



FMEA Lineworker Assistance Fund

Helping Florida's municipal electric utility lineworkers in need

Information and Guidelines

What is the FMEA Lineworker Assistance Fund?

The FMEA Lineworker Assistance Fund (the Fund) provides Florida Municipal Electric Association member utilities' lineworkers with emergency financial assistance as they deal with medical conditions. The Fund assists linemen and their families when an on-the-job injury creates a special need.

Where does money for the fund come from?

The primary source of income for the Fund is through fundraising from FMEA members. Fundraising, including a raffle at the Annual Florida Lineman's Competition, is conducted throughout the year. Other opportunities to raise funds also are pursued. The amount of funding available each year is limited only by the amount in the Fund. The Fund is active and no monies are held in reserve.

Who is eligible for assistance?

FMEA member electric utility lineworkers, groundmen, apprentices and equipment operators injured on the job are eligible for financial assistance. The employee must have a full-time position at the electric utility. The Fund will be used to assist individuals who have sustained serious injuries involving hospitalization, catastrophic illness, loss of limb, burn center and/or debilitating injuries. Sub-contractors do not qualify for assistance.

How may money be requested and how often?

A request for up to \$1,000 may be submitted up to two times in a 12-month period. However, repeated funding cannot be guaranteed. If approved, the amount received may fluctuate according to the amount available in the Fund. In the event of death, a \$5,000 check may be issued to the family for a one-time request.

Funds may be requested by any one of the following: city manager, utility director, senior city/utility management, immediate supervisor, foreman, or manager of the employee. The request may be made via telephone, email, fax or written correspondence. It should include the following information: the name of injured employee, general nature of the injury, injury date, amount requested, and postal address where the check should be sent. The information should be communicated to the FMEA office for review and consideration. Because of the immediate financial need a serious injury can create, it is best to call FMEA administration when an injury occurs and funds are needed (see below).

Monies will be distributed equitably among all qualified applicants.

How may Fund monies be used?

Fund monies may be used for any injury-related need that may arise to assist the family or injured worker including child-care arrangements, transportation cost, utility bills, and personal or home support that may contribute to relieving stress or improving quality of life.

Who administers the Fund?

The FMEA Executive Director administers the Fund with oversight by a committee of FMEA members. The committee consists of the FMEA President, Chair of the FMEA Safety and Training Committee and the FMEA Executive Director. In the event the committee is unavailable for review, the Executive Director may disburse funds upon consultation with the FMEA President, if available, or any member of the FMEA Executive Committee, if available. FMEA manages the fiscal component of the fund.

Further Information

Contact Amy Zubaly, FMEA Executive Director, 850-224-3314, ext. 1, azubaly@flpublicpower.com, cell: 850-251-6200.