

The Chickasaw Nation
Department of Community Services

Youth Support Reimbursement Program Manual



Youth Services Division



The Chickasaw Nation
Bill Anoatubby, Governor

Youth Support Reimbursement Program Manual

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THE CHICKASAW NATION Youth Support Reimbursement Program

Introduction:

The Chickasaw Nation Youth Support Reimbursement Program provides eligible Chickasaw students with a \$300 reimbursement once per year for fees or expenses in various extracurricular activities, clubs, and leagues.

Students aged 15 up to high school seniors are eligible once per lifetime for an additional \$300 reimbursement for Driver's Education expenses.

Students in their senior year of high school are eligible for an additional \$300 reimbursement for senior expenses. Graduating seniors are also eligible for an honor cord once per lifetime. Honor cords are provided to recognize graduating high school seniors of the Chickasaw Nation.

Reimbursements are awarded in the form of a VISA credit card.

The funding year begins October 1 and runs through September 30. Students may apply in person, by mail, or online at www.Chickasaw.net/Services/Youth-Support-Reimbursement-Program. Students applying for this program need to meet the guidelines below.

Guidelines:

- A. The following items need to be included to be considered for funding:
 1. Completed Youth Support Reimbursement Program Application.
 - a. Application may be picked up at 231 Seabrook Road, Ada, Oklahoma, have it mailed by calling (580) 310-6620 or fill out the application online at www.Chickasaw.net/Services/Youth-Support-Reimbursement-Program.
 2. Information, brochures, receipts, and/or flyers describing the activity or program, driver's education program, or senior expense in detail.
 - a. A cost or price associated with the activity/driver's education expenses/senior expense needs to be listed.
 - b. The expenses must be within the current funding year.
- B. Student is between the ages of 3 to 18 years (through high school seniors).
- C. Student is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.
- D. Students are eligible ONE TIME PER YEAR for a reimbursement of \$300 (October 1 through September 30). The following are examples of qualifying expenses:
 1. Educational conferences, programs, and trips.
 2. Camps - can include athletic, cheerleading, dance, band, and summer camps.
 3. Extra-curricular activities - can include athletics, band, dance, and art (gloves, shoes, sports equipment, band instruments, dance wear, class ring, letterman jacket, etc.)
 4. Educational opportunity fees - can include FFA, 4-H, DECA, FCCLA (e.g., membership dues, livestock fees).

- E. Students are eligible ONCE PER LIFETIME for the following:
1. Driver's Education Expenses - can include driver's education programs/courses, etc.
 - a. Assistance is limited to \$300.
 - b. Students must be at least 15 years old up to high school senior.
 - c. Students may apply for driver's education expenses and other extracurricular expenses in the same year.
 - d. The driver's education expenses must be from within the current funding year that the application is received.
 2. High School Senior Expenses (one time only during senior year) - announcements/cap and gown, class ring, letterman jacket, and senior pictures.
 - a. Assistance is limited to \$300 per lifetime.
 - b. Classified as a senior.
 - c. Seniors in high school may apply for both extracurricular and senior expenses in the same funding year.
 - d. Applications for senior and extracurricular expenses cannot be combined to qualify for the same activity or expense. Different qualifying expenses need to be turned in for each application.
 3. Honor Cord (one time only during senior year) - Honor cords are provided to recognize Chickasaw students at graduation ceremonies.
 - a. May receive one honor cord per lifetime.
 - b. Classified as a graduating high school senior.
 - c. The application deadline for honor cords is March 30. Any applications received after this date may not receive an honor cord in time for graduation.
 - d. Honor cords will be mailed out by April 15.
- F. Letterman jackets and class rings may count as either a senior expense during senior year OR an extracurricular expense at any time during high school.
- G. Funding is available on an individual basis only - this program does not assist with team fees.
- H. Unapproved expenses are not to be considered. These unapproved expenses include, but are not limited to the following:
1. Travel, lodging, and meals/food expenses
 2. Transportation costs including gas, car insurance, or car payments.
 3. Fees or tuition for private education, including summer school, concurrent college classes, books, school supplies, tutoring, lunch fees, vo-tech supplies, or ACT/SAT classes or testing fees.
 4. Child care.

Award Notification:

- A. Qualifying applicants receive an award letter in the mail within three to four weeks after the application has been processed and approved.
- B. Reimbursement is issued on a non-reloadable VISA credit card and mailed via United States Postal Service. The VISA credit card requires activation by the applicant for use.
- C. VISA credit cards have a 12-month expiration date. Funds not used by this date will be returned to the Chickasaw Nation.

- D. To activate and check card balances you may go online to www.ConvenientCards.com/Chickasaw or call (580) 272-5585 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. CST. This is not an automated system.
- E. The youth support office determines if the applicant qualifies for funding from the information submitted.