

Legal Resources

The Northwest Legal Justice Project (NJP) offers CLEAR hotlines as a direct conduit to legal services and referrals, and it will identify and refer you to the appropriate legal aid provider:

Outside of King County, weekdays between 9:15 am - 12:15 pm:

CLEAR Hotline: 1-888-201-1014

In King County, weekdays 8:00 am - 6:00 pm. 211:

CLEAR Hotline: 211 or 1-877-211-9274

Seniors (age 60 and over), Statewide:

CLEAR*Sr: 1-888-387-7111

Deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, using the relay service of their choice:

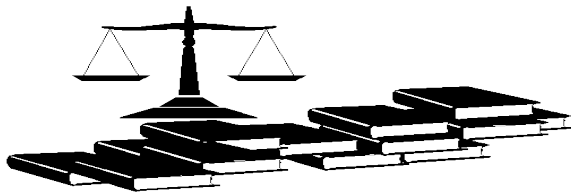
CLEAR Hotline: 211 or 1-877-211-9274

Facing Foreclosure?

Call 1-800-606-4819

NJP also offers a directory of rights and resources at:

<https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org>



Tribal Services & Benefits vs. Tribal Distributions

Most Services and Benefits you receive from the Tribe are NOT considered taxable income, but are recognized as our Tribal Government providing for the general welfare of our people, including:

- Elder's Annual Assistance
- Back-to-School Annual Assistance
- Housing Assistance
- Education Scholarship
- Medical benefits and Insurance Copays

More information can be found in IRC Section 139E and at:

<https://www.irs.gov/government-entities/indian-tribal-governments/tribal-general-welfare-guidance>

However, many Distributions made to members by Tribal Governments are considered taxable income, including:

- Gaming proceeds under IGRA
- Per capita payments
- Distributions of net income from non-treaty derived activities or non-trust lands

More information about Distributions can be found in IRC section 3402 and at:

<https://www.irs.gov/government-entities/indian-tribal-governments/faqs-for-indian-tribal-governments-regarding-types-of-distributions>

Samish Finance Department



Nothing in this brochure should be interpreted as tax or legal advice - the reader should seek consultation with a licensed professional for such advice



Business Resources

U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Native American Affairs offers resources to help Native Americans develop and expand their small businesses.

A brief overview of the resources they offer to Native American businesses can be found here:

https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/ONAA_resource_guide.pdf

Assistance in starting, planning, and growing your business:

<https://www.sba.gov/business-guide>

Access to financial resources for your business, including loan and grant programs:

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs>

Access to government contracting opportunities for your business, and assistance in gaining an advantage in receiving government contracts by becoming a federally qualified 8(a) company:

<https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting>

The Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-644) made it illegal for Native arts and crafts to be presented or sold as Native unless they were made by a Native American. Find out more about how this law protects native artists here:

<https://www.doi.gov/iacb/act>

Tax Resources

Washington State's Indian Tax Guide outlines some guidance for Native Americans:

<https://dor.wa.gov/doing-business/business-types/industry-guides/indian-tax-guide>

The withholding calculator can help make sure you are withholding enough out of your paychecks:

<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/irs-withholding-calculator>

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to those making \$55,000 or less, and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program can also be of assistance in your tax preparation.

The IRS maintains a locator to help you find program location near you at:

<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/free-tax-return-preparation-for-you-by-volunteers>

You can also locate TCE programs by calling:

1(888) 227-7669

