

**Olympians & Paralympians Relief Fund (OPRF)
Financial Assistance Grant Program**

www.opr.fund

Policies & Procedures Manual, 2025

OPRF Purpose: To provide financial assistance and solidarity to needy U.S. Olympians & Paralympians who have encountered difficulties or hardships (i.e.: personal loss, injury, accident or illness or resulting from natural disaster) during the previous twelve (12) months.

Mission: The Mission of the OPRF Financial Assistance Grant Program is to raise funds, assist USOPA members through the application process, review and award assistance in the form of OPRF Financial Assistance Grants to eligible USOPA members who meet the qualifying guidelines.

Grant Guidelines:

Applicants must be USOPA members in good standing, and must have submitted correctly completed application forms, and must demonstrate financial need.

Applications must include description of a solitary difficulty/hardship (an “incident” like accident, illness, injury or natural disaster) that occurred in the prior twelve (12) months, which prompts the request for financial aid.

Applicants may only submit one application per “incident.”

Applications will be reviewed and voted upon by the entire Board (comprised entirely of USOPA members). Decisions of the Board are not subject to outside review but may be revisited at the request of any two (2) Board members.

All applications and eventual decisions are treated with the utmost **confidentiality** unless the recipient grants permission to share the details on OPRF social networks or mailers.

Applications on behalf of **family members** or otherwise worthwhile or needy causes will not be considered.

Silver (\$3,000) or **Bronze** (\$1,000) level Grants may be awarded if the application receives a majority vote.

Gold (\$5,000) level grants may only be awarded if the application is accompanied by an “Endorsement” from another USOPA member, and if the application receives unanimous approval by the Board.

The OPRF “**Olympian/Paralympian Endorsement Form**” is not required but it helps verify, attest, and provides continuity and clarity in the review process for the Board’s decision, and it makes it more likely for the Board to award larger grants.

In case of life-saving emergencies, the Board may choose to award a larger amount (called “**Decathlon Grant**”), again only if the application is accompanied by an “Endorsement” and must also receive unanimous approval from the Board.

Solidarity Grants may be awarded for a set amount of \$1,000.00 in the case where an U.S. Olympian or U.S. Paralympian is reluctant to ask for assistance, any of their U.S. Olympian or Paralympian teammates may initiate a request of their behalf.

All Solidarity Grant forms will be forwarded to the OPRF Board for a vote. A majority ruling from the board will approve a Solidarity Grant. Receipt of an OPRF Solidarity Grant does not prevent the recipient (or the applicant) from applying for additional grants from the OPRF Program.

The foregoing **Purpose, Mission and Guidelines may be revised or amended** at any time pursuant to resolution of the OPRF Board of Directors.

Members of the OPRF Board are either elected to staggered and limited terms or appointed by the USOPA Executive Council.

Application Process:

Application forms are available online (www.OPR.fund) and may be downloaded and printed or submitted electronically.

All applications should include a description of the pertinent “incident,” plus all requested financial information. Each application must be personally signed by the applicant. Any Endorsement form must be signed by the endorser.

All OPRF Financial Assistance Grant requests must use the OPRF Financial Assistance Grant Application Forms and may be submitted in writing to the OPRF at the following address:

Olympians & Paralympians Relief Fund (OPRF)
Attn: Cynthia Stinger, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1090
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

or electronically to OPRFExecutiveDirector@outlook.com

For any questions regarding the OPRF Financial Grant Assistance Program - please contact Cynthia Stinger at: 719-722-0675.

The Board will usually vote upon each application within weeks of its submission, and funds may be deposited into the Applicant’s account within days of the decision.

Applicants are notified by email as soon as the request for a grant has been determined.

To review the important documents associated with this grant process or to find out more about the OPRF or to send a tax deductible contribution, please go to: <https://opr.fund> or <https://olympyrelieffund.org> .