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**CHEROKEE NATION™**  
P.O. Box 948 • Tahlequah, OK 74465-0948 • (918) 453-5000

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Chad "Comtassel" Smith  
Principal Chief

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Joe Grayson, Jr.  
Deputy Principal Chief

**INFORMATION:** To be eligible for CDIB/Tribal Citizenship with the Cherokee Nation, you must be able to provide documents that connect you to an enrolled lineal ancestor, who is listed on the (DAWES ROLL) FINAL ROLLS OF CITIZENS AND FREEDMEN OF THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES, Cherokee Nation with a blood degree. This roll was taken between 1899-1906 of Citizens and Freedmen residing in Indian Territory (now NE Oklahoma).

Many applicants do not qualify for CDIB/Citizenship as their ancestors did not meet the enrollment requirements and were not enrolled. Certain requirements had to be met in order to be placed on the Dawes Roll.

CDIB/Tribal Citizenship are issued through natural parents. In adoption cases, CDIB/Citizenship must be proven through the BIOLOGICAL PARENT to the enrolled ancestor. A copy of the Final Decree of Adoption, and a State Certified, Full Image/Photocopy of the Birth Record must accompany the application. All information will remain confidential.

**INSTRUCTIONS & RESEARCH REFERRAL:**

- 1) Complete the application/ancestry chart in ink and provide the following documents.
- 2) A parent or legal guardian may complete and sign the application/ancestry chart for minor child applicants and provide the following documents.
- 3) Attach the ORIGINAL STATE CERTIFIED FULL IMAGE/PHOTOCOPY OF THE BIRTH RECORD of the applicant and a copy of an immediate family member's CDIB/Citizenship card
- 4) If no one in the family has received CDIB/Citizenship, attach ORIGINAL STATE CERTIFIED DOCUMENTS (BIRTH/DEATH) CERTIFICATES beginning with the applicant back to the enrollee.
- 5) If your enrollee ancestor DIED after 1962, submit the ORIGINAL STATE CERTIFIED DEATH CERTIFICATE. This is needed to assist us in our review.
- 6) Mail the applications and the original documents to the Cherokee Nation Registration Department. Should further information be needed to complete the applications, we will contact you for specific documents.

Should we be unable to issue you CDIB/Citizenship, a letter of explanation will be sent to you by restricted/certified mail. An Appeals Process will accompany the letter, should you not agree with our findings/decision.

**Processing time may vary.** The Registration Department does not provide research services. You can do research on your computer or contact your local library for access to a computer to do your research on the internet:

you can access the "DAWES ROLLS" at: [www.accessgenealogy.com/native/dawes.php](http://www.accessgenealogy.com/native/dawes.php)

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