

# Frequently Asked Questions Solidarity Assistance Program (SAP) Grant Assistance



## **1. *What is the Solidarity Assistance Program (SAP)?***

The Anchorage Chapter has established the Solidarity Assistance Program (SAP) to assist members facing significant challenges or hardship as a result of the current state of emergency

## **2. *What kinds of assistance does SAP offer?***

SAP's objective is to help individual members in two ways.

- To assist in locating resources or programs that may provide assistance to meet the specific member's situation. There are a lot of resources and assistance programs available but the volume of information can be overwhelming and challenging to navigate. Also, resources and assistance programs are continually being added or updated with information changing almost daily. SAP resources specialists are available to help.
- To provide grant assistance to members. Many of our members are facing severe hardships during the current state of emergency and may need a little bit of a helping hand. Maybe it is a little help with groceries until payday or while waiting for other assistance. The grant assistance is intended to help members who are facing an immediate hardship due to COVID-19 emergency while waiting for other assistance.

## **3. *Who is eligible to apply for assistance?***

All dues paying members in good standing with ASEA Local 52 Anchorage Chapter are eligible to participate in the SAP program.

## **4. *How do I know if I am a dues paying member and in a member in good standing?***

Contact ASEA Anchorage Headquarters at 907-277-5200 or by e-mail at [ASEAHQ@afscmelocal52.org](mailto:ASEAHQ@afscmelocal52.org)

**5. *Is there a fee for participating in the SAP program?***

There is no fee to participate in the SAP program. All dues paying members of the Anchorage Chapter in good standing are eligible to participate in the program.

**6. *I'm not sure whether I qualify for assistance. May I ask some questions about my personal situation before I apply?***

Yes, questions may be forwarded to [SAPInfo@afscmelocal52.org](mailto:SAPInfo@afscmelocal52.org).

**7. *How do I apply for grant assistance?***

To apply for SAP grant assistance, email a completed application and attach the required supporting documentation to [SAPGrant@afscmelocal52.org](mailto:SAPGrant@afscmelocal52.org). Incomplete applications will be returned to the member without processing.

**8. *What type of grant assistance is available?***

Grant assistance is provided to assist members who are experiencing a severe hardship due to the current state of emergency. Assistance is to help members on a temporary basis until other funds or program support is available. Assistance may include funding for groceries, transportations, utilities, dependent care, other support items.

**9. *How are grant assistance applications processed?***

Grant assistance applications are logged in the order they are received. The Grant Assistance Coordinator redacts all personal information from the application and all documents and assigns a unique number to each application.

All redacted applications are forwarded to the Grant Assistance Review board. The board reviews each individual application, taking into consideration the unique circumstance of the member and demonstrated need. Grant requests may be funded in full, partial or denied, depending on the circumstance supported by the application and the availability of SAP grant funds.

**10. *How long does it take to review request for grant assistance?***

Grant assistance applications are reviewed weekly, at a minimum. Depending on number of applications received, the Grant Assistance Review Board may review

applications more frequently.

**11. Who do I contact if I have questions regarding the status of my grant assistance application?**

You may email questions regarding your grant application to [SAPGrant@afscmelocal52.org](mailto:SAPGrant@afscmelocal52.org).

**12. How are grant assistance funds disbursed?**

All grant payments will be disbursed directly to the service provider or by a gift card restricted for the purpose in which the grant is awarded. No payments will be made directly to the member. The member will receive a copy of the payment disbursed to the provider for the member's records.

**13. May I apply for grant assistance more than once?**

Yes, members may apply for grant assistance more than once provided SAP Grant funds are available. To qualify for additional assistance, the member must submit a completed grant assistance application and include supporting documentation demonstrating need or hardship. You must disclose on the application that you have previously received SAP assistance, including the date and amount received. Excluding this information will make you ineligible for any additional or future grant assistance under the SAP program.