



SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE

RESOLUTION NO. 25-48

of the

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is the Governing Body of the Squaxin Island Tribe, its members, its lands, its enterprises and its agencies by the authority of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Squaxin Island Tribe, as approved and adopted by the General Body and the Secretary of the Interior on July 8, 1965; and

WHEREAS, under the Constitution, Bylaws and inherent sovereignty of the Tribe, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is charged with the duty of protecting the health, security, education and general welfare of tribal members, and of protecting and managing the lands and treaty resources and rights of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe possessing reserved powers, including the powers of self-government; and

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council has been entrusted with the creation of ordinances and resolutions in order to fulfill their duty of protecting the health, security, education and general welfare of tribal members, and of protecting and managing the lands and treaty resources of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council finds that regulation of enrollment is essential to the health and welfare of the Squaxin Island Tribe and its members; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council wishes to reaffirm the longstanding interpretation of the Tribe and the Enrollment Committee that First Nations ancestry may be used where appropriate to establish the constitutionally required degree of Indian blood;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Tribal Council hereby adopts the attached clarifying and clerical amendments to Squaxin Island Tribal Code Chapter 5.03 Enrollment Code.

CERTIFICATION

The Squaxin Island Tribal Council hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of the Squaxin Island Tribal Council, held on this 24th day of April, 2025, at which time a quorum was present and was passed by a vote of 5 for and 0 against, with 0 abstentions.

Kristopher Peters

[Kristopher Peters \(Apr 25, 2025 13:45 PDT\)](#)

Kris Peters, Chair

Attested by: 
[James Peters \(Apr 25, 2025 14:20 PDT\)](#)
James Peters, Secretary

Jaimie Cruz

[Jaimie Cruz \(Apr 25, 2025 15:09 PDT\)](#)

Jaimie Cruz, Vice Chair

5.03.050 Application requirements.

- A. Applications for enrollment shall be submitted to and on forms prepared by the Enrollment Officer, which may be obtained by oral or written request from the Squaxin Island Tribe, Enrollment Office or online at the Tribe's website. An application must be completed in its entirety and must contain sufficient information to properly determine the applicant's eligibility for enrollment. An application form shall require at least the following:
1. All names by which the applicant is or has been known;
 2. The applicant's mailing address;
 3. The applicant's telephone number;
 4. The applicant's birth date;
 5. The applicant's Social Security number;
 6. The tribal affiliation and degree of blood for the applicant, and for his or her mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, great grandmother and great grandfather;
 7. The name of the master enrollee through whom the applicant is claiming eligibility for membership;
 8. Whether the applicant is petitioning for member adoption (which is accomplished by vote of the General Body, see Section 5.02.010(FG));
 9. A declaration as to whether the applicant is or is not (a) currently an enrolled member of another federally-recognized tribe, band or Indian community; (b) adopted; or (c) descended from someone who was adopted;
 10. The applicant's membership by date in all federally-recognized tribes in which the applicant has been a member;
 11. Consent to DNA/genetic testing as a precondition to enrollment, as well as after enrollment if the need arises;
 12. A declaration under the penalty of perjury that the information provided is true and accurate;
 13. The original signature of the applicant or his or her representative;
 14. A statement advising the applicant that it is a civil and/or criminal offense to present false or misleading information for enrollment purposes and that a violation may result in disenrollment, a fine, imprisonment and/or other penalty;
 15. The date the application was signed; and
 16. A release allowing persons to inspect and copy all or some of the applicant's/member's file for the reasons described in Section 5.03.130(B).
- B. The following documents shall be submitted as part of the application:
1. A family tree chart on a form prescribed by the Enrollment Officer, completed to the best of the applicant's ability;
 2. A certified copy of the applicant's birth certificate;
 3. If applicable, evidence proving the direct descendancy of the applicant from a master enrollee if neither the applicant's birth father nor birth mother is an enrolled member of the Tribe;
 4. If the applicant was adopted, evidence of Indian blood quantum for one or both of his or her birth parents;

5. A copy of a tribal resolution providing for the relinquishment from another tribe, if the applicant was or is a member of another tribe;
 6. A certificate of Indian blood of the applicant's birth mother and birth father; and
 7. Laboratory results of DNA testing of the applicant and specified relatives, which in most cases will be the applicant's alleged biological mother and father.
 8. Additional proof of paternity and/or maternity may include:
 - a. The child's birth certificate with the father's name indicated and signed by the father, if available;
 - b. An order establishing paternity or maternity entered by a court of competent jurisdiction, if available;
 - c. In some instances, the Enrollment Officer may accept an affidavit of paternity or maternity signed before the Enrollment Officer by the mother and father (the parents do not have to be present at the same time).
 9. Other information that the Enrollment Officer determines is necessary to correctly identify paternity, heritage, relation and/or correct degree of Indian blood.
- C. Applications for member adoptions need only include the information described in subsection A (1—6, 8—15) and subsection B (1, 2, 6 and 7). Applications for honorary members need only describe who the person is and why they deserve such membership.
- D. The Enrollment Officer shall date-stamp all submissions in each applicant's file on the date of receipt.

5.03.060 Blood computation.

- A. The Enrollment Officer shall calculate the applicant's degree of Indian blood.
- B. All Indian blood shown in the master roll shall be deemed as a matter of tribal law to be one hundred (100) percent blood of the Tribe. The blood degrees shown on that roll shall be used in computing the degree of Squaxin Tribal blood for applicants.
- C. The Enrollment Officer shall base computations of blood quantum from other federally recognized tribes and First Nations on a certificate of Indian blood from such other tribes. When applicable, additional blood quantum from such other tribal affiliations shall be added to the initial blood quantum and the total blood quantum so computed shall be used to determine eligibility for enrollment. Blood certificates from other tribes and First Nations shall be deemed conclusive, except when there are inconsistencies in the record with regard to blood quantum. In such cases, the Enrollment Officer shall first investigate to determine the truth. If such investigation still results in uncertainty, the Enrollment Officer shall interpret records relating to blood quantum in a manner most favorable to Native Americans, and accept the record most favorable to inclusion.
- D. A child adopted by a Squaxin Island Tribal member shall not take on the Indian blood quantum of his or her adoptive parent, but shall retain the combined Indian blood quantum of his or her biological parents.