
Bridgeport Indian Colony
P.O. Box 37, Bridgeport, CA 93517
(760) 932-7083 / Fax 932-7846

Emergency Food/Shelter/Utilities Assistance

From time to time, on an emergency basis, Tribal members may need assistance to pay for food, shelter and/or utilities. It shall be the policy of the Bridgeport Indian Colony (BIC) to provide emergency financial assistance when Tribal members have exhausted all other reasonable means of meeting these expenses. Assistance may be in the form of a grant or a low-interest loan.

To be eligible for this assistance, an applicant must be a Tribal member. Assistance will be limited to meeting the needs for food, shelter and/or necessary utilities.

Applicants must complete a Tribal Application for Financial (Emergency) Assistance and demonstrate *to the satisfaction of the Tribal Council* that their needs are justified and that they have exhausted all other resources.

Examples of supporting documentation:

- Copy/ies of outstanding bills
- Proof of hardship
- Personal declaration (written letter) explaining financial situation

Tribal members living on the Reservation must deplete their Individual Housing Account funds before being eligible to participate in the Tribe's Emergency Assistance Program.

Grant assistance under this program shall not exceed \$1,000.00 and shall not be provided more than once in a two (2) year period that begins on the date that assistance is granted to any one Tribal member or household.

Assistance may be provided in the form of loans that will not exceed \$5,000.00 and shall not be provided more than once in a three (3) year period that begins on the date that assistance is granted to any one Tribal member or household. Loans must be repaid before any additional assistance can be requested.

- Loans shall be repaid in no more than twenty-four (24) installments that shall commence three months following the date that assistance was granted;
- Loans shall be repaid with interest at the rate of 2.5%. (An example of a repayment schedule (for a \$5,000.00 loan) may be requested

The Tribe reserves the right to withhold any past due amounts owed from the Tribal member's pay, honorariums, or individual distributions from the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund- Gaming. Additionally, the Tribal Council reserves the right to modify or discontinue the Emergency Assistance Program at any time.
