

Assistance Provided by Military Relief Organizations

Depending on the circumstances, service relief organizations provide emergency financial help with interest-free loans, grants or a combination of loans and grants. They can also offer other kinds of financial assistance.

Most loans and grants from military relief organizations are for one-time financial needs such as rent and utilities, for example. Each organization limits the kinds of financial expenses it will cover.

Loans and Grants

Most loans and grants from military relief organizations are for one-time financial needs such as:

- Rent
- Utilities
- Vehicle repair
- Emergency travel
- Funeral expenses
- Some medical and dental expenses

Go to the following website to learn more about eligibility and how to apply for aid:

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

www.nmcrs.org

(800)-654-8364

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) offers financial and emergency assistance to qualifying active duty service members in the Navy, Marine Corps, and Navy or Marine Corps Reserves (on active duty for more than 30 days). To receive assistance, first, you will need to make an appointment with your nearest NMCRS office. Before arriving, make sure to fill out your pre-appointment information sheet and have all necessary paperwork. If you have questions or cannot locate a local office, call the NMCRS headquarters at (800)-654-8364.

If your relief organization isn't nearby, one of the other service relief organizations can help process your request. If no military relief organizations are near you, the local Red Cross chapter can process your request.

American Red Cross

<https://www.redcross.org>

1-877-272-7337

If you find yourself facing an emergency, and you don't know how you'll afford the bills necessary to deal with your emergency, call the American Red Cross at 1-877-272-7337 or submit a request online.

Who's eligible for Red Cross Emergency Financial Assistance?

You qualify for emergency financial assistance if you're:

- An active duty service member or immediate family member
- A member of an activated National Guard or Reserve Unit or immediate family member
- A military retiree or spouse/widow(er) of a retiree

Military OneSource

www.militaryonesource.com

(800)-342-9647

Military OneSource financial counselors are available over the phone and video to discuss financial matters or concerns you may have. Our financial counselors can also give you referrals to services and programs that meet your specific needs.

Operation Homefront

<https://www.operationhomefront.org>

(877) 264-3968

Operation Homefront is a non-government organization that assists military families who are experiencing financial emergencies. Operation Homefront offers help with physical and financial needs of qualifying service members:

You can also call their main office if you (210) 659-7756 to ask questions. If you aren't sure if you qualify for assistance through Operation Homefront, have other questions about the application process, or need emergency assistance, call (877) 264-3968.

Resources for Reservists

<https://www.reservistresources.com/what-we-do>

Resources for Reservists is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The organization was started in 2014 because of the lack of financial help available for members of the Armed Forces Reserves. The active duty military has several programs in place to help its military members that are serving full time, but there has never been much in place for Reservists. This nonprofit was formed so that when a member of the Reserves runs into a little financial hardship, they do not have to carry that burden as well. It is our view that they carry enough.

US Cares Emergency Assistance Program

<https://www.usacares.org>

If you're a veteran struggling to cover basic monthly bills such as rent or utilities, you can begin the application process for a grant here. The average amount awarded is \$650, which can be really helpful when struggling to make ends meet.

Veteran Relief Fund Project

<http://militarybratsinc.org/veteran-relief-fund/>

The goal of the Veteran Relief Fund Project is simple: To provide assistance to the men and women that have sacrificed so much to protect our freedom. We aim to provide emergency funds to our nations vets to help cover those unexpected hardships of life including but not limited to hardship caused by a job loss, auto repair, groceries, past due utility bills, rent assistance, and more! Many other programs exist for our veterans, but most of their requirements make it nearly impossible to receive assistance.

Non-Profit/National Organizations

Feeding America

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/>

Feeding America is a national network of food banks that serves communities across the country. The website provides a Food Bank locator where individuals can look up where the nearest Feeding America food bank is located to his or her home. Many of these food banks also help with baby food and formula.

Ample Harvest

www.ampleharvest.org

Ample Harvest is a national network of food banks that works with local farmers. There are over 8000 food pantries that are registered with Ample Harvest. The website allows an individual to search for food pantries in his or her area.

United Way 211

<http://www.211.org/>

211 is a free, confidential referral and information helpline and website that connects people of all ages and from all communities to the essential health and human services they need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- The local 211 can give anyone information on food and nutrition assistance, emergency information, shelter/housing information and

many other resources to ensure that everyone is getting the essentials that they need.

