



Program Description

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) 2022 COVID-19 DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Purpose of Program:

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) COVID-19 Direct Financial Assistance Program is available to all Zuni enrolled tribal members over the age of 18 years. The purpose of the program is to provide direct financial payments to support tribal members that have been negatively impacted and affected by COVID-19. The direct financial assistance payments are designed to provide **non-taxable** economic relief to Zuni Tribal enrolled members with additional resources to maintain adequate housing, transportation, food, water, medication, medical care, utilities, and basic life necessities to help alleviate the financial hardships endured from loss of income and/or increased costs due to the COVID-19 pandemic recovery efforts. Funding for the program is supported by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) received by the Zuni Tribe. This Direct Financial Assistance Program is designed to comply with the ARPA requirements and guidance issued by the US Department of Treasury.

Each eligible enrolled Zuni tribal member will receive a maximum amount of \$1,200 per person under the 2022 COVID-19 Direct Financial Assistance Program.

If you received the 2021 COVID-19 Direct Financial Assistance, **YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO ANY FURTHER ACTION.** Your information from your 2021 application will be used to process your payment. Please refer the FAQs.

NEW APPLICANTS CAN APPLY: On-line, download fillable PDF application or apply via paper applications. Applications will be available on March 21, 2022; application closing date is September 1, 2022. Tribal enrolled members who have or will reach the age of 18 by September 1, 2022 are eligible to apply. Enrolled members who received the 2021 financial assistance **WILL NOT BE REQUIRED** to apply.

If you **DID NOT APPLY IN 2021**, you are considered a **NEW APPLICANT** and must upload/submit the following with your application to substantiate its validity:

- Zuni Tribal Census Card or Tribal Enrollment Letter;
- State Issued Driver's License or ID (Tribal Census Picture ID is acceptable)

New applicants **WILL ONLY** be eligible to receive the 2021 COVID-19 Direct Financial Assistance

Zuni tribal members who received the 2021 financial assistance are NOT REQUIRED to take any further action. Your information from prior application will be used to process your assistance check. WE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING ANY UPDATED ADDRESSES AT THIS TIME. We kindly request for your patience.

Eligibility:

- Zuni Enrolled Tribal Members (residing on or off the reservation), must be age of 18 years by September 1, 2022 (Once an individual turns 18 years old, they can apply);
- Applicant must be enrolled with the Zuni Tribe as of **September 1, 2022**; and
- Has experienced a financial hardship due COVID-19 pandemic.
- All Zuni Enrolled Tribal Members **MUST** submit a completed application by **September 1, 2022** deadline. Applications received after September 1, 2022 will not considered.

Application Options – PLEASE SUBMIT ONLY ONE FORM OF APPLICATION – WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO APPLY ONLINE!

Option 1: Complete and submit the application and upload documents on-line at the following link: POZ COVID-19 Emergency Financial Assistance via cell phone, tablet, laptop or desktop (must have a valid email address to receive confirmation that your online application has been submitted) or;

Option 2: Complete PDF Fillable application and email with supporting documents (as applicable for NEW APPLICANTS) to: Covid.Assistance@ashiwi.org

- Download application at www.ashiwi.org or;
- Email Covid.Assistance@ashiwi.org to request for an application

Option 3: Paper applications will be available at local stores and ZECDC office. Paper applications will be accepted at the ZECDC office between 9 am- 11:30 am and 1:30- 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday, except holidays.

For NEW APPLICANTS - ZECDC staff will contact you to verify your information. Please ensure you provide a valid phone number.

Direct Financial Assistance will be sent via check within four (4) to six (6) weeks or sooner to the mailing address provided on 2021 application for prior recipients or address provided on 2022 application for NEW APPLICANTS.

We appreciate your patience. If you should have any questions, please refer to FAQs or if needed, send your inquiry to Covid.Assistance@ashiwi.org or contact the ZECDC Program at (505) 782-5998.

Administration of Program: The **Zuni Education & Career Development Center** (ZECDC) shall be authorized to administer the Program.