

Military Officers Association of America

The MOAA Foundation (TMF)

Crisis Relief Fund Grant Application Instructions for MOAA Councils and Chapters

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The MOAA Foundation and Crisis Relief Fund Grant Information

The MOAA Foundation Crisis Relief Fund

MOAA established the Crisis Relief Fund to meet the financial needs of those in our community facing national disasters or other emergencies. Thanks to our donors' generosity, we have been able to provide immediate support to those who need it most.

The MOAA Foundation is providing grants of up to \$500 per household for military and veteran families experiencing financial hardship due to any emergency crisis or disaster with a focus on providing enhanced levels of support and services to those currently serving, veterans, and their families.

What We Will Help With

Applicants who are experiencing a natural disaster or crisis deemed a national emergency by their local city/state and are experiencing extreme financial hardship will be considered for these grants. We welcome applications from those experiencing unique crisis situations so long as specific information is provided.

We have defined a crisis as a natural disaster, catastrophic event, or other emergency that is out of the control of uniformed services personnel, veterans and their families, caregivers, and survivors. Areas where a state of emergency has been declared will receive funding priority.

Examples of such events include unpredictable natural disasters like wildfires, earthquakes, winter freezes, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, and pandemics, to name a few.

While the fund will be used primarily to distribute aid as quickly as possible to those suffering financial stress caused by the above conditions, **we will be set up to review applications for other acute crisis situations not outlined above on a case-by-case basis.**

The crisis in which an applicant is submitting an application must have occurred no more than six months prior to the date of the application submission.

Summary of Links

- Email address: relief@moaa.org
- Instructions & Criteria: <https://www.moaa.org/crisisreliefgrant>
- Application: <https://www.moaa.org/crisisreliefapp>
- MOAA Affiliate Verification Form: <https://www.moaa.org/crisisreliefverify>
- Additional resources for anyone in financial need: <https://www.moaa.org/otherrelief>

Eligibility Information

Who is Eligible?

The Crisis Relief Fund offers financial assistance to those falling under one or more of the below categories (*Open to all ranks and U.S. uniformed services*):

- Currently serving (including National Guard and Reserve)
- Spouses of currently serving
- Veterans (with an honorable discharge)
- Surviving spouses (whose spouse held an honorable discharge)
- Caregivers of the same who are experiencing financial setback due to an unexpected crisis.

Types of Assistance

- Housing (rent, mortgage, housing assistance, repairs, etc.)
- Auto loan/lease/car repair
- Utilities (electric, water, heat, internet/cable, cell phone)
- Credit card bills
- Medical bills
- Insurance bills
- Groceries
- Miscellaneous (must specify on application)

*We will not assist with legal fees or child support payments.

We **cannot provide emergency financial assistance *immediately/within 24 hours*

If awarded, grant funds can only be provided to **one individual per household, per crisis situation**. Multiple applications from the same individual or household already receiving funds will be disqualified.

Information for Councils and Chapters

Thank you for participating in the MOAA Foundation's Crisis Relief Fund Grant Program and for helping us quickly identify and screen military and veteran families in need. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Please ensure this document is reviewed in its entirety. **This document is strictly for your visibility and use and should not be disbursed.**

Chapters: You will be providing the [Crisis Relief Fund Grant Application](#) and [Application Submission Instructions](#) to individuals who are eligible and interested in applying for this grant. Please refer to the requirements and instructions above and below for further information.

1. Ensure you are digitally sending out the [Crisis Relief Fund Grant Application PDF](#) along with the [Application Submission Instructions](#). Both documents are linked in blue for your use.
2. Once you have shared the application and instructions with those interested in applying, please monitor your email for application responses.
3. You must complete a corresponding [Verification Form](#) for each application submission. So long as the applicant lists your email address on their application, you will receive an email notification and copy of their application once it has been submitted – this should act as a reminder for you to fill out a corresponding Verification Form. We will not review a MOAA affiliate-connected application until a Verification Form is submitted.
4. Applications, along with their corresponding documents, will be reviewed as they are received. Processing times may vary, but the goal is to determine award status within one week of MOAA National receiving the application and verification form.

Note: We cannot guarantee applicants will receive a decision within a week, as processing times will vary. We are working hard to ensure quick turnaround time, as we know time is of the essence for many of the applicants.

5. Once a decision has been made regarding an application, the Development Team will alert the applicant only. If the grant is awarded, we will include a request for electronic funds transfer (EFT) or other required documentation (receipt/reporting requirement, testimonial request, etc.) in this confirmation email.

Note: The chapter will not be alerted of the final determination to protect the applicant's privacy. **Please do not accept or collect any EFT or banking information from the applicant for any reason.** Encourage the awardee to follow provided submission instructions in the award confirmation email sent from MOAA National and contact our Member Service Center with questions (MOAA.org/contact).

6. The time it will take to disburse funds will depend on how long it takes the awardee to submit required documentation/EFT information and the number of applications received (the more received, the longer the process might take).

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Should applicants select “MOAA Affiliate Application” or “General Application”?

A: On the second page of the application, applicants will be prompted to select between a General Application or a MOAA Affiliate Application. The MOAA Affiliate Application should be used by applicants who have a direct connection with a member of a council or chapter.

Once the MOAA Affiliate Application is completed, that council/chapter member will receive an email notification prompting them to fill out a Verification Form.

Q: What is the purpose of the Chapter Verification Form?

A: Having a MOAA member verify that an applicant’s statements concerning military status allows us to adjudicate and process applications quickly.

Q: What documents do awardees need to submit before receiving funds?

A: Our requirements differ based on the applicant. Instructions will be sent to all awardees from relief@moaa.org, or communicated via phone or letter. **Awardees should never send these documents via email, as they contain sensitive information.**

We require all grant awardees to upload completed ACH banking information via Box (a secure web system).

If chapters cannot determine proof of military service during the application process, we will require grant awardees to provide a DD214 *with an Honorable Discharge/Discharge Under Honorable Conditions, a copy of their orders, or a letter from their commander confirming service*).

Q: Is there an alternative way for someone to apply without a computer?

A: In specific situations, an application or verification form can be printed from our website, filled out, and mailed or faxed to:

The MOAA Foundation Crisis Relief Fund
201 N. Washington St.
Alexandria, VA 22314-2539

Fax: 5714441428

Q: If someone is approved for a grant, how soon will they receive the funds?

A: Grant funds can be awarded in the form of an EFT (*Electronic Funds Transfer*) or a mailed check. Once we have received an awardee’s financial information, it can take 3-14 business days to receive the funds, depending on the method of disbursement.

If you have any additional questions, please email relief@moaa.org or call our Member Service Center at (800)234-6622 and request to speak with someone on the Development Team.