



Dental Education | Access to Care | Research | Charitable Assistance

## **RULES**

### **FOR THE ADA FOUNDATION DISASTER ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM**

The following *Rules* are designed to facilitate the administration of the disaster assistance grant programs under the auspices of the ADA Foundation. These *Rules* shall govern all applications for, and approval of, all disaster grants arranged through the ADA Foundation. The ADA Foundation Board of Directors may amend these *Rules* at its sole discretion.

General Purpose: The purpose of disaster grants is to make emergency dental care available in areas affected by disasters and provide assistance to members of the dental profession who are victims of disasters. The ADA Foundation provides disaster grants in the following areas:

- grants to dentists who have been affected by disasters to assist with immediate needs.
- grants to organizations which can provide dental services to affected areas

However, the ADA Foundation may conduct additional charitable programs, as appropriate, and as determined by its Board of Directors (“Board”) from time to time, if the Board first obtains a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or an opinion of counsel that such programs will not jeopardize the ability of the ADA Foundation to obtain or retain a tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Responsibility for Programs: The Board shall have the responsibility for administration of all the programs designed by the ADA Foundation. The awarding of grant monies is at the sole discretion of the Board and is not a right or entitlement of the applicant. Activities are funded through charitable contributions and earnings on funds held.

Fundraising: The ADA Foundation may, at its discretion, conduct a campaign or other fundraising activities to solicit monies in order to allow it to conduct its charitable purposes. The ADA Foundation may at any time suspend any or all loan or grant activity when, in the opinion of the Board, there are insufficient monies available to continue specific program activity, or when in the opinion of counsel, continuation of the activity may jeopardize the ability of the ADA Foundation to obtain or retain a tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The ADA Foundation may, at the discretion of the Board, make charitable grants to other section 501(c)(3) dental-related organizations.

Application: The ADA Foundation shall design and make available application forms. In order to ensure accuracy, all application forms shall be submitted typed in English.

General Eligibility Requirements: Applicants to the disaster grant program of the ADA Foundation are not required to be members of the American Dental Association in order to be eligible for receipt of monies. No information shall be sought from applicants to ascertain their status as such a member or non-member, and no consideration will be given to such membership status in evaluating applications.

Current officers, directors, and employees of the ADA Foundation, and their spouses, dependent children and parents; and current officers, directors, trustees, assistant and associate executive

directors, and the executive director of the American Dental Association, and their spouses, dependent children, and parents, shall not be eligible to apply for or receive any loans, grants, scholarships or other financial assistance from the ADA Foundation.

International Grants: In connection with grants to organizations to provide dental services for international activities, the Board shall at all times comply with the U.S. Treasury Department "Anti-Terrorist Financing Guidelines: Voluntary Best Practices for U.S.-Based Charities", November 2002, as amended or substituted from time to time, and any legal requirements applicable to the Foundation regarding international grant making and activities.

The following definition applies in determining eligibility:

**Dentist:** Any individual currently residing in the United States or its territories, who: (1) is a graduate of a predoctoral dental degree program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation as recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council on Post-secondary Education, or (2) currently holds or formerly held a valid dental license in any U.S. state or territory, or (3) is employed by the U.S. Federal Dental Services or an accredited dental school recognized by those agencies listed in (1) above.

Application Review: The Board shall be the sole authority for accepting and denying applications unless a review committee is so authorized by the Board. When an ADA constituent/component society investigation occurs, either the applicant or the society shall forward the respective application materials to the ADA Foundation office for review and final determination.

Verification of Financial Data: As one method to verify financial data, a grant or organizational applicant may be asked to submit the most recent year's federal income tax return with the application. If the applicant is married but filed a separate tax return, the returns of both the applicant and spouse may be required.

All applicants authorize the ADA Foundation to make such inquiries as may be necessary to independently verify the accuracy of any of the submitted application information, if needed.

### **Grants to Dentists Affected by Disasters**

1. Purpose: The purpose of disaster grants is to provide a small measure of immediate financial assistance to needy eligible beneficiaries, as defined in this section, who are victims of a disaster. A disaster is defined as a "sudden occurrence which inflicts widespread catastrophic damage to a large geographic area and/or which generally affects a large number of individuals". Disasters can be both natural and caused by human conduct. Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to: civil disorders (excluding acts of war), explosions, fires, tornadoes, earthquakes, floods, tidal waves, forest fires and hurricanes.

2. Eligible Beneficiaries: Any dentist who is a victim of a disaster may apply to the ADA Foundation for a grant. Since the purpose of these grants is to give a measure of immediate or proximate assistance, all requests for such grants shall be made within 2 months of the occurrence of the disaster. This time may be extended at the discretion of the Board.

3. Circumstances Determining Eligibility for Grants: Criteria for determining eligibility of disaster grants are listed below. Any application for a disaster grant that does not meet **all** of these criteria will be denied.

- a. As a result of the disaster, the applicant must show that he or she suffered property damages.
- b. A "disaster" must be declared by a governmental agency, or be determined by the Board in accordance with the definition provided in paragraph 1 above.

4. Evaluation of Application and Procedures for Processing:

- a. The applicant may obtain an application form either from the office of the ADA Foundation or from the ADA constituent or component dental society in the area where the applicant resides.
- b. Upon receiving the application from the applicant the ADA constituent/component dental society through its designated investigator shall determine and attest that (1) in its judgment, a disaster did occur under the definition provided in these *Rules*, (2) the disaster was declared by a governmental agency, if applicable, (3) the applicant suffered property damages, (4) the application form is signed by the applicant and (5) the damages appear to be commensurate with the requested claim. This may require, for example, a visual inspection by the investigator or a copy of an insurance claim report.
- c. Eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis after evaluating the applicant's loss and his/her need.

5. Term of Grant: Grants for disaster assistance shall be offered only once per applicant per disaster as defined in these *Rules*.

6. Amount of the Grant: The grant amount for any disaster applicant shall be determined at the discretion of the Board based on applicant needs, but shall not exceed \$2,500, depending on funds available.

### **Grants to Organizations to Provide Dental Care Following Disasters**

1. Purpose: The purpose of grants to organizations is to provide needed dental care in communities affected by a disaster, as defined in these *Rules*.

2. Eligible Beneficiaries: Any dental-related organization that can provide dental services to victims of a disaster is eligible for participation in such grants. These organizations must be recognized as exempt under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and will be required to submit copies of the organization's *Bylaws*, incorporating documents and its exemption recognition by the IRS.
3. Circumstances Determining Eligibility for Grants: Criteria for determining eligibility for organizational disaster grants are listed below. Any application for a disaster grant that does not meet **all** of these criteria will be denied.
  - a. A "disaster" must be declared by a governmental agency, or be determined by the Board in accordance with the definition provided in paragraph 1 above.
  - b. Emergency dental care is needed by victims of the disaster.
4. Evaluation of Application and Procedures for Processing:
  - a. The applicant should supply a proposal for consideration by the Board. This may be submitted directly to the office of the ADA Foundation.
  - b. Upon receiving the proposal from the organization, the ADA Foundation will contact the ADA constituent/component dental society to determine and attest that (1) in its judgment, a disaster did occur under the definition provided in these *Rules* and (2) the disaster was declared by a governmental agency, if applicable.
5. Term of Grant: Grants for disaster assistance shall be offered only once per organization per disaster.
6. Amount of the Grant: The grant amount for any disaster applicant shall be determined at the discretion of the Board based on applicant needs. The requested amount shall be stipulated in the proposal submitted by the organization.