

# Military & Veteran Emergency Grant Program Policy Disclosure

## Program Purpose

VETCares supports servicemembers and veterans through the Military & Veteran Emergency Grant (MVEG) Program.

The Emergency Assistance Fund provides limited, one-time financial assistance to qualified active-duty servicemembers and veterans experiencing a verified financial hardship. Assistance is intended to stabilize urgent situations and support recovery. Funding is not guaranteed and depends on eligibility and available funds.

## Eligible applicants must be:

- Active-duty servicemembers, or
- Veterans discharged Honorable or Other Than Dishonorable, and
- Able to document a qualifying financial hardship.

## Qualifying Hardship

Applicants must demonstrate the hardship resulted from a **recent, verifiable event**, such as:

- Loss or reduction of income
- PCS or required relocation
- Medical emergency or unexpected expense
- Death or serious illness in the immediate family
- Other documented critical financial events

VETCares determines whether a hardship meets program criteria.

## Stability Review

Because MVEG is a stabilization program, applicants may be asked to show the ability to maintain financial or housing stability after assistance. Factors may include income, budget, recovery prospects, and participation in financial or housing counseling.

## Eligible Assistance Categories

Assistance may be considered for:

- Auto payment or repair
- Child or dependent care
- Critical baby items
- Emergency dental
- Food or groceries
- Essential home items
- Medical expenses
- Moving or relocation
- Rent or mortgage
- Travel or transportation
- Utilities
- Other verified critical needs (case-by-case)

VETCares determines eligible expenses, payment method, and award amount.

## **Required Documentation**

Complete documentation is required for review. VETCares may request additional items.

Applicants must provide:

- Signed MVEG Program Policy
- Proof of Service (DD214 or equivalent), if applicable
- VA Disability Letter, if applicable
- Income documentation
- Government-issued photo ID
- Proof of the emergency expense
- Checking and/or savings statements
- Supporting hardship documentation

Incomplete applications may not be reviewed.

## **Additional Requirements**

By applying, applicants acknowledge:

- Two character references (one personal, one professional) are required.
- A soft credit report may be obtained for counseling and case assessment (does not impact eligibility).
- A criminal background review may be conducted and will be considered case-by-case.

## **Frequency of Assistance**

MVEG support is generally one-time emergency assistance.

- Typically limited to one grant per 12-month period, unless VETCares approves an exception.
- Prior assistance from VETCares or affiliated programs may be considered.

## **Payment Method**

VETCares may:

- Pay vendors directly
- Issue joint payments
- Use other controlled disbursement methods

Direct cash payments to applicants are not issued.

## **Program Disclosures**

- Application submission does not guarantee funding.
- Assistance depends on eligibility and available funds.
- Providing false or incomplete information may result in denial, revocation, or repayment.
- Approved recipients may be referred to financial and housing counseling through USA Homeownership Foundation, Inc. dba VAREP.

## **Privacy & Data Use**

VETCares uses applicant information solely for program administration, eligibility review, reporting, and related support services, and maintains data in accordance with applicable privacy standards.

## **Applicant Certification & Authorization**

By applying for and submitting the application, participants will agree to the following:

- **Program Understanding & Eligibility**

I have read and understand the Military & Veteran Emergency Grant (MVEG) Program Policy. I understand that submission of this application does not guarantee approval and that assistance is subject to eligibility verification, program guidelines, and available funding.

- **Truthful Information & Full Financial Disclosure**

I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided is true, accurate, and complete. I agree to disclose all relevant household income, assets, debts, and financial obligations. I understand that false statements, omissions, or misrepresentation may result in denial, termination, recovery of funds, and referral to appropriate authorities.

- **Verification Authorization**

I authorize VETCares and its agents to verify my income, military status, housing status, financial condition, hardship circumstances, and supporting documentation through third parties, public records, service providers, financial institutions, and provided references as necessary to determine eligibility.

- **Credit & Background Review**

I understand that a soft credit inquiry and/or background review may be conducted for program assessment purposes. This credit review is not for employment purposes.

- **Direct Vendor Payment**

I acknowledge that approved assistance is typically paid directly to landlords, mortgage servicers, utility providers, medical providers, or other approved vendors. Cash payments to applicants are generally not issued.

- **Program Integrity & Proper Use of Funds**

I understand that assistance must be used solely for the approved emergency purpose and that VETCares may conduct follow-up verification. Assistance obtained through fraud, concealment, or misuse may be subject to repayment, civil recovery, and/or criminal referral.

- **Privacy & Data Consent**

I consent to the collection, use, and retention of my information for program administration, eligibility determination, grant reporting, audit compliance, and funding partner requirements, consistent with applicable privacy standards.

- **Audit & Record Retention**

I understand VETCares may retain records and request documentation after assistance is provided for audit, compliance, and reporting purposes, and I agree to cooperate with reasonable follow-up requests.

- **Electronic Signature & Limited Liability**

I agree that my electronic signature and acknowledgments are legally binding and equivalent to a handwritten signature. To the extent permitted by law, I agree to hold harmless VETCares and its representatives from claims arising from good-faith administration of this emergency assistance program.