy Effective: January 1, 2024