

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Updated April 23, 2018



Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Economic Stimulus Distribution

Who can apply?

All eligible adult Tribal members (18 and over) who were included on the final roll from April 6, 2018 can apply.

How do I apply?

In-Person: Tribal members may submit their completed Distribution Acceptance Form on April 21, 2018, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm, at the Nixon Gym. The Enrollment Office will continue to accept Distribution Acceptance Forms on an ongoing-basis during regular business hours, thereafter.

By Email or Fax: The Enrollment Office will begin accepting Distribution Acceptance Forms by email or fax on April 23, 2018. Send your completed documents to: plenrollment@plpt.nsn.us or fax to: 775-574-1054 or 775-201-1941.

What documents do I need to complete my request?

- A completed and signed Distribution Acceptance Form
- Valid Legal Identification
- Voided Check, Deposit Slip, or other direct deposit documentation from your Bank that clearly indicates:
 - your **bank's name**,
 - the **bank's address**,
 - the **bank account number** where the funds will be deposited,
 - the **name on the bank account**, and
 - the **bank's electronic routing or ABA number** (if requesting electronic transfer of funds).

What if I have recently changed my legal name or address?

Your name and address must match the Tribal Enrollment data for each Tribal member in order to receive your payment. You may need to complete the Enrollment Office forms for changes to names or addresses in order to update your enrollment records, and provide a copy of a court order for the name change.

Can I bring in applications for my other family members?

No, each individual Tribal member (or legally authorized representative) must apply on his or her own behalf.

How do minors access their Economic Stimulus funds?

Economic stimulus funds for eligible Tribal members who were minors on or before April 6, 2018 are maintained in a minor's trust account. When these minors reach 18 years of age, they may apply for their Economic Stimulus funds using the Minor's Trust Distribution Acceptance Form.

Can I apply for my minor child(ren)?

No, Tribal members who reach 18 years of age after April 6, 2018, may apply for their Economic Stimulus funds on their own behalf.

How do Tribal members who are incarcerated, or incapable to apply on their own, receive their funds?

Court appointed legal guardians or financial representatives designated with a Power of Attorney for financial matters for the member may apply for the economic stimulus payments on behalf of the eligible Tribal member. Legal documentation that the individual is allowed to represent the Tribal member must be presented with the distribution forms.

How are the applications for a member, made by legal representatives, legal guardians, or those with powers of attorney, handled?

Those individuals who are court-appointed guardians or representatives and those who have Power of Attorney to apply for and deposit funds to the member's bank account will complete the front page of the Distribution Acceptance Form with the member's name and banking information. On the second page, the individual will sign the form as the Designated Legal Representative. In addition, the Designated Legal Representative will provide the Court Order and Power of Attorney showing his or her right to represent the Tribal member.

How are distributions to "wards of the court" handled?

These distributions are handled in the same way as described above, with documentation of the legal representative's right to handle financial matters for the Tribal member for deposit to an account designated for that Tribal member.

If an incapacitated person is brought in to sign forms, can the Tribe deny accepting the application until legal authorization is provided?

Yes.

Can an incarcerated person receive these funds directly?

From what we understand, checks may not be sent directly to incarcerated individuals, but they may request a direct deposit to a bank account in their names.

Will I have to pay taxes on these funds?

The Economic Stimulus payments are tax exempt for adults. For minors, the principal is tax exempt, but they will need to pay taxes on any interest earned in the future.

How will this payment affect my other benefits and services?

Each agency has their own reporting requirements, so members with questions should contact and discuss potential impacts with their social worker. A compilation of various agencies is available in the document titled, **Benefit Assistance Impact**, available on the Tribal website: <http://plpt.nsn.us>

Will there be garnishments on my Economic Stimulus Payment?

No, the Tribe will not be withholding or garnishing any funds from the Economic Stimulus Payment. The Trust does not permit the funds to be garnished or withheld.

What happens when a Tribal Member dies before receiving their Economic Stimulus Payment?

If an eligible Tribal member dies before receiving his or her economic stimulus payment, the funds become part of the deceased Tribal member's estate. The economic stimulus payment may be requested by the legal guardian or next of kin, as determined by the outcome of the estate settlement. If the deceased member is a minor, a one-year waiting period prior to filing is required.

How long do I have to apply for my Economic Stimulus Payment?

Eligible Tribal members may apply for their economic stimulus payment within six (6) years, and minors may apply for their funds within six (6) years after reaching the age of 18.

What happens to funds that are unclaimed, or checks that are not cashed?

Any unclaimed funds will remain in the trust accounts until the six (6) year deadline. Thereafter, the funds may be moved into the economic development fund trust, and allocated toward economic development projects consistent with the Tribe's Economic Development Plan.

How will the minor's funds be invested?

The Tribe has developed an investment policy that governs the investment of the minor's trust funds, and secured the services of a registered investment advisor to oversee the various investment strategies and managers for the minor's trust.

Can I choose how to have my children's funds invested?

No, the minor's trust funds will be pooled into various age groups to allow for different investment strategies based on the minor's age.

Finally, is there an explanation available for Social Services program staff regarding the type of payment and tax-exempt status of the payment?

Yes, we are working on an explanation that this is an economic stimulus payment from funds released by the federal government...from funds that were being held on behalf of the Tribe.

For more information:

Please visit the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's website for all documents related to the Economic Stimulus Payments: <http://plpt.nsn.us>. Please watch for future notices of workshops and other announcements related to the economic development plan and trusts.