



Directors Guild Foundation Emergency Relief Fund FAQ

What is the DGA Emergency Relief Fund?

On June 28 the Directors Guild Foundation (DGF) announced the creation of the DGA Emergency Relief Fund to aid members facing financial crisis. Although the Directors Guild of America has voted to ratify a new labor contract with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, entertainment industry workers in film, television and commercial productions remain impacted by the current writer's strike. The Trustees of the DGF voted unanimously to establish a separate emergency relief fund. The new Fund will support members of the Directors Guild of America (DGA) affected by the shutdowns with \$1,000 financial relief grants. The Emergency Relief Fund grants will exist alongside the Foundation's longstanding interest-free loan program that offers aid to members experiencing financial hardships and emergencies.

Members can call MPTF on its hotline – (323) 634-3888 – or contact them via email at info@mptf.com for more information.

Who will be administering the DGA Emergency Relief Fund?

The Motion Picture and Television Fund (MPTF) will administer the Fund on behalf of the DGF. The DGF, DGA and MPTF for decades have had a close relationship, with the Foundation and Guild providing longstanding financial support to MPTF – including millions of dollars of contributions to the general MPTF fund, and the direct backing of many programs such as a 10-year Alzheimer's study benefitting the entertainment community.

How do I qualify for financial assistance from the DGA Emergency Relief Fund?

To qualify, an individual must:

- Be an active member in good standing.
- Have \$25,000 in earnings under the Basic Agreement or Freelance Live and Tape Television Agreement/Network Freelance Entertainment Agreements in the 12-month period prior to June 1, 2023.
- Have less than \$10,000 in liquid assets (bank statements will be required).
- Have a demonstrated financial need.

Who makes the eligibility determination?

Members can call MPTF on its hotline – (323) 634-3888 – or contact them via email at info@mptf.com for more information and to apply. An experienced MPTF social worker will help members determine if they are eligible and will walk them through an expedited application process.

Can you describe the application process?

The process begins with a call to the MPTF hotline (323) 634-3888. DGA members will speak to an MPTF social worker who will assess their eligibility and specific circumstances/needs. MPTF will work with the Directors Guild to confirm recent employment and that the applicant is a DGA member in good standing. Next, the assigned social worker will walk the member through the process of applying for financial assistance, which includes the completion of a financial assistance application and providing current bank statements showing the most recent 30-day transaction history and account balances. Members will be notified by their assigned social worker of the determination. If approved, financial assistance will be granted directly to the member.

How long will it take from the time I apply and provide all the documentation to the time I am confirmed as eligible and get assistance?

This depends on the volume of calls MPTF is experiencing. Every effort will be made to expedite all requests.

What amount of financial assistance might I receive?

The DGA Emergency Relief Fund grants are \$1,000.

If I am collecting unemployment or receiving any other kind of federal or state relief under recently passed legislation, am I still eligible for this financial assistance from my union?

Yes. The DGA Emergency Relief Fund will supplement unemployment relief its members are receiving as a result of the loss of work from the WGA strike.

If both members of my household are DGA members, are we each able to apply for financial assistance from the DGA Emergency Relief Fund and if eligible will we each receive the full amount of the grant?

Yes, and yes. All eligible members of the DGA will be considered for this plan individually and grants will be determined and made on an individual basis. If the household shares finances, we will be looking for a bank statement with less than \$20,000 to determine financial assistance.

Is this financial assistance a one-time relief or may I apply again in the future?

This is a measure for the moment and the DGF will be following new developments, so we cannot answer that definitively right now. We will be monitoring the number of DGA members that qualify for the financial assistance under the parameters that have been set and will also look to determine if there is funding for additional relief.