

Army Emergency Relief

AER is a private nonprofit organization incorporated in 1942 by the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff. In 1992 AER helped soldiers and their families with over \$35 million of financial assistance. AER's mission is to provide financial assistance to eligible members who have valid emergency needs.

Who is Eligible to Receive AER Financial Assistance?

- Service members on extended active duty and their dependents.
- Members of the reserve component of the Army (Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve) on continuous active duty for more than 30 days, and their dependents.
- Widows (ers) and orphans of eligible Army members who died while on active duty or after retirement.

How can Eligible Members Get Help From AER?

- Active duty, and service members on continuous active duty for more than 30 days:

- First see your unit commander: have the unit commander complete section VI of DA 1103 (AER Application).
- Then go to your AER section. Widows (ers), orphans, and retired service members may go directly to AER. If no AER section is located in your area, go to one of the following:
 - Nearest Red Cross Chapter
 - Air Force Aid Society Section
 - Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Auxiliary
 - Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Office and ask that your emergency need be referred to AER.

How Does AER Assist Eligible Members?

- Help with emergency financial needs.
- Provide interest-free loans, grants, or a combination loan/grant for: Food, rent or utilities, Emergency transportation, Essential vehicle repairs, Funeral Expenses, Medical/dental expenses (patient's share after Medicar/Champus), Financial assistance for necessities when pay is delayed or stolen

What Information Does AER Need From Eligible Members?

- Active Duty
 - ID Card
 - Most current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES)
 - DA Form 1103 by the commander
- Legal Family Members:
 - ID Card
 - General power of attorney
 - Copy of service member's most current LES
 - American Red Cross verification that the service member approves the loan
- Retired Personnel:
 - ID Card
 - Most current LES
- Widows/Widowers:
 - ID Card
 - Marriage Certificate
 - Death Certificate
 - DD 214 (if applicable)

Note: Army Emergency Relief also needs substantiating documents (Car repair estimate, rental agreement, utility bill, etc.)

What AER Cannot Do

- Pay for goods or items for convenience, comfort or luxury
- Finance ordinary leave or vacation
- Pay fines and legal expenses
- Assist with liquidation or consolidation of outstanding debts
- Help purchase, rent, or lease a vehicle
- Cover bad checks, or pay credit card bills
- Provide continued assistance

Educational Assistance

AER Scholarships are available for dependent children only. The primary criterion is need, based on income, assets, special financial obligations, etc.

AER sponsored loans are available to active duty soldiers, spouses, and dependent children of soldiers (active, retired and deceased)

Educational Assistance pamphlets available at the Battalion Soldier and Family Assistance office.

Army Emergency Relief provides commanders a valuable asset in accomplishing their basic command responsibility for the morale and welfare of service oriented people. Although AER is a private nonprofit organization, its mission is solely to help service members and their dependents.