

Oregon School Employees Association

# Member Assistance Fund Criteria & Form



## Criteria

The Member Assistance Fund is a program within OSEA that provides emergency assistance to members in need due to death, serious illness, injury or disaster. It is supported by unused scholarship dollars, donations and fundraising efforts. Each request will be evaluated and a possible award of up to \$300 may be granted.

The individual receiving assistance will meet the following criteria:

1. Must be an active OSEA member in good standing at the time of the request;
2. Member assistance must directly impact the financial situation of the member;
3. The member may only receive assistance once in a 12-month period; and
4. Extenuating circumstances will be considered on an individual basis; however, requests for strictly financial difficulties are not eligible.

## Examples

**Serious illness or injury:** Health condition should bar the member from working for an extended period of time. Members with workers' compensation claims will not be considered eligible.

**Disasters:** Examples of disasters that may qualify are such things as flood, fire and other acts of nature. The damage sustained must not be covered by insurance or any other relief agency. This fund does not cover insurance deductibles.

**Death:** Examples include death of a spouse/partner or child. These funds may be used for funeral costs if there is an immediate financial need to the member that is not covered by an insurance reimbursement.

## Process

This form should be signed by a chapter officer and faxed to the OSEA State Office at 503/588-8307. The form will be reviewed by the executive director, who will call the chapter president to verify the situation. If the request is denied, a letter will be sent to the member or the chapter officer making the request within five days. If the request is approved, a check will be cut and sent with a letter to the member with a copy to the chapter president within three days of the approval.

