



Policy: General Welfare Assistance Cultural and Religious Activities Assistance	Approval Date: 5/10/23 Date Revised: 3/7/23
Section:	Responsible Official: Revenue Allocation Plan Administrator or his/her Designee
References:	Policy Type: Departmental

**Purpose:**

**I. POLICY**

- A. It is the policy of the Gun Lake Tribe to recognize the different Cultural and Religious activities of its Tribal Citizens. This policy serves to more clearly define the Cultural and Religious benefits available under the General Welfare Assistance Program.

**II. SCOPE**

- A. This policy applies to the Tribal Citizen, Qualified Nonmembers, and the Tribal Member Benefits Department.

**III. AUTHORITY**

- A. Under the direction of the Senior Director of Operations and the General Welfare Ordinance, the Revenue Allocation Plan Administrator or his/her designee is responsible for the management and enforcement of this policy.

**IV. DEFINITIONS**

- A. Tribe – The Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians (Gun Lake Tribe).
- B. Tribal Citizen – An enrolled Citizen of the Gun Lake Tribe which may be referred to as Citizen.
- C. Soil Amendments – Any material added to the soil to improve its physical or chemical properties, i.e., raw manure, compost, etc.
- D. Qualified Member – means the Tribal Citizen or program participant listed on the Qualified Member/Nonmember Designation Form who is eligible to receive assistance under the General Welfare Program.
- E. Qualified Non-member – means a spouse, certified domestic partner in accordance with Tribal law, parent, legal guardian or Dependent of a Tribal Citizen who must be listed on the Citizen’s Qualified Member/Nonmember Designation Form.
- F. Remote Connection Device- tablet, mini tablet, lap top.

**V. PROCEDURE**

- A. The General Welfare Assistance Guide Addendum outlines activities covered. Following are specific categories and examples in which associated activities will be considered, but not limited to, eligible expenses under the

Gun Lake Tribes Cultural and Religious Activities Assistance Policy. Single purchases over \$2000 will require approval from the Tribal Member Benefits Department.

1. Food Sovereignty

- a) Ricing
  - a. Rototillers, cultivators, tillers and similar equipment, irrigation equipment, soil and soil amendments, seeds, hydroponic equipment and supplies, composting equipment/materials, processing equipment such as a thresher machine, pest control and prevention
- b) Animal trapping
  - a. Traps, lures, bait
- c) Sugarbush
  - a. Buckets, spiles, sap lines and line tools, collection barrels, evaporation equipment, filters, submersible pump, maple syrup canner, measuring and testing equipment, fuel for preparing maple sugar, and sugar granulation equipment
- d) Gardening
  - a. Basic ground cultivation equipment, irrigation equipment, soil and soil amendments, seeds, hydroponic equipment and supplies, composting equipment/materials, pest control and prevention
- e) Fishing
  - a. Rod and reel, fishing line, nets, basic jon fishing boat, kayak, canoe, bait and tackle, waders, trolling motor, and other fishing equipment. Outboard motors are not allowable under this policy.
- f) Hunting
  - a. Trail cameras, archery equipment, hunting blinds and stands, bait and decoys, butchering equipment and butchering services. Firearms are not allowable under this policy
- g) Pots, pans and similar cooking equipment and other miscellaneous supplies, and items related to food sovereignty

2. Ceremonies

- a) Round Dance
- b) Pow Wows
- c) Cultural Teachings
- d) Cultural Workshops
- e) Registration fees
- f) Class fees
- g) Loose tobacco
- h) Other miscellaneous, supplies, equipment and apparel items related to Ceremonies

3. Crafting

- a) Beading and Quillwork
  - 1. Beads, Thread, Needles, Scissors, and other supplies and equipment related to Beading/Quillwork
- b) Drum making
  - 1. Animal hides and other supplies and equipment related to Drum making
- c) Basket making
  - 1. Wood, Axes, hatchets, knives, scissors and other supplies and equipment related to Basket making
- d) Regalia
  - 1. Fabric, Elastic, Ribbons, Scissors, supplies and equipment related to Regalia

2. Sewing Machinery (such as a sewing machine, serger machine, embroidery machine) capped at \$1,000.00 per item each plan year
    - e) Snowsnake
      1. Wood supplies, knives and other carving tools related to Snowsnake.
    - f) Other miscellaneous supplies, equipment and apparel items related to Crafting.
  4. Camp meetings
    - a) Supplies and equipment related to attendance at Camp Meetings.
  5. Mileage/hotel/Camp site fees
    - a. Mileage rate is set by the Federal Government annually (<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-issues-standard-mileage-rates-for-2023-business-use-increases-3-cents-per-mile>), hotel will be capped at \$300.00 per night. Camp site fees will be an allowable expense when related to Food Sovereignty, Ceremonies, or Camp meeting events.
  6. Remote Connection Device- Qualified Member/Nonmember must have a minimum of 3 participation points for purchase to be reimbursable. TMB Department will verify participation points with applicable Tribal Department. Reimbursement only up to the allowed amount listed below. Quantity of devices is as follows: up to one device per qualified user designated on the Qualified User Member non/Member Form
    - a. Tablets reimbursement up to \$500 each
    - b. Lap tops reimbursement up to \$1000.00 each