Dividend forms mailed

Nearly 250,000 Permanent Fund Dividend Applications for 1985 forms booklets were delivered to the Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau regional post offices last week. From there the forms will be distributed throughout the state.

The booklets were mailed third class to every "residential postal customer" in Alaska. Basically, this means that every "household" that receives mail, whether at the residence or at the post office, should receive one of the booklets. Each booklet contains three Adult Applications and four Child Applications.

Residents who are anxious to file the applications are asked to be patient and wait for the forms to arrive in the mail. All booklets should be delivered by the end of the month, most within the week of April 8-12.

During the week of April 8, forms should also be available at Revenue Public Service Centers, Legislative Information Offices, Offices of the Governor, city clerks' offices, and other distribution points. There will be at least one place in every Alaska community where additional forms can be picked up.

Alaska residents who are currently living outside Alaska, such as persons serving in the military or going to school, will also receive booklets. In a separate mailing, the department has sent forms to Alaskans who received 1984 dividend checks at an outof-state address.

The actual forms are very much like last year's forms, including the residency verification by two other persons who are willing to certify that the applicant is a resident.

One feature has been added that will help to speed processing colored ink. The background color is green on the Adult Application form, and yellow on the Child Application form.

The 1985 dividend application filing deadline is June 30, but the department urges Alaskans to file early. Generally speaking, applicants who turn in their forms early in the filing period will receive their dividend checks early in the payment period. The dividend amount, now estimated to the approximately \$400, will be declared October 1. After this determination, the department will begin issuing checks; the majority of them will be mailed by the end of the year.

The department estimates that nearly half a million Alaska residents will apply for the 1985 dividend. Including late filers, over 490,000 people applied for the 1984 dividend. To date, however, the 1984 dividends have been issued to 476,497 residents.