

PRESS RELEASE



Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon
Office of the Secretary-Treasurer/CEO
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In the matter of:
American Rescue Plan Funds 2021

July 23, 2021

Dear Tribal Members,

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law, the American Rescue Plan a relief bill that was earmarked for those directly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of \$20 billion was set aside for Indian Country with \$19 billion earmarked for tribal enrollment and tribal employment and the following, below, is the breakdown for tribal enrollment and employment.

- 65% of the funds, which was \$12.35 billion for Indian Country was distributed based on Tribal enrollment.
- 35% of the funds, which was \$6.65 billion for Indian Country will be distributed and based on Tribal employment data.

On May 20, 2021, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs received \$26,594,438.71 for tribal enrollment. Although this distribution was awarded to the tribe based from tribal enrollment numbers, the tribes still have to follow Treasury Rules and Guidelines for spending just like the Cares Act Funding.

Some, not all, of the primary allowable expenditures include; personal protective equipment, water/sewer infrastructure needs, small business, broadband, and pay for essential workers.

As many of you are aware, the tribe has been in a water crisis for nearly three years now and more recently, the tribe and nation has been dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. The tribe received COVID-19 funding from the Cares Act and nearly half was dispersed to the membership while the remaining was expended on water infrastructure, PPE, small businesses, pay for essential workers, etc.

The tribe still does have some unfinished business from the Cares Act funding and plans to prioritize those projects with funds from the American Rescue Plan to complete this unfinished business.

Tribal Council is certain that Tribal Council will give a general assistance payment to the membership in 2021, but, the amount and date are still uncertain at this time.

I want to thank you for your patience and understanding.

Glendon N. Smith, Office of Secretary-Treasurer / CEO

