

# 2025 Community Rental Assistance

Guidelines,
Procedures, and
Application



#### Purpose:

The Nisqually Indian Tribe's HUD Indian Housing Plan includes Community Rental Assistance services for low-income Native American Families. This program is intended to serve any qualifying Federally Recognized Tribal Members by providing rental assistance, deposits and other move-in costs for rental housing in Thurston County. Specifically, NITH strives to provide funding for households facing eviction, homelessness, first-time renters, renters with poor or no credit, and renters with previous evictions.

## Guidelines:

- This program may only be utilized by qualifying enrolled federally recognized tribal members residing in Thurston County who are ages 18 and older.
- Program funding shall begin annually in January. Applications will not be accepted prior to January 15<sup>th</sup> each year.
- This program is income based, per household size (all who reside in the home/address). To qualify, applicant households must be at or below 80% of the area median income for Thurston County as set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development annually (please see income limits below).

## **FY 2024 Income Limits Summary**

FY 2024 Income Limit Area	Median Family Income	FY 2024 Income Limit Category	Persons in Family							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Olympia- Tumwater, WA MSA	\$116,700	Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$)	39,450	45,100	50,750	56,350	60,850	65,350	69,900	74,400
		Extremely Low Income Limits (\$)*	23,700	27,050	30,450	33,800	36,580	41,960	47,340	52,720
		Low (80%) Income Limits (\$)	63,100	72,150	81,150	90,150	97,400	104,600	111,800	119,000

- Funds will not exceed a *one-time \$5,000 per unit/household* per fiscal year. An approved application for a household is not guaranteed \$5000. Households must continue to submit a monthly statement for additional funding until their funding balance has been spent. Funds are only available until our program budget has been exhausted.
- Funding is operated on a *first-come, first-served basis* if qualifications are met appropriately. Applications and monthly statements will be date and time stamped to ensure equal treatment of all applicants and fair distribution of funds.



- Program rules are subject to change from year to year. Funding does not carry over from the previous
  year. Households must apply again at the start of the new fiscal year to be rewarded any funds.
  Applications from the previous year will not be accepted.
- NITH staff members will ensure accurate record keeping of all files and documentation. Approval
  and/or Denial Letters will be sent to each applicant upon reaching a decision on eligibility. Upon
  issuance of payment to the landlord, applicant will receive an Activity Letter showing the balance of
  funding remaining to their household.

## **Procedures:**

- Applicants must read over the current guidelines and sign/date to confirm their understanding of the program. Applicants must complete the attached *Community Rental Assistance Application*.
- Applicants must provide the following documentation to show proof of eligibility:
  - o Proof of Income for all household members
    - Employment wages: Paystubs, 1099 or W2 from previous year, bank statements
    - Other income: Per Capita statements, Social Security Benefits, Pensions, Retirement, Child Support payments
  - o Proof of Enrollment in a Federally Recognized Tribe
    - Tribal Enrollment Card or Certificate of Indian Blood
  - Proof of Residency
    - Lease Agreement or Intent to Rent letter
  - o Proof of Rent/Fees Due
    - Delinquency/Late Notice
    - Current Residential Ledger
    - Eviction Notice / Pay-or-Vacate Notice
    - Termination Notice
- Applications can be found at the NITH Office located at 2205 Lashi St SE, Olympia, WA 98513 or on the NITH website at <a href="http://www.nisqually-nsn.gov/index.php/administration/tribal-services/housing/">http://www.nisqually-nsn.gov/index.php/administration/tribal-services/housing/</a>

Once completed with all appropriate documentation, applications can be delivered in-person at the NITH Office or via email by sending to <a href="mailto:Housing@Nisqually-NSN.gov">Housing@Nisqually-NSN.gov</a> or <a href="mailto:delacruz.katrina@Nisqually-NSN.gov">delacruz.katrina@Nisqually-NSN.gov</a>.

- Once application is processed, households will receive an **Approval or Denial Letter**.
- Landlord will need to provide a W9 form with business name and address. Landlord will be established as a vendor in our payment system.



- All payments will be issued directly to the landlord in the form of a check. *No payments will ever be issued directly to the applicant household.*
- Landlords and/or applicants may request an in-person check pick-up. Financial Services will contact the landlord and/or applicant when check is ready. Landlord may also request the check is mailed to an address other than the business address on the W9, but must do so in writing or via email.
- Payments are issued by the Financial Services Department. Creation and distribution of checks for landlords/vendors will be based on policies and procedures set forth by the Financial Services Department.

