



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

13 AUG 2020
FM: CHDIRAUX
TO: ALAUX
ALAUX 022/20

Subj: COVID-19: COAST GUARD MUTUAL ASSISTANCE (CGMA) COVID ASSISTANCE

All Auxiliarists are strongly encouraged to read the following ALCOAST message about available Coast Guard Mutual Assistance benefits.

Respectfully,
Captain Scott L. Johnson
Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX)

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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-1//
TO ALCOAST
UNCLAS //N05760//
ALCOAST 306/20
COMDTNOTE 5760

SUBJ: COVID-19: COAST GUARD MUTUAL ASSISTANCE (CGMA) COVID ASSISTANCE

1. On 1 Aug 2020 Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) implemented six programs to widen the financial safety net for the Coast Guard community. These programs include both grants and loans. All CG Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian Employees, Retirees and Auxiliarists are eligible for these programs.
2. Personnel wishing to learn more about these programs, described below, are encouraged to contact their local CGMA Representative. A CGMA Representative is the collateral duty designated person(s) entrusted with the local administration of CGMA policy and funds. Commands are encouraged to post the Coast Guard email address and work telephone number of the unit's CGMA Representative. Publishing the information in unit common areas, newsletters, or other official communications methods will ensure unit personnel are aware of whom they may contact for assistance. Spouses of members who are deployed should contact the CGMA Representative at the nearest CG

shore command for assistance. More information about the programs is available on the CGMA website at www.cgmahq.org.

3. COVID-19 Assistance Programs. These programs all expire on 31 December 2020. The intent is primarily to assist members with the extra costs incurred during the fall school term. In order to qualify for grants, all purchases must be made by 01 November 2020. All CGMA loans are interest free. Collection of these loans will commence in early 2021.

a. SEG-C Autumn. This is a one-time grant of up to \$500 to help with the cost of various school supplies for the fall school term. This grant is available to members with dependents in Pre-K through 12th grade. Members who received the previous spring semester SEG-C are eligible to receive the fall grant as well.

b. Childcare Grant. This is a one-time \$500 grant to help offset the increased demand and hurdles to securing ongoing childcare throughout the school term (15 August – 31 December 2020). This grant is available to members with dependents ages 0 to 12 years old.

c. Childcare Loans. Up to \$6000 in loans is available to assist members with the cost of ongoing childcare. This loan is available to members with dependents ages 0 to 12 years old. Members who received this type of assistance prior to 01 August 2020 are eligible for a second loan.

d. In-Person Tutoring Grant. This is a one-time grant of up to \$1000 to assist members with dependents in Pre-K through 8th grade with in-person tutoring costs. CGMA still provides, and recommends, free online access to another tutoring alternative, www.tutor.com, for all military and civilian employees and their dependents.

e. Supplemental Special Needs Grant. This is a one-time grant of up to \$1000 to assist member with dependents enrolled in the CG Special Needs program. The requirements for this grant are identical to the current Special Needs Grant program but authorizes an additional \$1000 during the period 01 August 2020 to 31 December 2020.

f. Lost Wages Loan. Loans up to \$6000 are available to assist members whose spouses lost their jobs, had their hours reduced, or otherwise lost income, but have not yet received federal benefits (unemployment). Members may receive an amount equal to two months of lost wages (less any federal or local/state assistance received). Members who received this type of assistance prior to 1 August are eligible for a second loan.

g. Should other COVID 19-related needs arise, please contact your local CGMA representative for guidance. This could include COVID 19-testing not covered by TRICARE, quarantine costs, food costs if you qualified for free or reduced lunch at

school, funeral and/or storage costs, etc. CGMA will consider all requests.

4. CGMA offers a helping hand to shipmates and co-workers in need through direct financial aid and a wide range of programs and services. As a donor supported non-profit, CGMA receives no federal funds and it must rely on our generosity and our desire to look after our own. For 96 years, CGMA has proven to be a valuable community resource. CGMA's ability to respond to challenges such as the pandemic is based entirely on ongoing generosity and support from members of the Coast Guard. Per the Ethics Guiding Principles for Supporting Organizations, COMDT (CG-LGL) of 31 July 2019, COs/OINCs/supervisors and individuals may all use their official title, position and authority to speak, write and encourage other members of the Coast Guard to donate to CGMA. Donations always are the members' choice. Through donations great or small, we can ensure CGMA remains strong and ready to serve our Coast Guard family for years to come. If you would like to support CGMA please go to: www.cgmahq.org/give.

5. Ms. Michelle R. Godfrey, Acting Assistant Commandant for Human Resources, sends.

6. Internet release is authorized.