

Sovereignty Speaks ©

Leadership



Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr.
Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation

Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. was elected to serve as the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, the country's largest tribal government with more than 380,000 tribal citizens, in 2019. Prior to being elected Principal Chief, he served as the Cherokee Nation Secretary of State.

As Principal Chief, he has increased minimum wage at Cherokee Nation and Cherokee Nation Businesses and secured the largest language investment in the tribe's history to expand Cherokee language education and preservation. Hoskin also appointed the tribe's first delegate to the U.S. Congress, doubled Cherokee Nation's funding for career tech education, and established the Housing, Jobs and Sustainable Communities Act to repair hundreds of homes for Cherokees elders as well as public community buildings across the tribe's 14-county jurisdiction.

Additionally, as Secretary of State, Hoskin worked to secure funding from the federal government to fund a billion-dollar joint venture investment in better health care for all Cherokees. He has also served as Cherokee Nation's strongest advocate on sovereignty protection.

He formerly served as a member of the Council of the Cherokee Nation, representing District 11 for six years, and served his final two years as Deputy Speaker. On the council, he worked with his fellow council members to start building homes for Cherokees again, increased education funding and sponsored legislation to expand health care service through casino dollars.

Hoskin has testified at the United Nations on behalf of the Cherokee Nation and serves on multiple boards and commissions, including the United States Health and Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee.

Hoskin is from the Vinita community, where he lives with his family. He and the First Lady, January, are parents to two children, Triston and Jasmine. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma College of Law and is a member of the Cherokee Nation and Oklahoma Bar Associations.