

Get The ORFP Advantage!

The California National Guard's Operation Ready Families Program offers a variety of programs to assist the guardmember and their family before, during and after deployment:

- Operation "We Care" Meetings
- Special Benevolence Offers
- Volunteer Education Courses
- Marriage Enrichment Seminars
- Youth Camp

We also offer educational articles on:

- Managing Combat Stress
- Understanding Military Benefits
- Coming Home

...And Much More!

Visit our website!

www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies

Mission First! Family Always!

Operation Ready Families Program
Family Assistance Network
California National Guard
9800 Goethe Road; PO Box 269101
Sacramento, CA 95826-90101

**Operation Ready Families Program
Family Assistance Network
California National Guard**

Information About Military Aid Societies



Inside...

Who do Military Aid Societies Help?

What can Military Aid Societies do?

What Military Aid Societies cannot do.

... and More!

Information About Military Aid Societies

The Red Cross and Military Aid Societies

The Red Cross works with the military aid societies (Army Emergency Relief, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, Air Force Aid Society and the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance). This partnership helps to provide financial assistance for emergency travel that requires the presence of the service member or his or her family, burial of a loved one, or with assistance that cannot wait until the next business day (food, temporary lodging, urgent medical needs, or the minimum amount required to avoid eviction, utility shut off, etc.).

How to access Red Cross services

Active duty service members stationed in the United States and family members residing in the service member's household (example: service member's spouse) should contact Armed Forces Emergency Service Centers for information and assistance 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The toll-free telephone number may be obtained from military installation operators, from local on-base Red Cross offices and from the local Red Cross chapter.

All family members who do not reside in the service member's household, regardless of where the service member is assigned — at a local military installation or another geographical location — should contact their local American Red Cross chapter for assistance. Chapters are listed in local telephone directories and online at www.redcross.org, under "Find Your Local Red Cross."

Members of the National Guard and Reserves and their families should contact their local Red Cross chapter, listed in local telephone directories and at www.redcross.org, under "Find Your Local Red Cross."

In overseas deployment areas, service members should contact the American Red Cross office responsible for their jurisdiction/installation.

Who Do these Societies Help?

- Active duty Guardmembers, single or married, and their dependents
- Guardmembers on continuous active duty for more than 30 days and their dependents
- Guardmembers retired from active duty for longevity or physical disability, and their dependents
- Surviving spouses and orphans of Guardmembers who died while on active duty or after they retired.

What Can These Societies Do?

Help with emergency financial needs for:

- Food, rent or utilities
- Emergency transportation and vehicle repair
- Funeral expenses
- Medical/dental expenses
- Personal needs when pay is delayed or stolen
- Give undergraduate-level education scholarships, based primarily on financial need, to children of soldiers.

What These Societies Cannot Do?

- Help pay for nonessentials
- Finance ordinary leave or vacation
- Help liquidate or consolidate debt
- Assist with house purchase or home improvements
- Help purchase, rent or lease vehicle
- Cover bad checks or pay credit card bills



Mental Health Services For The Guardmember and Family

Military One Source: 1-800-665-4545

www.militaryonesource.com

VA's Vet Centers: 1-877-222-VETS (8387)

www.va.gov

Can My Spouse Get Help If I'm Away?

Yes! He/She should bring:

- Power of Attorney
- Military Identification Card
- Substantiating documents

What Kind Of Assistance Can I Expect?

- An Interest-free loan
- A grant (an outright gift of funds) if repayment of loan will cause undue hardship
- Or, part loan and part grant

Other Frequently Asked Questions

How Long Does It Take To Get Help?

You can expect a quick decision on your request for assistance.

What Should I Bring With Me?

- Military Identification Card
- Leave and Earnings Statement
- Leave/PCS Orders
- Substantiating documents (car repair estimate, rental agreement, utility bill, etc.)

Is There A Dollar Limit On Help?

These organizations will do their best to meet your emergency need.

Do I Have To Contribute To Get Help?

No. If you are eligible for assistance and have a valid emergency need, they will help you.

How Do I Find Help When I Need it?

Red Cross Military Services:
www.redcross.org

Army Emergency Relief Fund:
www.aerhq.org

Air Force Aid Society:
<http://www.afas.org/>