

## **For National Guard & Reserves**

Along with the sacrifice of having a parent away in service for months at a time, many Guard and Reserve families are financially stretched and cannot afford the fees for sports, fine arts, or tutoring programs so crucial to a child's sense of well-being. Additionally, because these families are Guard and Reserve, they are geographically dispersed throughout the country and often live too far from military bases and installations to access the available support services.

Our Military Kids, founded in 2004, fills these gaps with a simple grant program that pays for children's activities. Eligible families apply for a grant, and within days of receiving the application in the Our Military Kids office, a packet is sent to the child thanking them for their service to our country and notifying them of the award. The check to pay for the activity is sent directly to the service provider.

Our Military Kids helps families who often fall outside the parameters of established support programs – the families of National Guard and Reserve service men and women who have been and are continuing to sacrifice so much for our country.

How to Apply

<http://www.ourmilitarykids.org/how-to-apply/apply-now/>

## **Eligible Program Activities**

Our Military Kids provides grants for sports, fine arts, camps, and tutoring programs.

The activity is eligible for a grant if it falls in one of those four categories. However, we DO NOT award grants for child care, school tuition, or religious trips.

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Below is a sample of some of the activities covered by Our Military Kids. If you have a question about whether Our Military Kids will pay for participation in a certain activity, please contact our office at (703) 734-6654.

## **Youth Sports Programs**

Archery

Judo

Baseball

Lacrosse

Basketball

Martial Arts

Bowling

Motorcross

Boxing  
Racquetball/Handball  
Cheerleading  
Rowing  
Cross Country  
Sailing  
Cycling  
Skiing/Snow boarding  
Dancing  
Soccer  
Field Hockey  
Softball  
Football  
Squash  
Golf  
Swimming  
Gymnastics  
Tennis  
Horseback Riding  
Track & Field  
Ice Hockey  
Volleyball  
Ice Skating  
Wrestling  
In-Line Hockey  
Yoga

### **Fine Arts Programs**

Choir/Voice

Performing Arts  
Dance  
Sculpture/Drawing  
Music  
Theater

### **Tutor Programs**

**(Assisting children to maintain performance at grade level)**

Reading  
Writing  
Math  
Study Skills  
English  
Leadership Training Programs

### **Other Programs**

Boys & Girls Club  
Drivers Education  
Camps  
Modeling/Beauty Pageants  
Chess  
School Trips  
Creative Thinking  
Scouting

### **FAQs**

The intent of the program is to recognize and honor the sacrifices the parents make by ensuring their children have access to activities and support that help the children better cope with challenges arising during a parent's deployment or recovery from severe injury.

**Q: Who can receive a grant?**

**A:** Children aged 3-18 years of age, who have a parent currently deployed overseas with the National Guard or Reserve, as well as those who have a Wounded Warrior parent may apply.

**Q: What documentation is needed to apply?**

**A:** Please see the "Apply Now" page, which lists the necessary supporting documents.

**Q: Does the family have to meet income qualifications before a child can receive a grant?**

A: No. Family income is not taken into consideration.

**Q: Are there restrictions on the types of activities I can apply for?**

A: Yes. Our Military Kids does not award grants for day care, tuition reimbursement, or mission trips. If you are still unsure about your activity, please contact our office.

**Q: What tutoring services qualify under this grant program?**

A: Grants will be considered for services provided by companies or organizations in the following subjects: reading, writing, math, or study skills to assist children in maintaining academic performance at grade level. Grants paid to individual tutors will only be provided if s/he is a certified teacher who can provide documentation (teacher's license, etc.) and is not a family member.

**Q: Will I receive a check in the mail?**

A: No. Checks are sent and made payable to the organization indicated on the grant application.

**Q: Will I have to repay the grant?**

A: No. The grant does not have to be paid back unless the child does not participate in the activity indicated on the application.

**Q: Can my child apply for a second grant?**

A: No. We regret that requests for second grants cannot be honored due to funding restrictions.

**Q: How does Our Military Kids determine who receives a grant?**

A: We provide a grant to each child who meets all established guidelines and submits a complete application package. We will review each request and consider the applications in the order in which they are received at our office. We will award grants to all qualified applicants as long as funds are available.

**Q: What are the sources of your funding?**

A: Our Military Kids is a public/private partnership. The program is made possible by generous donations from corporations, charitable foundations and individuals. Check out the Our Sponsors section for more information.

**Q: Does Our Military Kids participate in the Combined Federal Campaign?**

A: Yes. Our Military Kids meets the Combined Federal Campaign's (CFC) rigorous standards. All federal government employees can select code #12357 when making selections in the fall.

Need help completing your application? Call Our Military Kids at 703-734-6654 or email us at [OMKInquiry@ourmilitarykids.org](mailto:OMKInquiry@ourmilitarykids.org).

#### **DOCUMENTS REQUIRED WITH GUARD AND RESERVE APPLICATIONS:**

1. A copy of deployment orders which show that the child's parent is National Guard or Reserve deployed overseas and has at least 60 days remaining on the orders;
2. One of three forms of identification – either A) a copy of the child's military dependent ID card, OR B) a copy of the completed Form 1172, Application for Uniformed Services Identification (DEERS Form), OR C) a copy of the child's birth certificate if he/she is the biological child of the deployed service member;
3. Documentation of the cost of the activity, such as a flyer, brochure, or a letter from the organization which clearly states the cost of the program. Letters must be typed (hand written fees will not be accepted) and on official letterhead. Grant requests for tutoring services provided by an individual must include a copy of the tutor's teaching certificate.

#### **DOCUMENTS REQUIRED WITH WOUNDED WARRIOR APPLICATIONS:**

1. A copy of the most recent orders to a WTU or medical hold;
2. One of three forms of identification – either A) a copy of the child's military dependent ID card, OR B) a copy of the completed Form 1172, Application for Uniformed Services Identification (DEERS Form), OR C) a copy of the child's birth certificate if he/she is the biological child of the deployed service member;
3. Documentation of the cost of the activity, such as a flyer, brochure, or a letter from the organization which clearly states the cost of the program. Letters must be typed (hand written fees will not be accepted) and on official letterhead. Grant requests for tutoring services provided by an individual must include a copy of the tutor's teaching certificate;
4. A letter from the Service Member's case manager, stating that the Service Member is currently receiving care and is classified as severely injured.

#### **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- Only one check will be issued per child.
- No single grant can exceed \$500.
- Grant checks are issued to the organization providing the activity or tutoring – there are no exceptions.
- Applications for grants will be acknowledged in writing within 10 business days of receipt. The child will receive a congratulatory packet notifying him/her of the award. At this time, the check is sent to the activity provider.
- All funding from the grant must be used for the purpose stated on the application or full repayment of the grant will be requested.
- Incomplete and illegible applications will not be processed.
- Applications may be deferred if further information is needed to verify eligibility. Grants are awarded at the sole discretion of the grant committee of Our Military Kids, Inc.

\*\*\*As of May 1, 2011, each child is only eligible for ONE GRANT. All second grants have been discontinued due to federal budget cuts.