

FAQs Concerning Disbursement of CARES Act Funds Received By NOK

What was the total of CARES Act funds received by NOK?

Natives of Kodiak, Inc. received \$3.75 million in CARES Act funds as financial assistance for the financial impact of COVID 19 upon NOK and its shareholders.

How can CARES Act funds be used by NOK?

The Department of the Treasury has issued strict guidance as to how CARES Act funds are to be used. Under these rules, the CARES Act funds are to be used to reimburse shareholders for specific expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These rules specifically prohibit the use of CARES Act funds to pay a special distribution or dividend to shareholders.

How much was allocated in total to Tribal governments (including Alaska Native Corporations and Natives of Kodiak, Inc.)? The CARES Act allocated a total of \$8 billion in relief to tribal governments to compensate for unbudgeted expenditures made in response to COVID-19. The Supreme Court decided in June, 2021 that a total of approximately \$450 million in CARES Act funds is available to Alaska Native Corporations. You can read the entire Supreme Court ruling [here](#).

How did the United States Department of Treasury determine the disbursement amount to Alaska Native Corporations?

Treasury determined the amount allocated to each Tribal government (including Alaska Native Corporations) using a complicated formula which included tribal/corporate membership and expenditures during 2019. [Disbursements-Alaska-Native-Corporations.pdf \(treasury.gov\)](#)

Who is eligible to receive CARES Act funds from NOK?

NOK shareholders and descendants ages 18 and older.

How do NOK shareholders apply?

Eligible shareholders may apply by downloading the application from NOK's website (nativesofkodiak.com). The completed application can be mailed, emailed, or dropped off at the NOK offices in either Kodiak or Anchorage.

What is the deadline to apply for NOK's CARES Act COVID-19 Economic Assistance Program?

The application deadline is 5:00pm Alaska Standard Time on Thursday, November 12, 2021. Applications submitted after this date and time may be considered by NOK if CARES Act funds remain after decisions have been made upon applications submitted prior to the November 12 application deadline. NOK encourages all eligible shareholders to submit their applications as soon as possible.

Do I need to provide documentation (receipts, copies of bills, etc.) to NOK?

Yes, although there are some exceptions. For example, if a shareholder submits a total claim of \$500 or less, they can provide a written statement in lieu of actual receipts or

invoice copies so long as that written statement provides a reasonable description of the expenditure type, date, the reason for the explanation and approximate quantities and costs (for example – purchasing masks (disposable or reusable), sanitizing cleaners or products, or any other Personal Protective Equipment for defense against the COVID-19 virus). We recognize that shareholders may not have retained receipts when the individual expenditure is of a modest amount and which occurred several months ago, at a time when NOK's right to receive CARES Act funds was tied up in court. This is why we are making this limited accommodation. Any claim that totals more than \$500 will require further documentation beyond just a written statement. The specific type of documentation that will be necessary will depend upon the specific type of expenditure, so if you have questions NOK encourages you to contact NOK for further information. **You should contact NOK by email at shareholders@nativesofkodiak.com or by calling (907) 486-3606 (toll free 800 648-8462) or (907) 512-7988.**

What are some examples of the type of documentation I need to provide?

****Specific Example #1:** If the applicant is claiming hardship/relief in more than one area - like rental or mortgage costs, utilities, PPE, and Food security; a copy of a notice of layoff or termination or COBRA notice, along with some form of proof of the income you lost will normally be sufficient as the documentation required for ALL these relief areas combined up to the amount of your lost income – there would be no need to submit documentation or support for each of the relief areas separately.

****Specific Example #2:** If the applicant is claiming relief for increased utility costs such as gas, electric, propane, heating oil, etc.), copies of the applicant's utility invoices can be obtained by contacting your Utility provider so that you demonstrate a higher cost during the period March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 when compared with a comparable earlier period to show the increase in your utility costs due to COVID.

****Specific Example #3:** If the applicant is claiming relief for increased child care costs, there are many options – 1. copies of checks paid to your provider from a period of time that reflects that you started paying one amount and then the amount increased, 2. Copies of checks showing two different providers paid – one provider's amount being shown, and the second provider's check showing the increased amount, 3. Copies of bank or credit card statements showing payments to childcare providers, 4. Copies of timesheets or records showing your hours have changed at work that caused a schedule requiring "after hours care costs" from your care provider, – THIS IS NOT an exhaustive list of options. Copies of checks can be obtained from your bank – often online or via email.

Why do I need to provide documentation?

The US Treasury has expressly forbidden pro rata or per capita distributions or dividends as an allowable use of the CARES Act funds, so NOK cannot just make the same lump sum payment to all applicants. Instead, the amount that an applicant receives must be tied to the increased expenditures that applicant has had to make due to COVID. If adequate documentation is not provided to support of an application, the application may be denied. NOK is fully subject to audit by the U.S. Government as to how NOK has disbursed the CARES Act funds, and the requirement of adequate proof helps protect our corporation and also, protects all of our shareholders who have made

an application for CARES Act funds. Also, because we are reimbursing your specific expenses rather than making the same lump sum payment to every shareholder, the amounts paid to you are exempt from federal income tax.

How much money can I apply for?

Shareholders can request the entire amount for which they incurred additional expenses due to COVID-19 – there is no maximum dollar amount a shareholder or applicant can claim or receive. Any claims above \$1,500 will be reviewed first by shareholder services and then forwarded to a designated committee for documentation review. In the event that NOK does not have sufficient CARES Act funds to fully pay all claims submitted, NOK reserves the right to pay only a portion of a claim so that the largest number of applicants can receive some CARES Act funds.

What are eligible expenses under NOK's CARES Act COVID-19 Economic Assistance Program?

The following is a general, non-exhaustive list of eligible expenses, so long as the expenses were incurred due to COVID during the period March 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021:

- Unreimbursed medical expenses related to COVID-19 and associated travel if Applicable
- Personal care items such as face masks, sanitizer, hand cleaner, hygiene products, and special clothing necessary to maintain personal health and safety of oneself and others
- Quarantine costs (cleaning supplies, medical supplies, and equipment, etc.)
- Increased cost of groceries, including food shipping/delivery costs
- Transportation costs related to testing, procedures, or treatment related to COVID-19
- Job Loss, furlough, reduction in hours
- Increased Utility costs such as electricity, gas, propane, water, internet, phone, etc.
- Expenses for telework or distance-learning, including internet and related equipment (computers, modems, monitors, etc.)
- Dependent care (childcare, food, supplies, etc.) due to school closures or other impacts due to COVID-19

How soon will I receive my CARES Act payment after submitting my completed application?

NOK will do everything it can to process applications as quickly as possible and to pay approved claims as quickly as possible. Attaching the required documentation to your application will expedite the processing and payment of your claim.

What does self-certification mean?

Shareholder applicants must certify (promise) that the information provided in their application is true and correct (including that COVID has impacted them financially, whether or not the applicant themselves has actually been ill with COVID) during the

Covered Period (March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021). Shareholders must also certify that the amounts they are claiming have not been reimbursed by any other Federal Government programs (including CARES Act moneys disbursed by another Native Corporation, tribal entity, or another governmental entity).

Are CARES Act Economic Assistance funds taxable?

NOK understands that the CARES ACT funds are not taxable to you so long as they reimburse specific expenses that you have incurred due to COVID 19.

How do I update my address or direct deposit account?

You should contact NOK by email at shareholders@nativesofkodiak.com or by calling (907) 486-3606 (toll free 800 648-8462) or (907) 512-7988.