

## The Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee

### GWEAP Q & A

Vol.1

**Submitted by: Georgia Lomawaima, HTPRC Project Coordinator**

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – December 12, 2023

The Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee Staff are actively reviewing and processing all applications received and sincerely request for your patience via phone calls and emails. Therefore we would like to provide the following most frequently asked questions:

Q: What is the meaning of GWEAP and what are the eligibility criteria for applying?

A: GWEAP stands for General Welfare Emergency Assistance Program. Individual must be 18 years as of July 31, 2023. Must be an enrolled tribal member as of July 31, 2023.

Q: How do I qualify?

A: You must complete an application and certify that you have experienced one of the listed hardships due to the pandemic. You must supply a form W-9 with your legal name and current mailing address.

Q: Where can I submit my application?

A: You can apply through a paper application or on our online portal system.

Visit Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee at [hopi-nsn.gov/Quick links - Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee/HTPRC GWEAP Portal](http://hopi-nsn.gov/Quick links - Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee/HTPRC GWEAP Portal). The paper application and W9 form are both available at this link.

Q: What is the source of the funds for distributing checks to tribal members?

A: The source is the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act.

Q: How much will each approved tribal member receive?

A: Upon review and approval, each tribal member will receive \$2,000.

Q: What will cause me to get denied?

A: Here are the areas we review for a completed application:

- Application on portal or paper completed with all required fields.
- Signature on paper applications.
- Name entered on signature line for portal application.
- Section B – COVID related questions, if answered all 'No' you will receive a call from the Verification Specialist for further discussion and confirmation.
- W9 incomplete, must be fully completed with name, address, SS# and signature. W9's require a signature, do not print signature.
- No enrollment information provided with paper applications.

Q: When can we expect to receive our checks?

A: Disbursement dates vary for each applicant. After careful review and approval, applications are forwarded to the Finance and Treasury department for further processing.

Q: Am I required to complete the W9 although I do not work?

A: Yes. The GWEAP payment is not reported as income to the recipients. The Hopi Tribe's accounting system requires a W-9 to enter or update the recipient to issue a payment. The Tribe needs to apply its practices consistently for audit purposes.

Q: Can I pick up my check?

A: No. All checks will be mailed to the address provided on the application.

Q: How do I know if my application has been approved or status of my application?

A: If your application was completed on the portal, you can check for 'status' any time. If email address was provided, the applicant will receive email notification upon registering, if the application has been approved and when a payment has been issued.

Q: Which name should I use on my application if I am married but haven't updated it with enrollment?

A: Use the name on your current government documentation, example: State Identification or Driver's License.

Q: What if I moved or my address changed after I submitted my application?

A: It is likely the check may be returned to the Tribe, if so, the applicant will be contacted and a new check can be reissued only on one time basis. If awardee does not respond or no contact is made after 90 days the award is forfeited and no further action is taken.

Q: When is the last date I can submit my application?

A: Deadline is March 1, 2024 at 5 pm, on the portal and at the Tribal Administration Building. Or until all the funding has been expended. A press release will be issued if all the funds have been expended prior to March 1, 2024. It is recommended that individuals do not wait until the deadline to apply.

The Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee Staff can be reached Monday – Friday,  
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. at:

**GWEAP Member Support email at [gweapsupport@hopi.nsn.us](mailto:gweapsupport@hopi.nsn.us)**

**GWEAP Verification Specialist at (928) 734-3397, (928) 734-3398 or (928) 734-3399**