

Permanent dividend applications flood offices

The Associated Press

Department of Revenue workers were greeted Tuesday with a flood of Alaska Permanent Fund dividend applications that arrived over the long July Fourth weekend, officials said.

The deadline to apply for the 1983 checks was June 30.

Revenue spokeswoman Colleen Brown said the department has so far counted 363,300 applications, but would not have a final tally for another three weeks or so.

She said the department, for several reasons, is guessing that there will be fewer applications this year than the 478,942 received last year.

Chief among them is the fact the dividend checks this year will be about one-third the size of the \$1,000 checks for 1982. Brown said the department is still estimating the checks this year will amount to \$350.

Brown said another reason to expect fewer applications was the shorter application period this year as compared

to last.

The department, she said, estimates from 450,000 to 460,000 people have applied.

The dividends are financed

with 50 percent of the annual earnings of the permanent fund, Alaska's oil wealth savings account.

This year, money available

for dividends totals about \$179 million, at least \$2 million of which will be used to administer the dividend program.

