ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for Temporary Financial Assistance is limited to minor children of veterans. The parent must have served at least one day of active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during one the following periods:

- December 7, 1941 — December 31, 1946
- June 25, 1950 — January 31, 1955
- February 28, 1961 — May 7, 1975
- August 24, 1982 — July 31, 1984
- December 20, 1989 — January 31, 1990
- August 2, 1990 — Cessation of hostilities as determined by the U.S. Government.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LEGION IS NOT REQUIRED.

Minor children include any unmarried child, stepchild, and adopted child 17 years or younger. Children 18 – 20 years old will be considered if a current disability requires special schooling or indefinite in-home care, or they are enrolled in an approved high school.

No child is considered eligible for TFA until a complete investigation is conducted, a legitimate family need is determined, and all other available resources have been utilized or exhausted.

TFA applications must originate and be investigated at the local level. When all other possible resources have been exhausted, contact your local American Legion Post, Department Headquarters, and/or Department Children & Youth Chairman.

The American Legion Endowment Fund

Funds for the operation of the TFA program are provided from a share of the earnings of The American Legion Endowment Fund.

In 1925, World War I had been over for six years, but for veterans and their widows and children, the years had been a continuing struggle to adjust to the war's aftermath. The members of The American Legion, aware of the grave responsibility entrusted to them by those who had served, knew the time had come to take action.

More than 900,000 Legionnaires, American Legion Auxiliary members, and other American citizens joined the campaign, raising nearly $5 million and establishing The American Legion Endowment Fund.

Since those early days, over $29 million has been distributed to disabled veterans and children of those who served our great nation and made the ultimate sacrifice.

To help us continue this proud tradition of service with a tax-deductible contribution, or to request more information about The American Legion Endowment Fund, contact:

The American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation
c/o The American Legion National Headquarters
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206

www.legion.org

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THE AMERICAN LEGION
AMERICANISM AND CHILDREN & YOUTH

TEMPORARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Helping children since 1925

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TFA Temporary Financial Assistance

The American Legion National Commission on Children & Youth

Since 1919, The American Legion has remained committed to the health and welfare of our nation's veterans and families. Born out of this desire to serve, the National Commission on Children & Youth established a form of direct aid to veterans' children in 1925—Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA). This landmark program continues to be unique in the field of social work today.

Through TFA, a Post can call upon the National Organization for cash assistance to help maintain the basic needs of veterans' children. Non-repayable grants are awarded to eligible families over a temporary period when it is determined that a child is in need and all other available resources have been exhausted.

How TFA Helps Children

TFA is specifically designed to assist minor children of eligible veterans through cash grants. In order to maintain a stable home environment for the child or children, grants are awarded to help families meet the costs of shelter, utilities, food, and medical expenses.

Maintenance Grants

Maintenance grants may be used to assist with the basic need expenses such as:

- Shelter
- Utilities
- Food
- Clothing

Maintenance grants can not be awarded for previously incurred debt, except to:

1. Prevent disconnection of utilities
2. Prevent eviction or foreclosure.

Medical Grants

Medical grants for a child may be used to assist with healthcare expenses such as:

- Medical Care
- Dental Care
- Surgery
- Hospitalization
- Medications
- Dietary Needs

Medical grants require a written statement from a physican outlining the problem, treatment, and esitmated costs. This type of grant must be approved before services are rendered. Medical grants can not be awarded for previous medical expenses or care.

Application Process

All TFA applications originate at the local or Post level. A local investigator personally visits with the family to determine the needs of the children. A completed application, with supporting documents and proof of military service, is forwarded to the Department Children & Youth Chairman or Department Adjutant. The designated Department representative reviews each case, makes a recommendation, and forwards the approved application to the National Headquarters.

The Americanism and Children & Youth Division reviews all approved cases, and forwards a recommendation to the National Adjutant. Upon approval by the National Adjutant, a check is drawn and forwarded to the Department Adjutant for delivery to the Post or family. In most cases, checks will be two-party checks payable to the veteran and creditor.

Temporary Financial Assistance is a program of:

The American Legion
National Commission on Children & Youth
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
(317) 623-1323

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