

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, LODGE 15 CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

“SHIELD OF HOPE”

BENEFIT ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

The Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 15 Charitable Foundation (FOP, Lodge 15, Charitable Foundation) was established as a 501(c)(3) foundation in 2011. The Foundation was established to help provide emergency assistance to police officers who have suffered a traumatic injury, illness or other unforeseen hardship beyond their control and have limited financial means. The nonprofit foundation dedicates itself to helping police officers and their families who have selflessly provided safety and put their lives in the line of duty daily. The office is located at 9620 Lackland Road, St. Louis, MO 63114.

Application:

All police officers or a representative for an officer is eligible to request assistance.

Benefits Administration:

The requested benefit assistance must be to help solve a crisis situation. A “crisis” is defined as “an injury, illness or other unforeseen hardship beyond their control.”

Benefit Assistance Available:

1. Grants are available not to exceed \$1000.00. While there is no lifetime maximum, any additional request within a two-year period must be carefully considered to ensure there is no abuse of the intent of the funds.
2. Exceptions to Policy: In exceptional circumstances, we may provide amounts over the \$1000.00 limit. If the requestor can fully explain and justify why we should approve an exception to the policy, the Board may approve exceptions

Application Procedures:

1. The officer, or person requesting for the officer, must contact the FOP Lodge 15 Charitable Foundation at 9620 Lackland Road, St. Louis, MO 63114 for an application.
2. The officer or his/her representative must complete the *Application for Benefits* and deliver, mail, or fax the application to the Charitable Foundation. The application will be reviewed by the Board of Directors or Committee, if a committee is established.
3. No application information or records will be released to any outside agencies or organizations. The Foundation’s Board reserves the right to contact anyone involved concerning the request.

Application Review:

1. The Board of Directors or the Committee that is appointed by the Board of Directors will review the application to determine validity, actual need for assistance and the amount of grant to be given. The Board of Directors/Committee meets on an on-call basis when a benefit assistance application is received.

2. The following is considered by the Board of Directors or Committee to evaluate an applicant's request:
 - Purpose and validity of the request
 - Extent of hardship
 - Amount of assistance requested
 - Has applicant received assistance before
3. The goal of the Foundation is to respond to each request within a week, seven (7) working days.

Disbursements

1. The Board of Directors/Committee will determine the amount of assistance and how it will be dispersed if approved. Disbursements are normally sent directly to the officer.
2. If the officer is approved for a grant of \$1000.00 that officer is not eligible to receive future assistance from the Foundation until two years from the issue date of the check unless an exception to policy has been granted by the Board of Directors.

Donations and Support:

The FOP, Lodge 15 Charitable Foundation is supported by individual and corporate donations through various fundraising events.

More Information: Contact FOP, Lodge 15 at 314-423-8003