

Osage Utility Assistance Program



Email: <u>Financial-assist@osagenation-nsn.gov</u>

Phone: (918) 287-5325

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Osage Utility Assistance and how do I qualify?

Various utility companies who service Osage County have increased charges to customers. This creates a financial struggle for Osage members. The Osage Nation is providing assistance on behalf of enrolled members who are responsible for utility bills. Payments will be made directly to the utility vendor. To qualify, you must be a legally enrolled member of the Osage Nation, reside in Osage County / Osage Reservation, complete and submit an application.

How much is the assistance?

The amount of assistance is \$300, per household, to the utility vendor of your choice.

How can I apply or get the application?

Members can complete and submit an electronic application at: <u>https://forms.osagenation-nsn.gov/view.php?id=144541</u>

Members can download and print an application at: http://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/services/financial-assistance

Or call (918) 287-5325 to request an application mailed to you.

Or come into the Welcome Center at 239 W. 12th Pawhuska, OK, 74056 for help to apply online.

Where can I find more information about this program?

On the Osage Nation website: http://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/services/financial-assistance

How can I submit my application?

Online: https://forms.osagenation-nsn.gov/view.php?id=144541

Mail to: Osage Nation Financial Assistance

627 Grandview Ave.

Pawhuska, OK 74056

Email to: financial-assist@osagenation-nsn.gov

Drop Box: Welcome Center

239 W. 12th Street

Pawhuska, OK 74056

When will I know if my application is approved?

Please allow up to ten (10) business days to process the completed application and issue notification to you.

Is this assistance taxable income?

The Osage Nation is not treating these payments as taxable income. Consult with your own attorney or tax advisor for guidance. The Osage Nation has designed this program to meet the definition of a "qualified disaster relief payment" as defined by IRS code 26 USC Section 139(b) and to meet the tax exempt status of an "Indian general welfare benefit" as defined by 26 USC Section 139E(b).

Can I receive my assistance directly deposited into my bank account?

No, utility assistance will be in the form of a paper check, issued and mailed to the utility vendor.

Can I have submit more than one utility bill?

No, please select and submit your highest bill (electric, water, or gas). The benefit is one per household.

Do I need to submit any additional information with my application?

Yes you must attach the current utility bill with which you are seeking assistance.

How many times can I apply?

Once, between June 1st and September 30th, 2025.

I am a Non Osage Parent / Guardian with Osage children, can I apply?

No, this program is for Osage Members who are responsible for utility bills.

However, you may contact the office at (918) 287-5325 to inquire about our LIHEAP program.

When can I expect the payment to be issued and mailed?

You can expect the payment to be issued and mailed within 10 business days of the approval notice.