

# **Employee Assistance Fund Grant Application**

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

SCRS-IL is proud to offer the EAF as an option for employees who need financial assistance because of certain unexpected hardships including domestic violence.

You can receive EAF assistance once every 12 months, and you must apply within 30 days of a qualifying incident. If your application is denied, you can submit a new application for a different incident after six months.

SCRS-IL has added the ability for Employees of SCRS-IL to apply for the EAF without a Financial hardship in order to assist in covering the costs for extracurricular activities for their child. The EAF can cover registration or supplies with a maximum award of \$300.00 per year. Examples of extracurricular activities (Equipment for Sports, Registration Costs, Art, Music, and S.T.E.M. Activities)

Check Applicable Box: Hardship Employee Assistance Extracurricular Activities

## Employee Eligibility

You're eligible to apply for assistance if:

- You are currently employed by SCRS-IL.
- · You are regularly scheduled to work 15 or more hours per week.
- You are actively employed or on an approved leave of absence for no more than one year.
- Your family combined household gross income (including you, your spouse and eligible dependents) is less than \$100,000.00.
- Your Child applying for the Extracurricular Activity is under the age of 18 years old.

## **Qualified Incidents**

Qualified incidents are unexpected or unavoidable circumstances outside of your control that create an economic or legal hardship for you and your family. These are usually one-time events that cause you to spend your



rent, mortgage or utility money on unexpected bills or that cause an unexpected legal issue.

Qualified incidents fall into five main categories.

- **Natural disasters.** These can include floods, lightning strikes, house fires, tornado strikes, etc., that affect your primary residence.
- **Illness or injury.** Examples include heart attacks, car accidents, emergency room visits or other medical bills that aren't eligible for reimbursement for you, your spouse, domestic partner (as defined by SCRS-IL) or eligible dependents.
- **Death.** This can be your death or the death of your spouse, domestic partner (as defined by SCRS-IL), child or other eligible dependent.
- Military deployment. Assistance may be available to help you pay for unexpected costs associated with your deployment or the deployment of an immediate family member.
- **Domestic Violence.** Emergency assistance is available to an individual that is a victim of domestic violence. (Needing emergency shelter for yourself and your children will be provided with up to 3 nights in a hotel, clothing items for self and children, school items while sheltered, and food allowance for the family) it is the responsibility of the individual to seek out additional immediate assistance as this is only authorized for up to 3 nights.
- Catastrophic or extreme circumstances. These are defined as events that happened within 30 days of the application date, don't fall into any of the categories above, and result in unexpected bills that cause you to spend your rent, mortgage or utility money on unexpected bills or that cause unexpected legal issues.

# Examples of incidents that don't qualify include:

- Loss of household income because of a cutback in hours or overtime.
- Credit card bills, vehicle purchases or home foreclosures.
- Expenses incurred due to lack of homeowners or medical insurance.
- Accumulated financial distress that results in your not having enough income to cover your regular monthly bills. EAF grants aren't available to resolve ongoing general financial problems.
- Wage garnishments, disconnection notices or eviction notices. These are results of a financial hardship, not the cause. Instead, your



application for assistance needs to describe what happened that prevented you from paying these bills.

While the EAF may provide assistance for expenses that aren't eligible for reimbursement under medical or homeowners insurance, note that the EAF is not a replacement for insurance. If you do not have insurance, the EAF may allow a one-time exception and award financial assistance to pay for expenses. In such a case, you must obtain medical or homeowners insurance to be eligible to apply to the EAF in the future.

#### Extra Curricular Activities

SCRS-IL believes in our youth and future generations by taking a proactive approach in supporting activities that enhance the ongoing growth and development of our children. There is no financial requirement nor any hardship required to apply for the EAF if the request is for Extracurricular Activities.

If you have questions about what's considered to be a qualifying incident, Email the SCRS-IL CEO @ rcontreras@scrs-ilc.org



Applicant's Name

# **Employee Assistance Fund Grant Application**

The Application is confidential and will only be available to the CEO. The CEO may need to contact other individuals with respect to your Application and will do so in a confidential manner. The Fund requests that you also treat your request confidential.

Home Address Hire Date						
Work Location (ex. Downey)						
Phone # Office Phone #						
Applicant's Email Address						
Describe your hardship and the reason for the request (continue on reverse for more						
space); For Extra Curricular Activities, describe the activity and reason for the req	uest:					

Achieve. Educate. Individualize. Maximize Quality of Life

What specific financial assistance do you need at this time? Please be specific - list the



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savings, insurance coverage, federal not? If yes, please list the other pos	financial assistance may be available to you (such as or state aid, family)?   NO,  YES If not, explain why sible sources of assistance and an approximate amount ies, state the Name and Age of the Child.
reimbursed to you by some other p	e expenses for which you are requesting a grant be person or organization?   NO,  YES If yes, identify be reimbursed and the amount of any anticipated
In order to comply with Internal Revenue Se	rvice rules and regulations, I understand and certify by my signature
below the following is true and correct: (1) accurate to the best of my abilities and knowle	the information provided in this Application and any attachments is edge, and (2) if a grant is awarded to me from the Fund, the grant funds this Application. I authorize the CEO to contact other individuals, as
Employee Name (Print Name)	Date

#### Achieve. Educate. Individualize. Maximize Quality of Life

#### For use of SCRS-IL Assistance Fund only

AWARD:		
Grant Awarded - Total Amount	of \$	
Grant Funds Paid to <b>Applicant</b>		_
(name and address):		_
Amount:	\$	
Date:		_
Grant Funds Paid to <b>Provider 1</b>		_
(name and address):		_
Amount:	\$	
Date:		_
Grant Funds Paid to <b>Provider 2</b>		
(name and address):		_
Amount:	\$	_
Date:		
DENIAL:		
Reason Grant Denied:	_ Application Incomplete	
	_ Application Did Not Meet Grant Guidelines	
	_ Other:	
Date & Method Denial Commur	nicated to Applicant (i.e., phone call, mail, etc.):	
CEO Signature	Date:	