## **Ineligibility:**

- The following are **NOT** eligible for this program:
  - o Current occupants of Nisqually Indian Tribal Housing rental homes.
  - o Temporary housing, hotel stays, etc are not eligible. If you are facing these hardships, please contact Emergency Management for further assistance.
  - o Applicants who owe money to the NITH Department for a previous rental.
  - o Applicants who have been previously terminated or evicted from any program administered by NITH.
  - o Utility bill payments are not eligible expenses under this program *unless* they are a part of the monthly rental ledger from your landlord.
- Incomplete applications without complete documentation will be considered ineligible.
- Multiple members of the same household cannot receive funding. Funding is allotted per household.
- If the amount due to the landlord is more than the funding awarded to the applicant household, household will be responsible for any overages. These overages must be paid prior to Nisqually issuing payment to the vendor to ensure funds are not being misappropriated.
- Any denied applicant may request a *waiver of ineligibility* by completing a Request Form provided by the NITH office. NITH's Housing Director and/or the Housing Board will approve or deny waivers at their discretion.

I have read and understand the above policies and procedures for the Community Rental Ass Program.				
Applicant Signature	Date			



# **COMMUNITY RENTAL APPLICATION**

# **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Applicant Full Name		Today's Date//		
Property Address:				
Mailing Address:				
Phone Number ()	Email address	5		
Preferred contact method: ☐ Pho	ne □ Email □ N	Mailing add	lress □ No preference	
Are you enrolled in a Federally Red	cognized Tribe?	□ Yes □ N	0	
Tribe Affiliation Tribal Number				
<u>H</u>	OUSEHOLD CO	<u>MPOSITI</u>	<u>ON</u>	
FULL NAMES OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	DATE OF BIRTH	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
1)	HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD			
2)	CO-APPLICANT			
3)				
4)				
5)				
6)				



# **EMPLOYMENT/INCOME INFORMATION**

NAME	EMPLOYER/SOURCE OF INCOME ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER	ANNUAL GROSS INCOME
	RESIDENCY INFORMATION	
Property Type: ☐ Apartment	☐ Condominium   ☐ Home   ☐ C	Other
Monthly Rent: Sec	urity Deposit: Other I	Fees:
Please leave a bri	ef description of why you are request	cing assistance for:
Signature of applicant:		For Official Use Only:  NITH Staff Received



### Authorization for Release of Information

<u>CONSENT:</u> I authorize and direct any Federal, State or local agency, organization, business, or individual to release to Nisqually Indian Tribal Housing Department any information or materials needed to complete and verify my application for participation, and/or to maintain my continued assistance under the Community Rental Assistance, Rehab and Modernization, Low-Income Public and Indian Housing, and/or other housing assistance programs. I understand and agree that this authorization or the information obtained with its use may be given to and used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in administering and enforcing program rules and policies.

**INFORMATION COVERED:** I understand that depending on program policies and requirements, previous or current information regarding me or my household may be needed. Verifications and inquiries that may be requested include, but are not limited to:

Identity and Marital StatusEmployment, Income, and AssetsResidence History and Rental ActivityMedical or Childcare AllowancesCredit and Criminal ActivityCustody Status of Children

I understand that this authorization cannot be used to obtain any information about me that is not pertinent to my eligibility for and continued participation in a housing assistance program.

**GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS THAT MAY BE ASKED:** The groups or individuals that may be asked to release the above information (depending on program requirements) include, but are not limited to:

Past and Present Employers Veterans Administration Previous Landlords & Public Housing Agencies

Courts and Post Offices Welfare Agencies Retirement Systems

Schools and Colleges State Unemployment Agencies Banks and other Financial Institutions
Law Enforcement Agencies Social Security Administration Credit providers and Credit Bureaus

Support and Alimony Providers Medical and Child Care Providers Utility Companies

<u>COMPUTER MATCHING NOTICE AND CONSENT:</u> I understand and agree that HUD or the Public Housing Authority may conduct computer matching programs to verify the information supplied for my application or recertification. If a computer match is done, I understand that I have a right to notification of any adverse information found and a chance to disprove that information. HUD may in the course of its duties exchange such automated information with other Federal, State, or local agencies, including but not limited to: State Employment Security Agencies; Department of Defense; Office of Personnel Management; the U.S. Postal Service; the Social Security Agency; and State welfare and food stamps agencies.

<u>CONDITIONS:</u> I agree that a photocopy of this authorization may be used for the purposes stated above. This authorization will stay in effect for a year and one month from the date signed.

<u>SIGNATURES</u>	PRINTED/TYPED NAMES	
Head Of Household		Date:
Spouse:		Date:
Adult Member		Date:
Adult Member		Date: