

HO-CHUNK NATION OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MĄĄŠUSGA | JON GREENDEER PRESIDENT OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION

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Press Statement – For Immediate Release January 30, 2025

Executive Order Statement RE: Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal I.D. Fee Waiver, Certificate Degree of Indian Blood Processing, & U.S. Passport Reimbursement

The Trump Administration has prioritized a policy focused on a mass deportation of unauthorized immigrants by increasing Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents directed to apprehend and detain individuals who've entered the country illegally. Identity verification is a concern among members of federally recognized tribes causing a lot of anxiety for indigenous families. As a result and as a responsibility of our Ho-Chunk Nation to ensure and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of each of our tribal members, we are undertaking steps to assist in preventing unnecessary detention and/or questioning related to identity verification and validation.

Therefore I, President Jon Greendeer, hereby issue this Executive Order directing the Heritage Preservation Department Enrollment Division to waive the fee for Ho-Chunk Tribal Identification cards beginning on February 3, 2025. An online link for mail order IDs will be published on the Ho-Chunk Nation's homepage and will require the application to be completed in full. The Heritage Preservation Department Enrollment Division maintains the responsibility to ensure validity and safety of I.D. processing and disbursement from identity theft or other mishandlings of personal proprietary information. All Tribal I.D.s paid for before this Executive Order and after January 20, 2025 are eligible for reimbursement.

Further, I direct the Heritage Preservation Department Enrollment Division to process upon request, a qualifying tribal members' CDIB as supportive documentation of Native American blood, lineage, and U.S. Citizenship.

Finally, I direct the Office of the President through the Executive Accounts Manager to develop procedures and execute a 100% reimbursable payment program to enrolled tribal members and their first line descendants (children thereof) who furnish proper receipt of passport costs which will be effective January 20, 2025. Passports are the country's most valid form of Real I.D. and U.S. citizenship.

The Ho-Chunk Nation will continue to go beyond this Executive Order to oversee the protection and safety of tribal members, their families, and descendants. Please be patient as we initiate these measures in accordance with the aforementioned Order.

Im Greendeer

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