

IC 10-17-12

Chapter 12. Military Family Relief Fund

IC 10-17-12-0.5

Application

Sec. 0.5. This chapter applies after December 31, 2006.
As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8.

IC 10-17-12-0.7

Purpose of fund

Sec. 0.7. The purpose of the fund established in section 8 of this chapter is to provide short term financial assistance, including emergency one (1) time grants, to families of qualified service members for hardships that result from the qualified service members' military service.
As added by P.L.50-2009, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.169-2013, SEC.4; P.L.99-2016, SEC.6.

IC 10-17-12-1

Repealed

(As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.50-2009, SEC.2. Repealed by P.L.99-2016, SEC.7.)

IC 10-17-12-2

"Armed forces"

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "armed forces" includes the active or reserve components of the following:

- (1) The United States Army.
- (2) The United States Navy.
- (3) The United States Marine Corps.
- (4) The United States Air Force.
- (5) The United States Coast Guard.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.50-2009, SEC.3.

IC 10-17-12-3

Repealed

(As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.144-2007, SEC.11. Repealed by P.L.113-2010, SEC.170.)

IC 10-17-12-3.5

"Commission"

Sec. 3.5. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the Indiana veterans' affairs commission established by IC 10-17-13-4.
As added by P.L.113-2010, SEC.76.

IC 10-17-12-4

"Department"

Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "department" refers to the Indiana

department of veterans' affairs established by IC 10-17-1-2.
As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8.

IC 10-17-12-5

"Director"

Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "director" refers to the director of veterans' affairs.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8.

IC 10-17-12-5.5

"Dependent"

Sec. 5.5. As used in this chapter, "dependent" has the meaning set forth in 37 U.S.C. 401, as in effect on January 1, 2009.

As added by P.L.50-2009, SEC.4.

IC 10-17-12-6

"Fund"

Sec. 6. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the military family relief fund established by section 8 of this chapter.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8.

IC 10-17-12-7

"National guard"

Sec. 7. As used in this chapter, "national guard" means:

- (1) the Indiana Army National Guard; or
- (2) the Indiana Air National Guard.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8.

IC 10-17-12-7.5

"Qualified service member"

Sec. 7.5. As used in this chapter, "qualified service member" means an individual who is an Indiana resident and who:

- (1) is:
 - (A) a member of the armed forces of the United States or the national guard (as defined in IC 5-9-4-4); and
 - (B) serving on or has served on active duty during a time of national conflict or war; or
- (2) has:
 - (A) served on active duty during a time of national conflict or war in:
 - (i) the armed forces of the United States; or
 - (ii) the national guard (as defined in IC 5-9-4-4); and
 - (B) received an honorable discharge.

As added by P.L.50-2009, SEC.5. Amended by P.L.99-2016, SEC.8.

IC 10-17-12-8

Establishment of the fund; eligibility

Sec. 8. (a) The military family relief fund is established to provide

short term assistance with food, housing, utilities, medical services, basic transportation, child care, education, employment or workforce, and other essential family support expenses that have become difficult to afford for qualified service members or dependents of qualified service members.

(b) Except as provided in section 9 of this chapter, the commission shall expend the money in the fund exclusively to provide grants for assistance as described in subsection (a).

(c) The commission shall give priority to applications for grants for assistance from the fund to qualified service members or dependents of qualified service members who have never received a grant under this chapter.

(d) Subject to the approval of the budget agency, the commission shall establish the maximum total dollar amount of grants that may be expended in a state fiscal year. Once the maximum total dollar amount of grants that may be expended in a state fiscal year is reached, no additional grants may be authorized until the start of the following state fiscal year.

(e) The director shall each year provide a report to the budget committee concerning the grant program under this chapter.

(f) A qualified service member or the qualified service member's dependent may be eligible to receive assistance from the fund.

(g) The commission shall administer the fund.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.144-2007, SEC.12; P.L.151-2007, SEC.2; P.L.3-2008, SEC.86; P.L.50-2009, SEC.6; P.L.113-2010, SEC.77; P.L.54-2012, SEC.1; P.L.169-2013, SEC.5; P.L.7-2014, SEC.1; P.L.99-2016, SEC.9.

IC 10-17-12-9

Funding sources; investment; nonreversion

Sec. 9. (a) The fund consists of the following:

- (1) Appropriations made by the general assembly.
- (2) Donations to the fund.
- (3) Interest.
- (4) Money transferred to the fund from other funds.
- (5) Annual supplemental fees collected under IC 9.
- (6) Money from any other source authorized or appropriated for the fund.

(b) The commission shall transfer the money in the fund not currently needed to provide assistance or meet the obligations of the fund to the veterans' affairs trust fund established by IC 10-17-13-3.

(c) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund or to any other fund.

(d) There is annually appropriated to the commission for the purposes of this chapter all money in the fund not otherwise appropriated to the commission for the purposes of this chapter.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.144-2007, SEC.13; P.L.50-2009, SEC.7; P.L.113-2010, SEC.78; P.L.198-2016,

SEC.635.

IC 10-17-12-10

Authority to adopt rules; grant eligibility requirements; grant requirements

Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 for the provision of grants under this chapter. Subject to subsection (b), the rules adopted under this section must address the following:

- (1) Uniform need determination procedures.
- (2) Eligibility criteria, including income eligibility standards, asset limit eligibility standards, and other standards concerning when assistance may be provided.
- (3) Application procedures.
- (4) Selection procedures.
- (5) A consideration of the extent to which an individual has used assistance available from other assistance programs before assistance may be provided to the individual from the fund.
- (6) Other areas in which the department determines that rules are necessary to ensure the uniform administration of the grant program under this chapter.

(b) The following apply to grants awarded under this chapter:

- (1) An applicant is not eligible for a grant from the fund if:
 - (A) the qualified service member with respect to whom the application is based has been discharged; and
 - (B) the qualified service member's term of qualifying military service was less than twelve (12) months.
- (2) The income eligibility standards must be based on the federal gross income of the qualified service member and the qualified service member's spouse.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.144-2007, SEC.14; P.L.113-2010, SEC.79; P.L.99-2016, SEC.10.

IC 10-17-12-11

Authority to request appropriations

Sec. 11. The director or a member of the commission may make a request to the general assembly for an appropriation to the fund.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.144-2007, SEC.15; P.L.113-2010, SEC.80.

IC 10-17-12-12

Donations; Internet capability

Sec. 12. The director shall establish the capability to receive donations to the fund from the public on the department's Internet site.

As added by P.L.58-2006, SEC.8.

IC 10-17-12-13

Repealed

(As added by P.L.169-2013, SEC.6. Repealed by P.L.99-2016, SEC.11.)