



FOOD SECURITY AND BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

I. MISSION STATEMENT:

The Bear River Band understands that food insecurity and utility assistance is a common need for tribal members and in an effort to support tribal families, tribal members have access to this funding to ensure basic household needs are met.

II. GOALS:

The assistance program is geared toward ensuring that tribal members have access to food and utilities necessary to live a healthy life.

III. DEFINITIONS:

Basic Needs - Includes propane, gas, electricity, and water.

Food - Any edible item purchased from a grocery store, excluding alcohol and tobacco products.

IV. FOOD CARD ASSISTANCE

Eligibility

1. In order to receive the award for this policy, the beneficiary must be an enrolled member of the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria.
2. Tribal member must submit a completed benefit request application 7-14 days in advance.

Limits of Assistance

1. Tribal members can receive one food card per quarter in the amount of \$150.00 not to exceed \$600.00 per calendar year.
2. Food must be purchased from a grocery store, this policy will not cover fast food or restaurant food.
3. Reimbursements for food purchases will not be accepted.
4. No alcohol or tobacco is to be purchased using this fund.
5. Tribal Members outside of tribal land more than 50 miles will be issued a check unless they request a food card for the following grocery stores: Winco, Grocery Outlet or Costco.

6. Non-Tribal Members applying for a food card on behalf of a Minor Tribal Member Child shall only receive one food card per quarter, regardless of multiple Minor Tribal Member Children residing within the home.
7. Tribal members and non-tribal members applying for this benefit on behalf of a minor tribal member child may not apply for another food card until receipts have been submitted and accepted.
8. Tribal Member adults within one (1) Tribal household are eligible to receive the quarterly food card in conjunction with one (1) Tribal Member child quarterly food card.

Program Payments

Once the benefit request form is approved by the benefits coordinator, the food card will be available within 1-4 business days.

V. BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE

Eligibility

1. In order to receive the award for this policy, the beneficiary must be an enrolled member of the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria and between the ages of 18 and fifty-four (54).
2. Each tribal member age 18 through the age of 54 will have access to \$500.00 per calendar year for basic needs.
3. Tribal member must submit a benefit request form to the benefits coordinator with an attached bill/invoice to receive basic needs assistance.
4. Tribal member must submit a completed benefit request application 7-14 days in advance.

Elder Eligibility

1. In order to receive the award for this policy, the Elder beneficiary must be an enrolled member of the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria and be age fifty-five (55) and older.
2. Each Tribal Member Elder age fifty-five (55) and up will have access to \$600.00 per calendar year for basic needs.
3. Tribal Member Elder must submit a benefit request form to the benefits coordinator with an attached bill/invoice to receive basic needs assistance.
4. Tribal member must submit a completed benefit request application 7-14 days in advance.

Limits of Assistance

1. All bills/invoices will be paid to the vendor only.
2. All bills/invoices to be paid must be in the name of the tribal member requesting assistance.

3. Utility bills must be in *Past Due* status. Only the past due amount will be paid up to the \$500 benefit limit per calendar year.
4. This policy will not be used to pay phone service bills, cable, internet service bills, purchase of cell phones or cell phone minutes.
5. This policy will not be used to pay monthly reoccurring fees.

Elder Limits of Assistance

1. All bills/invoices will be paid to the vendor only.
2. All bills/invoices to be paid must be in the name of the Tribal Member Elder requesting assistance.
3. Utility bills do not have to be *Past Due* status.
4. This policy will not be used to pay phone service bills, cable, internet service bills, purchase of cell phones or cell phone minutes.
5. This policy will not be used to pay monthly reoccurring fees.

C*E*R*T*I*F*I*C*A*T*I*O*N

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 October 17, 2023 by a vote of

7 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions and 0 Absent.

Josefina Frank

Josefina Frank, Chairperson

Aileen Meyer

Aileen Meyer, Vice-Chairperson

Dakota McGinnis, Jr.

Dakota McGinnis, Jr., Secretary

Earl Moon

Earl Moon, Treasurer

John D. McGinnis

John D. McGinnis, Member-at-Large 1

Edward Bowie

Edward Bowie, Member-at-Large 2

Derek Bowman

Derek Bowman, Member at Large 3