

CONSTITUTION OF THE COMANCHE NATION
ARTICLE III-MEMBERSHIP

(Pursuant to Amendment V, adopted May 29, 1976, Amendment D, adopted February 23, 2002)

Section 1: The membership of the Comanche Nation shall consist of the following:

- (a.) All persons, who received an allotment of land as members of the Comanche Nation under the Act of June 6, 1900 (31 Stat.672), and subsequent Acts, shall be included as full blood members of the tribe.
- (b.) All living direct descendants of allottees eligible for membership under the provisions of Section 1(a) of this Article born on or before the date of adoption of this constitution.
- (c.) All descendants of allottees eligible for membership under the provisions of Section 1. (a) Of this Article, having one eighth (1/8) or more degree of Comanche Indian Blood.

Section 2: Application for new membership in the Comanche Nation under Section 1(c) must be supported by authenticated copies of birth certificate or other records recognized by State or Federal recorders. All evidence so submitted shall be retained by the tribe to support the record.

Section 3: Any person eligible for membership in the Comanche Nation under the provisions of Section 1 of this Article shall be considered a member of the Comanche Nation unless:

- (a.) The person is an adult and submits in writing to the tribal chairman a statement of withdrawal from the Comanche Nation and relinquishment of all rights of tribal membership, signed by him or her and attested by two(2) witnesses, which statement shall automatically effect a permanent withdrawal from membership in the Comanche Nation and a relinquishment of all rights and benefits thereunder; or
- (b.) The person is at the time of the adoption of this constitution an enrolled member of another tribe or has in the past received and accepted or, if a minor, whose parents or legal guardian has received and accepted for said minor, material or monetary benefits as member of another Indian tribe and who fails or whose parents or legal guardian fails, if a minor, within ninety (90) days after the adoption of this constitution to declare in writing to the tribal chairman preference for membership in the Comanche Nation and the same time in writing renounces membership in said other tribe; or
- (c.) The person after the adoption of this constitution by his or her affirmative action or, if a minor, by the affirmative action of his or her parents or legal guardian becomes a recognized or enrolled member of another Indian tribe with full rights, privileges and powers of membership under the rules of said other tribe, which said affirmative action and subsequent recognition or enrollment shall automatically effect a permanent withdrawal from membership in the Comanche Nation and relinquishment of all rights and benefits thereunder; or
- (d.) The person after the adoption of this constitution receives and accepts or, if a minor, his or her parents or legal guardian accepts for said minor, material or monetary benefits as a result of membership in another Indian tribe which such receipt and acceptance shall automatically effect a permanent withdrawal from membership in the Comanche Nation and a relinquishment of all rights and benefits thereunder.

Section 4: Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3 of this Article, any person who meets the eligibility criteria in Section 1 of this Article who as a minor accepted a material or monetary benefit as a member of another Indian Tribe or whose legal guardians accepted a material or monetary benefit as a member of another Indian tribe while the person was minor, shall have the option of relinquishing their membership in the other tribe and becoming a member of the Comanche Nation not later than one year after they become an adult as defined by this Constitution, provided further that any person eligible for membership of the Comanche Nation under this section who has reached adulthood prior to the approval date of this section must take appropriate action to enroll as a member of the Comanche Nation not later than 30 days subsequent to the adoption date of this section.

Section 5: The Comanche Nation will have an open enrollment not to exceed a period of six (6) months from the time this amendment is approved by the Secretary of Interior to allow all persons who have not met or do not meet the eligibility requirements as stated in Article III, Section 1 through Section 4, the opportunity to present evidence and documentation to substantiate their claim(s) for enrollment to be determined by the Comanche Business Committee.