

2018-2019 American Legion Auxiliary Guide

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND (AEF)
Linda Roman – AEF Department Chairman
linda.roman@att.net
(734) 634-5161

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund Program supports the ALA Centennial Strategic Plan by providing temporary financial assistance to members in need, the AEF increases brand loyalty (Goal 5) and helps us retain members. (Goal 1).

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency help to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have suffered a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or weather related emergencies. It can also be temporary assistance for educational training for a member who lacks the skills necessary for employment or to upgrade competitive workforce skills.

The AEF provides temporary financial assistance to eligible members and its intent is to help members who have suffered a financial setback and to be a “helping hand” until financial stability is re-established.

Assistance will NOT be granted to pay for accumulated debts or medical expenses.

ELIGIBILITY: Members of the American Legion Auxiliary whose dues are current and who have maintained membership for three consecutive years (the current year and the immediate past two years) are eligible to apply in the wake of financial crisis.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Members may request an application by contacting their unit or department headquarters and must submit their completed applications to an officer of the ALA unit to which the member belongs. The unit president, secretary and investigator will complete the unit portion and forward the application to the department secretary. Department secretary verifies the member’s eligibility, then submits the application to ALA National Headquarters for consideration by the AEF Grant Committee. The AEF committee meets to review each application and awards AEF assistance according to case findings. The AEF maintains the confidentiality of all applicants.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: The ALA National maximum grant amount is \$2,400.00

YOU, AS THE AEF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: should familiarize yourself and your unit members with the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Knowing about the program will make the process easier should you need to help a member apply.

Learn the application process and fund restrictions and help members in need contact other nonprofit agencies that might be able to assist them.

Have printed applications and AEF brochures available during unit meetings. Applications are available at www.alaforveterans.org. An Expedited Application is also available at www.alaforveterans.org/Expediated-Application-for-Members-Affected-by-Disaster/.

Stress to new members that this is a member benefit.

FUNDRAISING:

- Place a “Helping Hands” AEF canister in your Post home.
- Wrap a 16 oz. water bottle with “Lend a Hand” logo. (available on the National website) When full of dimes it could have as much as \$100.
- Make a personal donation to AEF. Did you know if you make a \$50 donation to department they will forward it to National and you will receive a “women helping women” pin.
- Have an ice cream social where proceeds go to AEF.
- Encourage your unit to make a donation to AEF.

MID-YEAR NARRATIVE DUE:

Units to District Chairman – December 1st, District to Department Chairman (ME) December 15th.

YEAR END NARRATIVE DUE:

Units to District Chairman- April 1st, District to Department (ME) April 15th.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

Award for Best Unit Narrative – “Lending a Sister a Helping Hand”.

Certificates awarded to Units with largest donations (per capita) to AEF Fund.

NATIONAL AWARDS:

Department award for the largest contribution to AEF.

Unit award for the largest amount contributed (per capita) to AEF.

Department award for the largest contribution (per capita) to AEF.