

**Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana**  
**2022 Tribal Member Entrepreneurial Grant Guidelines**

**Program Purpose**

This Entrepreneurial Tribal Grant Program is intended to assist the Chitimacha Tribal Members in their entrepreneurial endeavors and to broaden the economic horizons for our membership.

**Qualifications**

- Pending budgetary constraints, the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana will provide start-up financial assistance, and existing business financial assistance, to enrolled Tribal member.
- Each applicant must demonstrate, at a minimum, 51% ownership of the proposed or existing entity.
- Prior to an awarded Tribal member, documentation from the Tribal Court must be presented to the Economic Development Committee, showing that the applicant is not in arrears on any Tribal obligation or to an official entity of the Tribe.
- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.
- Successful completion of the Chitimacha Entrepreneurial Grant application package.
- All Chitimacha Entrepreneurial Grant participants must demonstrate their respective business acumen for use of these funds.

**Program Administration**

- The Entrepreneurial Grant program will be administered by the Chitimacha Tribal Economic Development Committee.
- All proposals shall be submitted to the Economic Development Committee for review and consideration. The Economic Development Committee will convene at its scheduled meeting, review of application, and determine if the application is complete.

- The Economic Development Committee will make a determination of the Chitimacha Entrepreneurial Grant qualifications and subsequent amount to qualified Tribal Members.
- All funding requests shall be turned into the Economic Development Committee by August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022, before 11:30 a.m. Anticipated notification for funding approval, or decline, shall be on, or about, the 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2022.

### **Use of Funds**

- Awarded funds of the Chitimacha Entrepreneurial Grant must be utilized for business start-up costs, inventory, or other pre- approved costs and/or fees associated with the business.

### **Examples:**

- Legal formation and establishment fees of the company or entity.
- Preparation of a thorough business plan.
- Pre-approved purchases of inventory or other items associated with business or entity.
- All proposed expenses must be submitted to the Economic Development Committee along with the completed application.
- All individuals that receive funding must provide and demonstrate sufficient **“ORIGINAL”** receipts for any goods and services acquired with the grant funds.
- All **“ORIGINAL”** receipts must be sent to the Economic Development Committee **within 90-days from receipt of the funding.**
- Neither the Chitimacha Tribe or the Economic Development Committee is responsible for any tax consequences or obligations as a result of the Chitimacha Entrepreneurial Grant funds.
- It is a requirement that all funded recipients register their business with the **Louisiana Secretary of State**, or with the **Chitimacha Tribal Courts.**

- If the grant proceeds are not utilized for an approved purpose, the entire amount of proceeds from the Chitimacha Entrepreneurial Grant funds will be required to be returned to the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana by the date as specified on the Entrepreneurial Grant approval document.
- All proposed business start-ups and existing entities that apply for and receive funding from the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana shall conform to all Tribal Codes of Justice and approvals, as required.
- All expenditures must be pre-approved. Grantee must submit a list of all pending purchases prior to purchasing. The Economic Development Committee will issue an approval, modification, or denial in writing to the grantee. Once complete, grantee must submit **“ORIGINAL”** and **“VERIFIABLE”** receipts to the Economic Development Committee in the time specified.

#### **Entrepreneurial Grant Funding Limitations**

- Pending budgetary appropriations from the Chitimacha Tribal Council, eligible Tribal members may receive up to \$5,000 under the Chitimacha Entrepreneurial Grant Program.
- Proposals shown to have the most economic impact on the local community will be given priority when making funding decisions.
- Applicants are limited to one (1) application per calendar year.
- Pending the Chitimacha Tribal Council funding constraints, it is anticipated that a total of \$30,000 per year, will be funded for the Chitimacha Entrepreneurial Grant program with a maximum of \$5,000 per applicant.
- Subsequent applications for previously funded activities **will not** be allowed.
- Successful applicants **must submit** a quarterly report to the Economic Development Committee for a period of one year.