

## **Guidance to support Army National Guard Soldiers activated in support of Hurricane Harvey**

**Purpose:** To assist National Guard Soldiers who experience financial distress as a result of being called - up to support Hurricane Harvey Relief. This is an Exception to Policy approved by the Director, AER.

**Exception for National Guard Soldiers:** In coordination with the National Guard Bureau, the AER Director, approved an exception to policy to provide financial assistance to National Guard Soldiers supporting Hurricane Harvey Relief efforts. The exception is for 30 days (1 - 30 September 2017) and depending upon situation and circumstance could be extended beyond 30 September.

**Intent:** To provide financial assistance for valid financial needs as a 'Bridge Loan' until the National Guard Soldier receives his/her pay and entitlements. Valid needs should be associated with the Soldier's inability to pay for Basic Living Expenses such as rent, mortgage, utilities, food, and car payment as a result of being called-up to support Hurricane Harvey Relief efforts.

**Eligibility:** National Guard Soldiers who have been activated within or to support the states of Texas and Louisiana in support of devastation caused by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey.

### **Assistance Guidelines:**

- a) National Guard Soldiers must be assigned to a unit activated to assist the states of Texas and Louisiana in relief efforts of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey (As verified by the National Guard Bureau).
- b) National Guard Soldiers must present orders that depict their unit, activation period, and reason for activation (support of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey relief efforts).
- c) Assistance is provide as a loan for a repayment period NTE 120 days. Delay loan repayment to begin 90 days after disbursement in order for the Soldier to receive their National Guard pay.
- d) The requested assistance must be associated with the call to duty specifically for Hurricane Harvey Relief.
- e) A supplemental promissory note will be completed for loan repay. The following documentation must accompany the AER Form 501, Supplemental Promissory Note, to verify the Soldier's bank account and routing number:
  1. A Voided Blank Checkor
  2. For those that do not have a check to void, a legible copy of a bank statement or screen shot showing the Soldier's bank account and routing number.

f) All assistance cases will be forward to HQ AER for approval regardless of dollar amount.