



# **The Oneida Nation of the Thames**

## **Assistance Program Guidelines**

This program is developed to help Oneida members during emergency situations and will only be provided once. This program is funded on an annual basis from Tobacco Allocation; Green Lane Fund and Casino Rama dollars. **Applications are available at the Political Office.**

This program covers the following categories:

### **1. Funeral/Burial**

Travel Assistance for an immediate family member, (husband, wife, mother, father, siblings, son, daughter, grandparents and grandchildren) to travel to funeral/burial of an Oneida Member. **Travel rates will be paid at Ministry of Community and Social Services rate.**

### **2. Medical/Dental**

Actual cost up to a maximum of \$500.00. Costs over \$500.00 may be approved as Special Consideration.

### **3. Emergency Requests**

Travel for compassionate reason to a maximum of \$500.00.

- a) Ailing/dying family member
- b) Specialized medical treatments
- c) Other requests will be at the discretion of the Assistance Committee

## Eligibility

1. Must be a registered member of Oneida Nation of the Thames and provide a current Status Card.
2. An application form must be completed with all documentation required, and signed.
3. No assistance for rent, car payment, insurance, telephone, cell phone, satellite, gym fees, credit cards, no recreation activities for children, adult self improvement courses.
4. Any costs that can be covered by a Band department are not eligible for these funds, i.e. Recreation (Wellness).
5. Applications received on days 1-15 will be considered by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the month.
6. Applications received on days 16-31 will be considered by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the next month.
7. Emergency applications will be considered as soon as possible.
8. Applications will be reviewed by the Assistance Committee consisting of 3 Councillors, 1 Elder, and 3 Oneida members.
9. Applications on behalf of a child (under the age of 18) must be completed and signed by a parent or guardian.
10. Once approved, payments will be made payable to Vendor by Purchase Order and/or cheque, whenever possible.
11. There will be **NO REIMBURSEMENTS.**
12. **Applications will not be processed if incomplete. All documentation must accompany the application- verification of denial from other programs, quotes, vendor names and address. Assistance will be provided to complete the application if needed.**

## **Assistance Program Appeals Process**

1. Appeal must be in writing within five (5) days from denial.
2. Documentation to support the appeal must accompany the request for appeal.
3. Once reviewed by Committee, the decision will stand no further consideration will be given to the application.