

Cherokee Nation Community Youth Fund

Administered by Community Services/Cherokee Nation

The Mission of the Cherokee Nation is “ga du gi”: working together as individuals, families, and communities for a quality of life for this and future generations by promoting confidence, the tribal culture, and an effective sovereign government.

Purpose of the Cherokee Nation Community Youth Fund: To strengthen community organizations and encourage Cherokee citizenship and participation by exposing Cherokee youth to Cherokee community leadership and show how Cherokees have survived and excelled through group/community actions and developing future leadership skills through the funding of activities for youth that serve this purpose.

Funds of \$250.00 per recipient per fiscal year for a recipient may be used for education, athletic, cultural, and other activities that meet the mission of the Cherokee Nation and purpose of the program for Cherokee Nation citizen youth ages 5 to 18 years, enrolled in school, and living in the 14 county Cherokee Nation jurisdictional boundaries.

*******Application Must Be Completed By Youth Ages 14 And Older*******

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL

1. Applicant must be a Cherokee citizen evidenced by a submittal of a Cherokee Nation Tribal Citizenship or “Blue” Card and Social Security Card. **The legal name of the applicant must appear on both cards.**
2. Address of permanent residence of applicant must be within the 14 county Cherokee Nation jurisdictional boundaries.
3. Applicant must be at least 5 years of age and no older than 18 years of age at the time of application and enrolled in school.
4. Application must be turned in by applicable deadline with a completed W-9 signed by applicant.
5. Availability of funds, selection shall primarily be based on a “first come, first served” basis until the total funds available are depleted.

6. Approval for funds will be contingent upon attendance of the leadership/financial literacy workshop OR documentation of acceptable workshops, classwork, and/or organizational membership that provide leadership training such as Boys and Girls Club, 4-H, FFA, FHA, Girl or Boy Scouts, Money Camp, or church or school classwork AND the completion of 25 hours community volunteer services.

7. Once application is completed and approved by Cherokee First Coordinator and/or Community Services Group Leader the application will be processed for funding. All checks will be mailed out "NO EXCEPTIONS".

8. Application will be accepted until all funds are depleted.

9. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO APPLICANT.

Application Process:

Step One: Submit a completed application, meet all requirements regarding Cherokee citizenship, living within the Cherokee Nation boundaries, age and approved activity for funding.

Step Two: Perform 25 hours of community volunteerism services with documentation of activity and signature of the recipient/entity of the services performed.

Step Three: Successful interview demonstrating that the applicant understands the mission of the Cherokee Nation, the purpose of the program and the importance of community volunteerism. *Interview questions for first time applicants are italicized and underlined, 2nd year applicant's questions are italicized and bolded*, and for 3rd year applicants, must know the "Requirements for Approval".

Step Four: Receive preliminary approval contingent upon attendance of the leadership/financial literacy workshop or provide documentation of acceptable workshops and/or classwork.

Step Five: Once applicant has attended the workshop or provided acceptable documentation of other workshops and/or classwork and received funding a one page description of what the recipient learned by participating in the program.

**CHEROKEE NATION
Community Youth Fund Application
Community Services**

Name: _____ Gender: M or F

Date of Birth: _____ County you live in: _____

Handicapped or Disabled: YES NO Specify degree: _____

Parents/Guardian(s): _____

Mailing Address (including zip code):

Physical Address (if different from mailing address – must live within Cherokee Nation jurisdictional boundaries of the 14 county area):

Telephone Number(s): _____

Do you have a Cherokee Nation citizenship card “blue card”? YES NO
If “YES”, please attach a copy or we can make a copy for you.

Social Security Card? (*legal name must match name on card*) YES NO
If “YES”, please attach a copy or we can make a copy for you.

Are you willing to attend a leadership and/or financial literacy workshop? YES NO
Or you may provide documentation of acceptable workshops, classwork, and/or organizational membership that provide leadership training such as Boys and Girls Club, 4-H, FFA, FHA, Girl or Boy Scouts, Money Camp, or church or school classwork.

Describe, if applicable, any special needs, such as lack of transportation, that could prevent you from attending the workshop or performing the Cherokee community leadership activity (of at least 25 hours): _____

How did you hear about the program? _____

*******Application And W-9 Form Must Be Signed By Youth*******

Please check the box and describe the activity/event to identify what the money is needed for: **Funds are for activities or fees for the following groups.**

- Cultural _____ Educational _____
 Athletic _____ Extracurricular _____

When is the money needed? (Tell us when the activity, camp, event, training, etc. is scheduled, application deadlines, or other information.) _____

Where do you plan to complete your 25 hours of community services?
(Examples; Rainbow House/sorting clothing for distribution, Community Works Project/helping family with cleaning & painting, Sequoyah ball fields/painting, etc...)
Community volunteerism must benefit Cherokee communities, citizens (*other than family members*), elders & disabled, projects and entities within the Cherokee Nation boundaries.

No applications shall be taken after September 15, 2010 (assuming that money is still available)

YOUTH'S SIGNATURE: _____
DATE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN(S) SIGNATURE: _____
DATE: _____

Faxes will not be accepted. Applications must be mailed or hand delivered.

Send **completed** application (including all attachments) to: Cherokee Nation C/O Community Services Cherokee First, P.O. Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465. For questions or applications please feel free to contact **Marcia Soap** by phone or email. Toll free 1-800-256-0671 or (918) 207-3932, or email msoap@cherokee.org

Revised 11/04/09

COMMUNITY SERVICES
VOLUNTEER FORM
(25 hours needed)

Name: _____

Date of Services: _____

Hours Worked: _____

Name of worksite & describe type of services performed:

Signature of Contact Person (Supervisor)

Contact Phone Number

Date of Services: _____

Hours Worked: _____

Name of worksite & describe type of services performed:

Signature of Contact Person (Supervisor)

Contact Phone Number

Date of Services: _____

Hours Worked: _____

Name of worksite & describe type of services performed:

Signature of Contact Person (Supervisor)

Contact Phone Number

Be specific on the actual hours youth provided service, (swept floors for elders, made cards for (name) nursing homes, etc.)
PARENTS DO NOT SIGN THE VOLUNTEER FORM. VOLUNTEER WORK CANNOT BE DONE FOR A RELATIVE.
For questions contact Cherokee First at 1-800-256-0671 or 918-207-3932.

1st Year Applicants ONLY

Name: _____

Date: _____

Cherokee Nation Youth Fund Interview

1. What does the Cherokee word “Ga-du-gi” mean?
 2. How many counties make up the Cherokee Nation jurisdictional boundaries?
 3. What county do you live in?
 4. What is the name(s) of your Tribal Councilor Representative(s)?
 5. Who administers this grant?
 6. What did you learn by doing community services?
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2nd Year Applicant ONLY Interview Questions

1. **The Mission of the Cherokee Nation is “_____”:**
2. **What District do you live in?**
3. **What are the names of the two At Large Tribal Councilor Representatives?**
4. **What are the 14 county areas known as?**
5. **How did this program benefit you? Explain.**

3rd Year Applicants ONLY

Name: _____

Date: _____

Cherokee Nation Youth Fund Interview

1. The Community Youth Fund applicants must be between _____ and _____ years of age.
2. What color is your Cherokee Nation Tribal Membership Card?
3. The W-9 form must have your Social Security Number, your address, and your what?
4. How many volunteer hours do you need to complete before you can receive funding?
5. What is the deadline to submit applications?
6. What two workshops did you have to attend in the past with the Community Youth Fund Program?

SURVEY

TO: The Applicant or Applicant's Parent of the Community Youth Fund Application

FROM: The Staff of the Cherokee Nation Community Services Cherokee First Program

In an effort to improve our services, we are asking your opinion on our survey question which is:

“Would you be opposed to receiving a \$250 Visa Gift Card instead of receiving a \$250 paper check as a way to distribute the Community Youth Funds?”

_____ **YES** _____ **NO (If “no”, please explain below)**

If you have other suggestions as to how we may serve you better, please explain below.

Thank you - your input is appreciated!