

## Per Capita Loan Program

- **General**
  - All eligible members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who are eighteen (18) years of age or older qualify and may apply for this program.
  - Per capita loan distribution checks may be issued for the five months preceding each normal distribution month, specifically June and December. No loan distribution checks may be issued in June or December.
  - Per capita loans may not exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) per eligible month, or Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) for the qualifying six-month period.
  
- **Terms, Taxes and Fees**
  - The Per Capita Loan Program shall not charge interest on the loans issued within the program limits.
  - Applicants may apply for loans for a single month, or recurring for a maximum of five (5) months. In no instance, can the loan period exceed the remaining months available in the current applicable per capita distribution cycle.
  - Any applicable taxes shall be withheld in full for the net distributable amount during the following applicable six-month per capita distribution cycle. No taxes shall be applied or withheld from the loan program distribution checks.
  - The Department of the Treasury shall charge a loan origination fee of \$35.00 per application for this program.
  
- **Garnishment and Voluntary Assignment Restrictions**
  - The Department of the Treasury shall use established and historical garnishments activity for the preceding per capita distribution cycle as the basis for eligibility. In no instance, may the Per Capita Loan Program distributions conflict or supersede the hierarchical garnishments requirements established by Cherokee Code or Section 2105 of the Department of the Treasury Fiscal Management Policy.

- Individual applicants with established or historical garnishments may apply and receive Per Capita Loan Program loan distributions within the following tier restrictions:
  - a. Garnishments less than \$1,500 - \$500.00 per eligible month (no restriction)
  - b. Garnishments more than or equal to \$1,500 - Loan restricted to \$350 per eligible month
  - c. Garnishments more than or equal to \$2,000 - Loan restricted to \$250 per eligible month
  - d. Garnishments more than or equal to \$2,500 - Loan restricted to \$200 per eligible month
  - e. Garnishments more than or equal to \$3,000 - Loan restricted to \$100 per eligible month
  - f. Garnishments more than or equal to \$4,000 - Applicant is ineligible for the Per Capita Loan Program
  
- Application and Loan Check Distribution Process
  - Per Capita Loan Program applications are available in the Revenue Office located within the Department of the Treasury, from Tribal Programs and network portals.
  - Applications must be completed in full, signed and notarized in the presence of a licensed or certified Notary Public and returned to the Revenue Office for processing.
  - Only original, notarized applications signed by the individual requesting the per capita loan shall be accepted. Power of Attorney documents or signatories shall not be accepted.
  - Applicants for the Per Capita Loan Program must verify their mailing address with the Tribal Enrollment Office and include that confirmed address on their application.
  - Applications must be filed by the first Friday of each month to be eligible for that month or cycle.
  - Loan distribution checks shall be available on the second Friday of each month, and may be picked up at the Department of the Treasury reception offices between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Any checks not picked up during this window of time shall be mailed via US Postal Service to the address verified for that individual by the Tribal Enrollment Office.

For more information, please contact the Department of the Treasury.