

IN YOUR TIME OF NEED

No one is ever ready to lose a loved one, nor are they prepared for their passing, but being prepared can help reduce the stress and discomfort that loved ones will endure during a difficult time.

IMPORTANT STEPS TO TAKE

- Contact the funeral home to know what your options are.
- Take care of funeral arrangements in advance if possible.
- Have a list of whom to notify.

DOCUMENTS THAT MAY BE NEEDED

- Health Records
- Insurance Policies
- Living Will
- Birth Certificate
- Citizenship Record
- Military Papers DD214
- Marriage Certificate
- Social Security Card

QUESTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- What kind of service do you want?
- What can you afford, and what is realistic?
- What will help the family the most?
- Have you or the family member been receiving Social Security?
- Do you have a living will?



Choctaw Nation

Tribal Burial Assistance

CONTACT INFORMATION

1802 Chukka Hina
Durant, Ok 74701
Toll-Free: 1-800-522-6170
Local: 580-924-8280
Fax: 580-920-3133

OTHER AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Behavioral Health | 918-567-3065
Emergency Assistance | 800-522-6170
LIHEAP | 800-522-6170
Patient Relations | 580-924-9704
Employee Chaplin - Olin Williams | 800-522-6170

TRIBAL BURIAL ASSISTANCE



TRIBAL BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (UP TO \$3000)

The Tribal Burial Program assists families of deceased Choctaw tribal members who live within the United States. This program is intended to alleviate the financial hardship and burden associated with funeral, burial or cremation costs for families with few or no resources. All applicants must meet the guidelines below to be eligible for funeral services.

TRIBAL BURIAL GUIDELINES

- ◆ Applicants must notify the Tribal Burial Program at the time of death.
- ◆ The application must be received within 30 days of passing.
- ◆ Applicants must provide the following:
 - Copy of the deceased member's Choctaw CDIB and tribal membership card (verified through our membership department)
 - Copy of the deceased member's Social Security card
 - A finalized, official copy of the death certificate (not pending)
 - Itemized billing statement (invoice) and current W-9 statement from the vendor
- ◆ This is not an entitlement program, and reimbursements are not allowed.

Services will be denied if resources are available or paid in full.

TRIBAL BURIAL SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAM (UP TO \$500)

The Tribal Burial Supplemental Program provides additional assistance for families of deceased tribal members who live within the United States. It is intended to alleviate some financial hardships and burdens associated with funeral costs, such as third-party expenses (headstone or marker, vault, cemetery plots, grave opening and closing, flowers, airfare, cultural or other needs as identified and approved before services and not covered by other resources).

SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES

- ◆ The deceased must have been a U.S. resident.
- ◆ Applicants must notify our office no more than 30 days after death.
- ◆ Applicants must provide the following:
 - Copy of the deceased member's Choctaw CDIB and tribal membership card (verified through our membership department)
 - Copy of the deceased member's Social Security card
 - A finalized, official copy of the death certificate (not pending)
 - Itemized billing statement (invoice) and current W-9 statement from the vendor
- ◆ The vendor(s) will be paid directly.
- ◆ This is not an entitlement program, and reimbursements are not allowed. Services will be denied if resources are available or paid in full.
- ◆ This benefit can be used alone or in addition to the tribal burial program but cannot be used with the BIA program.

BIA BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM \$3500

The Choctaw Nation is authorized to use Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Burial Assistance funding when applicable. This program is intended for families who have no resources available to them. Funeral homes must accept these funds as payment in full for services rendered. Services are limited and cannot be altered in any way.

BIA GUIDELINES

The deceased must:

- ◆ Have lived within the Choctaw Nation service area at least six months before death.
- ◆ Be a member of any federally recognized tribe, verified by an active tribal membership card or letter, CDIB card and social security card.
- ◆ Be indigent, with no other resources available (insurance, veteran's benefits, cash over \$1,000, saving accounts, IIM account monies, victim assistance program or other state and federal assistance programs, etc.).
- ◆ Applicants may be asked to provide any or all of the following verification documents:
 - Income or pay stubs
 - Bank statements
 - Copy of certified death certificate
 - Benefit checks/savings accounts
 - Award letters/address verification
 - Other documents as needed
- ◆ Applications can be filed up to 180 days after death.
- ◆ This program cannot be used with other tribal burial benefits.