- Go on website listed above to find local 211 information
- 211 has partnered with the following:
 - Lyft: provides a limited number of rides to people with specific healthcare, employment and veterans' transportation needs
 - FamilyWize: provides individuals with access to more affordable prescription medication through their savings cards www.familywize.org

Government Sponsored Programs

Childcare.Gov

www.childcare.gov

Provides information on child care assistance for each state.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): 1-800-221-5689

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program>

- SNAP provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy food and move towards self-sufficiency.
- The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (www.fns.usda.gov/wic)

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) 1-800-221-5689

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program>

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost.

Office of Family Assistance

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa>

This program is designed to help needy families achieve self-sufficiency

Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/resource/help-with-paying-for-heating-or-cooling>

- LIHEAP is a Federally-funded program that helps low-income households with their home energy bills
- An individual can call the National Energy Assistance Referral Line (NEAR) for more resources or to locate nearest LIHEAP application center at 1-866-674-6327 or email at energy@ncat.org

D-Stress Line:

1-877-476-7734

<https://usmc-mccs.org/services/support/dstress-line/>

- Provides anonymous counseling services to Marine Corps members and their families
- Able to make appropriate referrals if other services are needed

SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline:

1-800-985-5990

<http://www.disasterdistress.samhsa.gov>

- SMS/Text: Text TalkWithUs to 66746
- SMS/Text: Español: Hablanos al 66746
- Able to provide information on coping with the stress of the disaster
- Knowledge of local coping and stress related resources that families may take advantage of

CDC Resources/Recommendations:

- Self-Care: www.emergency.cdc.gov/coping/selfcare.asp
- Helping Children Cope: www.cdc.gov/childrenindisasters/heping-children-cope.html
- Self-Care During Emergency Response:
www.emergency.cdc.gov/coping/responders.asp

Free and Reduced Internet Companies

Internet Essentials from Comcast

www.internetessentials.com/covid19

- New Internet Essentials customers will receive two free months of Internet service in effort to allow families with children access to the Internet for online classes
- All qualifying low-income households receive Internet Essentials for \$9.95/month plus tax

Spectrum Internet

[1-844-488-8395](tel:1-844-488-8395)

- Offering free broadband and WiFi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a subscription
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Online Learning Resources

Virtual Library Portal:

<http://mccs.ent.sirsi.net/>

- Provides electronic library resources for Marine Corp members and their families

Tutor.com

- Access to online tutoring and homework help for more than 16 subjects
- Beneficial to students who are in online classes due to COVID-19

Scholastic Learn at Home

www.classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html

- Provides four learning experiences per day
- Grades Pre-K-6+

Free Learning Websites for Young Children

- Switcheroo Zoo
 - www.switcheroozoo.com
 - Watch, listen, and play games to learn about animals
- Nat Geo for Kids
 - www.kids.nationalgeographic.com
 - Learn about geography and animals
- Into the Book
 - www.reading.ecb.org
 - Play games to practice reading strategies
- Suessville
 - www.suessville.com
 - Read, play games, and hang out with Dr. Suess and his friends
- ABC YA
 - www.abcya.com
 - Practice math and reading skills by playing fun games
- Fun Brain
 - www.funbrain.com
 - Play games while practicing math and reading skills
- PBS Kids
 - www.pbs.org
 - Hang out with characters and play games while learning

- Star Fall
 - www.starfall.com
 - Practice your phonics skills with read-along stories
- Storyline Online
 - www.storyline.net
 - Have some of your favorite stories read to you by movie stars
- Highlights Kids
 - www.highlightskids.com
 - Read, play games, and conduct cool science experiments

Any additional needs, please contact:

MARFORRES MCCS

1-866-305-9058

Provides information and referral on everyday issues such as finding childcare, dealing with stress, helping children deal with a parent's deployment, reunion and reintegration after combat duty, making a PCS move, creating a budget, caring for older relatives, making large-scale consumer purchases, and finding services in the local and military communities, etc. MCCS has cognizance over the following programs: Tuition Assistance, Substance Abuse Prevention & Intervention, Suicide Prevention, Combat Operational Stress Control, Marine Corps Family Team Building, Semper Fit and the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP).