



## Emergency Assistance Fund

### What Is the Emergency Assistance Fund (EAF)?

For nearly a century the Emergency Assistance Fund (EAF) has provided financial aid when an accident, illness, death of a loved one, disaster or other crisis strikes. Funded by the very people it helps, EAF is possible through the generous contributions of active and retired YMCA professionals.

### EAF Grant Eligibility

EAF Grants of up to \$2,500 are made to active and retired Y professionals, for themselves or for their immediate family members. In order to be eligible applicants must:

- Have been employed for 6 months and in good standing with the Y prior to the submittal of a grant request; or
- Have been a member of the YMCA Alumni Association (Formerly Association of YMCA Retirees) for at least the past 6 months prior to the submittal of a grant request.

Grants are available for the following needs, with supporting documentation:

- **Medical expenses** are incurred beyond provisions of health insurance coverage or other related expenses, which result in an extreme economic hardship.
- **A catastrophic event** such as acts of nature (fire, flood, wind, earthquake, etc.) or other events such as an accident, crime, etc. that results in economic distress.
- An **emergency need** that is a result of an "unforeseen event" and not from an exercise of "personal choice".

In addition:

- Grants are available for those who meet the eligibility criteria as long as funds are available.
- A person may receive only one grant within a 12 month period.
- Grants of up to \$2,500 are awarded with the supporting documentation required to determine eligibility.
- Decisions are typically provided within 15 days from the date of application as long as additional documentation is not required.

### How Do I Apply for a Grant?

- Grant applications can be initiated in two ways: by an individual employee experiencing financial hardship or by an employee on behalf of another employee.
- Applications are accepted via Y-USA's SmartSimple online application system (<https://yusa.smartsimple.com>).
- Please send any questions to [EAF@ymca.net](mailto:EAF@ymca.net)

### How Do I Donate to the Fund?

We welcome donations of all sizes and payment plans – whether it's a one-time gift or a monthly contribution. You can scan the QR code below or [click here to donate to EAF](#)

