

HOW TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT ALA MISSION-BASED PROGRAMS

Committee:

National Finance

Contact Information for Questions:

Finance@ALAforVeterans.org or your department Finance Committee chairman

Objective:

Provide support for the mission-based programs and activities of our national organization.

How to donate to the American Legion Auxiliary National organization and to the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation:

Once your annual unit budget has been approved, it is time to start supporting the mission-based programs and activities your unit has budgeted by completing the donation form and submitting donations directly to National Headquarters or via your department. Please make this form available to individual unit members, and explain the importance of donating to the national mission funds.

National Funds Supporting the ALA Mission:

Donations can be made to support the American Legion Auxiliary as follows:

A. ALA National Scholarship Fund

1. **Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship Fund:** Supports the children of our nation's heroes — our veterans — through endowed gifts. These scholarships are awarded to 15 students annually who excel in academics and volunteer in their communities.
2. **Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund:** Supports three separate scholarship opportunities. One area of opportunity is scholarships for five honorary American Legion Auxiliary national division Junior vice presidents; one area of opportunity is scholarships for participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation program; and one area of opportunity is for Non-Traditional Student Scholarships supporting people who are part of the Legion Family pursuing a college degree later in life or allowing them to pick up where they left off when their studies were interrupted.

B. Auxiliary Emergency Fund: When a sudden financial crisis befalls an eligible Auxiliary member, the AEF may be able to provide temporary emergency assistance when no other source of help is available.

C. American Legion Auxiliary Foundation: As a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation, the ALA Foundation provides ways for individuals and corporations to support the Auxiliary's charitable and educational outreach programs through endowed gifts, grants, and sponsorships that require donations go to a 501(c)(3). The ALA Foundation secures our legacy of service for future generations of veterans, military, and their families. The ALA Foundation supports the mission of the ALA and receives donations for:

1. **ALA Mission Endowment Fund** – a long-term fund where earnings from the endowment's principal are used to support the American Legion Auxiliary for as long as the organization exists.
2. **ALA Foundation Veteran Projects Fund** – a fund where donations can be received and then granted to benefit American Legion Auxiliary national programs, districts/counties, departments, and units through:
 - Small grants being made to help districts/counties, departments, and units to support emergent projects that support veterans. Districts/counties, departments, and units must demonstrate that they will be funding part of the project for which a small grant is sought.
 - Supporting Veterans Creative Arts Festivals that showcase the artistic achievements of veterans receiving services through the VA's healthcare system. The American Legion Auxiliary is the national co-presenter of the national event. ALA Foundation mini grants support local Creative Arts Festivals.