

From: Mook, Kevin M. <KMook@legion.org>

Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 8:58 AM

Subject: FW: National Emergency Fund (NEF) and Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) Information

Due to the recent declared natural disasters we have experienced these last few weeks, and are expecting to withstand within the next few weeks and beyond nation-wide, we are sending out our quarterly reminder a little earlier information about the NEF and TFA programs that our Legion and SAL members, and American Legion posts, may be eligible to apply for grants to meet immediate needs.

Please review carefully and share as you deem necessary within your department. The NEF Grant Application (fillable) can be found at this link:

<https://www.legion.org/get-involved/community-programs/national-emergency-fund/request-assistance>

This is an instructional PowerPoint of how to complete an application:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYTPVnmrsh0>

This is past Illinois Department Adjutant and PNC Marty Conatser on how they set up disaster teams within Illinois following a massive tornado disaster a few years ago and which could help you within your own departments.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5ZlecXviD8>

Please review the NEF Grant Application carefully, and remember, until there's an emergency declaration for a natural disaster in place (federal, state or local), NEF can't help until one is called. If a declaration happens, ensure that the applicant is current on their membership prior to the disaster and at the time of application submission, member provides photos, receipts and any insurance paperwork. FEMA statements are good too. Statements from American Legion Post/District/Department officers or community leadership is encouraged to reinforce the grant application. Ensure application is completely filled out, or it could be sent back to you for more information. This is all outlined on the application and is provided for on the instruction sheet.

NEF does not provide for repairs or replacement of lost or damaged items in the primary home of residence. If the destroyed property is owned by the member, but he/she does not physically live there, that is not covered. Vehicles or outbuildings are not covered. That is what insurance should cover. If available, provide copies of insurance determination, if any. If the home is rented, renters insurance information should be provided, if any. Call or e-mail me for any clarifications.

For American Legion posts, only things covered are post programs that might sustain losses pertaining to the intent of the Four Pillars of The American Legion. Losses from the social quarters and/or restaurant of the post are not covered. A copy of the most recent Consolidated Post Report (CPR) needs to be attached. A statement from post/district/department officers or community leaders as to how the losses in the post is very helpful if available. Insurance documents should be provided.

You can mail, fax (317-630-1413) or scan/e-mail the application and any attachments (photos, receipts, other supporting documents) to ia@legion.org. Staff will process from there. If approved by the National Adjutant, a check will be cut from Finance and mailed to the department adjutant to disburse to the member or the post. Address to mail grant applications is:

The American Legion National Headquarters
ATTN: National Emergency Fund
Internal Affairs & Membership Division
P. O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206

If a National Emergency Fund application comes to us directly from the member, we will scan/e-mail back to you for your recommendation. Remember, you and your leadership are “boots on the ground”, so the department has to make the best determination for recommended grant approval amount to the national organization.

The American Legion’s Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) Program is also ready to assist American Legion eligible veterans with minor children in the home (18 or younger) who need financial help to pay for shelter, food, utilities and medical expenses.

Please make sure that all pertinent documentation is included in the packet as well as the investigator’s report. Missing documentation will slow down the process and may result in the application being denied.

If you have any questions regarding Temporary Financial Assistance, please contact Stacy Cope, Youth Welfare Program Manager in the Americanism Division at 317-630-1202 or scope@legion.org.

Stay safe and healthy and let me know if you have any questions on NEF.

My phone numbers are: 317-630-1379 or cell: 317-287-9974.

Mark Woodsmall is the NEF back up and can be reached

at: 317-630-1265 or e-mail: mwoodsmall@legion.org

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