

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

The mission of the Auxiliary Emergency Fund Committee is to raise funds for and awareness of the Auxiliary Emergency fund, to promote knowledge about the program, to disseminate information to members about the application process, and to assist members in need.

Overview

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) was established in 1969 through a bequest from the estate of Auxiliary member Helen Colby Small of Burlington, Wisconsin. The Fund was designed to assist eligible Auxiliary members who have suffered a financial setback and is meant to be a bridge offering a helping hand until financial stability is re-established. In 1981 the Fund was expanded to include educational grants for qualified members.

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund provides eligibly members with temporary assistance for:

1. Financial crisis; to pay for food, shelter and utilities. Funds are not available to settle existing or accumulated debts, or to help with catastrophic illnesses.
2. Food and shelter; due to weather-related emergencies and natural disasters.
3. Educational training; due to life changes such as death of a spouse, divorce, or separation, necessitating the Auxiliary member to assume the role of primary source of support for her family.

In each case, as a first course of action, applicants are encouraged to make every effort to secure financial assistance through local, state and federal agencies.

Who is Eligible?

Members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have maintained membership for at least the immediate past two years and who have paid their dues for the current year(three consecutive years of membership) are eligible to apply.

How much can a member receive?

The maximum amount of any grant is \$2400.00 and may be disbursed as determined by the National Grant Committee. Payments may be made directly to the member, or at the discretion of the Grant Committee, to the Mortgage Company or utility company. In the case of educational grants, payments may be made directly to the educational institution.

How to Apply

Applications can be obtained from Department Secretary or at www.wvvaux.org and go to "Download" Tab or go to www.ALAforVeterans.org for application. The completed application must be processed through the local Unit for their investigative committee to complete their section of the application and then it is processed to the Department Secretary for final processing into National Office. All levels assure members that assistance is provided in a quiet, personal manner, free from embarrassment,

Support of the AEF

Units should support the AEF by fundraising, also generous contributions of members helping members. Financial gifts may be donated by Departments, Units or individuals. Perpetual Memorials may be established in the name of a family member or special Auxiliary member. All contributions to AEF are tax-deductible. Those donating \$50.00 or more to the AEF will receive a Citation and Lapel Pin Recognition. Citation form is available online for Units and Department to download: www.ALAforVeterans.org

Department Award: Best Overall Report: Membership 10-100 Ruth Yoho Plaque
Membership 101 and over Carol Williams Plaque

Resources: Department Chairman: Lisa Cadwallader Lisac.ala71@gmail.com
www.legion.org www.fema.gov www.redcross.org
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www.operationhomefront.net financial assistance for military families
www.211.org referral program for local help