

ADA Foundation Assistance Program

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The ADA Foundation Charitable Assistance Fund Grant Program is a needs-based program designed to assist dentists and their qualifying dependents with meeting emergency personal living needs and daily living expenses. Dentists and their dependents (spouse and children under the age of 18) are eligible to apply for financial aid from the ADA Foundation if an accidental injury, advanced age, physically debilitating illness, or medically-related condition prevents them from gainful employment and results in an inability to be wholly self-sustaining.

How do I know if I qualify?

Dentists, their dependents, and former dependents of deceased dentists are eligible to apply for financial aid from the ADA Foundation if an accidental injury, advanced age, physically debilitating illness, or personal medically-related condition prevents them from gainful employment and results in an inability to be wholly self-sustaining.

What steps do I need to take in order to be considered for funding?

In order to be considered for grant funding, you will need to fill out an application along with submitting supporting documentation. New applications are reviewed monthly by the ADA Foundation Charitable Assistance Committee. This Committee is comprised of dental peers. Grants are provided on a monthly basis up to 12 months. After 12 months, applicants may re-apply for funding, if they qualify.

I am currently not working so I am not bringing in any income. Instead, I am living off my savings. Can I apply for funding support to supplement my day-to-day living?

No. The program is not intended to help conserve resources and assets. A requirement of the program is that applicants use their personal financial resources including but not limited to: savings, checking, retirement, investments, etc., before applying for assistance.

I had to close my practice during the COVID-19 pandemic. I need funds to pay my dental practice bills and/or pay my staff during this time of closure. Am I eligible to apply?

No, the Charitable Assistance Fund cannot support dental practices or pay dental staff. It is only available to dentists, and their qualifying dependents, who can demonstrate a need for funds for personal support such as housing, food, clothing, transportation, and/or medical expenses.

I recently tested positive for COVID-19, am I eligible to apply for funding?

This grant is intended to provide funding to help a dentist or dependent of a dentist (spouse or children under the age of 18) be personally financially self-supporting after they have used and/or depleted their financial resources. If this illness is preventing you from being financially self-supporting and you have utilized all personal financial resources, then yes, you may qualify.

I am currently not paying my dental staff and they need money for their day-to-day living expenses. Can they apply?

No, the program is only available to dentists or qualifying dependents of dentists (spouse or children under the age of 18).

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Do I have to be an ADA member to be eligible to apply?

No, you do not need to be an ADA member to be eligible to apply.

If I am a dental student am I eligible to apply?

Unfortunately, dental students are not eligible to apply.

If approved, how much grant money will I receive?

The dollar amount varies based on, among other things, each applicant's individual circumstances and need. The payment of grants also depends on how much money is available in the Fund.

For further details see the ADA Foundation Charitable Assistance rules and guidelines and for an application visit [here](#). If you have any questions or want to see if you are eligible to apply before completing an application contact Tracey Schilligo, professional programs manager at schilligot@ada.org or 312.440.2763

Special Note Regarding COVID-19: The ADA Foundation's Charitable Assistance Fund provides financial assistance for basic human needs for the most vulnerable dentists and their families-(spouse and children under the age of 18). The grants from the Fund are needs based and the purpose is to support the most needy and dire cases who are unable to support themselves because of injury, a personal medical condition, disability, and advanced age. We know that dentists have been impacted by COVID-19; however, the Fund is not a disaster fund or emergency fund and the program does not provide grants to cover business expenses and business losses.

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