National First Responder COVID-19 Grant Relief Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the National First Responder COVID-19 Grant Relief Program?

The Grant Program’s primary goal is to provide one-time critical health and wellness support to first responders and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic so that they are able to continue providing safety services without sacrificing the wellbeing of self or family. Funds awarded will be for reimbursement of documented expenses, up to $1,000.

What are the eligibility requirements?

- All beneficiaries (first responders/survivors) must reside in the U.S. (to include U.S. Territories and Tribal Lands).
- Employees and relatives of NPF staff and Board of Directors are not eligible.
- Beneficiaries must be at least 18 years of age.
- If electronic payment is issued, a U.S. bank must receive the deposit.
- Applicants must be either a first responder or a survivor of a fallen first responder, as defined here.
- Recipients are ineligible to receive more than one award/grant.
- Documentation and verification are required within the program. (e.g., employment verification, LODD, invoice(s), receipt(s), etc.)

For the purpose of this program, a first responder/survivor is defined as the following:

For the purpose of the Grant Program, a first responder may be a sworn law enforcement officer, corrections/detention officer, firefighter, EMS provider, emergency communications professional (dispatcher/call taker), essential civilian staff member in a public safety agency that is required to work during the public health emergency. This includes first responders who have been furloughed or laid off as result of COVID-19 since March 1, 2020.

For the purpose of the Grant Program, a survivor is defined as an immediate family member of a fallen/incapacitated first responder who has died or became incapacitated in the line of duty including as a result of COVID-19 or possible COVID-19 exposure. Survivors are recognized in the
following order: spouse; child(ren); or surviving parent(s). Eligible children include any biological natural, out-of-wedlock, adopted or posthumous child, or stepchild.

**What types of expenses are reimbursable through this program?**

- Additional mental health and wellness costs (Up to $1000)
- Unanticipated dependent care due to COVID-19 response deployment (Up to $800)
- Additional home decontamination/disinfecting services/expenses due to COVID-19 (Up to $350)
- Additional health & diagnosis costs (Up to $800)
- Additional costs associated with families with dependents with special needs (Up to $800)
- Other cost(s) associated with COVID-19 duties/deployment that impact health and wellness of responder and/or his/her immediate family (Up to $350)
- Isolation lodging due to COVID-19 (Up to $800)

**How do I submit my application? What is the deadline?**

You can submit your application by visiting [https://www.policefoundation.org/national-first-responder-covid-19-grant-relief-program/](https://www.policefoundation.org/national-first-responder-covid-19-grant-relief-program/) and clicking APPLY. Please note that, at this time, we do not have a deadline for application submissions. The Grant Program will be accepting applications as long as funds are available.

**Can I mail or fax my application/documentation?**

Unfortunately, we are only accepting online applications/documentation at this time.

**I submitted my application today. When will I hear back?**

Funding decisions are anticipated within 15 business days of submission or receipt of a complete application. Due to the high volume of applications that the Program will be receiving, we ask for your utmost patience during this time.

**If approved, how and when will I receive the funds?**
If your application is selected, you will be asked to provide payment information for electronic or other payment methods. Payment may only be issued in the name of the applicant and payments not accepted or payment information not provided within 30 days shall be forfeited.

**If I am not awarded a grant on my first application attempt, can I continue to apply? Is there an appeal process for denials?**

Unfortunately, beneficiaries may only apply once. While we do not have an appeal process at this time, you may send any follow-up questions or concerns to support@policefoundation.org.

**Will I need to report these funds on my 2020 tax forms?**

Although we consider these funds to be charitable receipts, we recommend that recipients consult a local tax advisor as each case may vary.

**My business or I am interested in contributing funds towards the Grant Program. How can I help?**

Interested entities that would like to contribute to the grant program in order to provide support to even more first responders are encouraged to send an email to Tamara Martin, Director of Development and Marketing, TMartin@policefoundation.org.

**I am a reporter or representative from a media organization and have a media request. How can I get in touch?**

Please contact media@policefoundation.org for media requests. We ask that you provide your full name, state, phone number, and email address, as well as a brief summary of the request along with any relevant deadlines.

**I have additional questions and would like to speak to someone. Whom can I contact?**

Please contact support@policefoundation.org or call our main line at (202) 833-1460 if you have additional questions or concerns. Emails are preferred.