Permanent fund applications for children coming in mail

The Associated Press

Permanent Fund dividend applications for children should be available next week, state officials say.

They plan to mail a special packet to every Anchorage resident detailing the procedure for applying for the \$1,000 check on behalf of each youngster under 18. Alaskans in other areas will have to get the forms from the local government offices beginning Monday.

In order to avoid a crush at state offices, the Department Revenue says it decided to send packets to every mailbox in Anchorage, regardless of whether the occupant has children.

The agency estimates there

are 180,000 minors in Alaska who qualify for the dividends. It says the first batch of checks to their parents should be in the mail by Sept. 1.

Still awaiting their turn ahead of the children are most of the 295,000 adult Alaskans who already have submitted dividend applications. As of Monday, July 26, the state had mailed checks to 73,646 of them. Checks are being mailed in batches of about 12,000 to 15,000 a week.

The department says it also has available the new forms for some 80,000 residents who arrived in Alaska after Dec. 2 or turned 18 this year. The program is open to everyone who has lived in Alaska for six months.