

2020 Supreme Council Pandemic Relief Fund

The Supreme Council has created the Pandemic Relief Fund program to assist lodges in managing financial obligations during this unprecedented pandemic crisis. **The application date for the 2020 Pandemic Relief Program will begin on Monday, April 27th, 2020 and will remain open until funding has been either depleted or extended by the Supreme Council.** This year, the projected time frame for announcing the first round of Relief Grant award recipients is early-to-mid-May.

Please read the following information in order to improve your lodge's chances for securing a Supreme Council Pandemic Relief Grant:

1. Lodges can begin applying on Monday, April 27th, with no set end date for applications. Grant applications will be reviewed on a weekly/semi-weekly basis until funds have been depleted or extended per the Supreme Council. Lodges will have the opportunity to make changes to their forms during the week they submit their application, but will be unable to do so once the review process begins at the end of each application period. The initial pool of grant money available is \$1,000,000.
2. The process to apply will be the same as the Lodge Grant Program, with the application appearing on April 27th within the lodge's Moose Admin section, which can be accessed by your Administrator via the Moose International website.
3. Lodges may apply only once in 2020, regardless of how many application periods are offered. Application period one begins April 27 and ends at 5:00pm (CST) on Friday, May 1. Application period two begins May 2 and closes at 5:00pm (CST) on Friday, May 15. Application period three, if required, begins May 16 and closes at 5:00pm (CST) on Friday, May 29.
4. Grants will be dispersed in quantities up to \$5,000 per lodge. Again, lodges may only apply for relief money once.
5. To qualify for a Pandemic Relief Fund award, you must have completed an Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) application through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Nearly all U.S. lodges qualify to participate in this government-sponsored program which offers advances of up to \$10,000 (depending upon the number of employees). This advance will provide economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing a temporary loss of revenue. Funds will be made available following a successful application. This loan advance will not have to be repaid. This requirement is not applicable for Canadian lodges, as the program is for U.S. companies only. PLEASE NOTE: If this funding is no longer available through the SBA, then this requirement is waived for all lodges.
6. Funds are to be used to pay current expenditures such as mortgage payments, utility bills, rent, loans, or other financial obligations of the lodge. The payment of these expenditures should be required to keep the lodge available to open once the crisis is resolved. Bills cannot be retroactive.

7. These are not loans – there is no monetary payback required. The Lodge will be required to sign a statement if a grant is awarded, however, pledging to use the funds for the express purpose listed on its application.
8. There are two primary sections that need to be completed. One: identify the problem and any ways the lodge is trying to address the problem. (i.e. The lodge is closed due to a state order, however, we are trying to raise funds by offering curbside pick-up of lodge meals.) Two: list detailed descriptions of costs that are to be paid if grant monies are received. (i.e. April 2020 ComEd electric bill - \$549.30)
9. Whenever possible, always submit specific copies of invoices for each of the requests listed on your application. Scan and attach the invoice(s) to your proposal if possible, but if you cannot, you must still list specific costs from each invoice within the application. It is highly unlikely that you will be funded if you do not identify specific bills to be paid with grant money.
10. If you list several expenses on your application, always identify specific costs for each bill and the order of importance to which you attribute each expense on your list. Your most important expense should be listed first; the second most important expense should be listed second, and so on.
11. Your current financial situation, including any cash reserves, savings, cd's, etc. will be considered when evaluating your grant application.
12. Your fraternal record is taken into account when considering grants, including membership trends; contributions through Moose Charities; MI accounts receivable trends; Heart of the Community activity, etc.
13. Starting May 1st, 2020, applications will be reviewed by the Territory Manager, the Regional Manager, Moose International staff, and the Supreme Council. Applications may be denied at any time during this process based on the request of the field staff or fraternal history of the Lodge.
14. Make sure your Territory Manager or Regional Manager thoroughly understands the expenses for which you are requesting funds and how payment of these expenses will enable the lodge to reopen once this crisis has ended. The Field Staff will be making the first recommendations for grant awards.
15. All proceeds granted by the Supreme Council will be forwarded directly to the lodge. The lodge must use the funds to pay only those invoices that were listed on the grant application. The lodge must be able to show proof that the identified invoices have been paid, if requested by a representative of Moose International.
16. Questions may be directed to Kurt Wiebe, CMO Phone - 630-966-2226
Email – kwiebe@mooseintl.org.