

## Frequently Requested Information

## CDIB & Tribal Membership

PO Box 1210 – Durant, OK 74702  
(800) 522-6170 or (580) 924-8280 ext. 4030  
Office hours: 8:00 – 4:30 pm CST  
Monday - Friday  
[cdib-membership@choctawnation.com](mailto:cdib-membership@choctawnation.com)

### CDIB Information

**What is a CDIB?** A CDIB is a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood and is issued by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). It shows your given name, as listed on your birth certificate, blood degree by tribe, date of birth and date of issuance.

**How do I get my CDIB card?** You must complete a CDIB application, showing direct lineage to a final Choctaw Dawes enrollee registered with a blood quantum, and include a **copy** of your state certified, full form birth certificate, with a state file #, and a copy of your social security card. Research is only done by official application. You must mail, fax or email the CDIB applications.

**The CDIB application states that I may have to provide a birth and/or death certificate for everyone in the lineage.**

If anyone in your immediate family or your direct lineage has been issued a CDIB card, the required birth/death certificates may already be on file in the CDIB office. However, if you have received a letter requesting documentation, then we have already researched and do not have them on file. If no one in your direct lineage has ever been issued a CDIB, you will need to provide **copies** of the state certified, full form birth/death certificates (both sides) for each person in your lineage back to the enrollee. **Copies must be legible and in good condition, we reserve the right to ask for originals if unreadable or if there appears to be anything in question on the birth certificate.**

**How do I know if the certificate I have is correct?** Certified copies of birth certificates, delayed birth certificates, and death certificates may be obtained from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state where a person was born or died. We cannot accept county, city, hospital or short form birth certificates. **DO NOT GO ONLINE FOR BIRTH CERTIFICATES as it may result in acquiring the wrong form.**

**When researching my family roll numbers, I came across an MCR number - what does this mean?** MCR stands for Mississippi Choctaw Removed/Rejected and means that at the time the final rolls were closed they were not enrolled. You cannot be issued a CDIB card with any roll number containing MCR.

**How long will it take to get my CDIB card after my application has been sent in?** Providing that all birth/death certificates are on file and all supporting documentation is completed, you should receive your CDIB card within six months. However, this is an estimate. Applications are processed by date received.

**Can I have more than one tribe listed on my CDIB card?** Yes, if it is one of the other Five Civilized Tribes (Creek, Chickasaw, Cherokee and Seminole) and you or your parent(s) have already been established with that tribe.

**A copy of your social security card is now required when you file for a CDIB. Please remember to list your entire social security number on all paperwork, only the last four numbers will be placed on the cards. This is for both adults and minors.**

### Tribal Membership Information

**What is a Tribal Membership Card?** A Tribal Membership card certifies you as a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. If you are age 18 or older, you are also considered eligible to register to vote with the Voter Registration Department. Members under the age of 18 will receive a minor card to be replaced by an adult card at the age of 18. A Tribal Membership card is not the same as your CDIB card.

**I am going to be 18 years old next year; how and when do I need to apply for my adult Tribal Membership card?** You need to apply at least two months before you turn 18. Please include your minor card with your Tribal Membership application.

**Can I have membership with more than one tribe?** Most tribal constitutions prohibit enrollment with more than one tribe. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma's constitution prohibits dual enrollment.

### Photo ID

**What is a Photo ID Card?** This card will have your photo on it, along with your date of birth, last four digits of your social security number and your degree of Indian Blood. The photo ID card does not replace your membership card. It is an extra service we provide and is not mandatory. If you cannot come to the Durant office to have your picture made, you can send in a wallet sized, headshot photo of yourself (similar to a passport photo) along with the Tribal Membership application.