



Emergency Financial Assistance Funds

Important Note

Do you receive any needs-based benefits such as SSI, TAFDC, SNAP, housing subsidies, etc.? If so, **before applying for any of these programs please get advice from a legal service agency** to learn how they may affect your benefits.

Find your local legal service agency (free or low-cost if you qualify):

Massachusetts: masslegalservices.org/FindLegalAid

All other states: ptla.org/legal-services-links

Massachusetts United Way's Mass 2-1-1

Information and referral service- a good place to begin your search. Just dial 211 or see mass211.org/

Modest Needs

Online only. Financial assistance to low-income working individuals and families in temporary crisis. modestneeds.org

Catholic Charities

Basic Needs Fund provides rent and utility assistance. catholiccharitiesusa.org

The Salvation Army

Provides emergency rent and utilities assistance.

salvationarmyusa.org

Your City or Town

Contact your city or town to see if they offer emergency assistance.

sec.state.ma.us/cis/cistel/telidx.htm

Disease or Disability-Specific Funds

There may be foundations that provide funds for people with your condition. Please consult your social worker for help locating any appropriate resources.

Additional Agencies

Also, try calling local religious organizations and local service groups such as the Elks, Jaycees, Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus, Lions and Rotary clubs.

Funds for Greater Boston Residents

Jewish Family and Children's Services

Provides rent and utilities assistance to **residents of greater Boston**, regardless of religion or affiliation. 781-647-JFCS (5327)

The Lend a Hand Society

Provides one-time emergency grants for low-income residents of **greater Boston**. **A professional must apply on your behalf:** [lah.dreamhosters.com /wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Agency-Client-Referral-Form.pdf](http://lah.dreamhosters.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Agency-Client-Referral-Form.pdf). Please mail requests with a cover letter. lend-a-hand-society.org.

The SWAN Society – for elder single, divorced, or widowed women

You must be 65 or over and a single, divorced, or widowed woman and live within a **25-mile radius of Boston**. **A professional must apply on your behalf.** Call 617-918-7404 or see swansocietyboston.org.

Application: swansocietyboston.org/individual-grants

Rogerson Communities Elder Assistance Fund – for Boston elders

Grants for **very low-income Boston residents aged 62 or older (or 55 or older and disabled)**. For **one-time** extraordinary expenses. **A professional must write a letter of support.** Call 617-327-1503 and ask for Resident Services Coordinator Danaejah Buissereth.

Personal Fundraising Websites

Most charge a fee of about 3-5% of the proceeds. **Please carefully read the fee schedules and other terms of service for these sites.**

Some popular sites:

- YouCaring.com – charges lower fees
- GoFundMe.com – charges lower fees
- GoGetFunding.com
- Indiegogo.com
- Kickstarter.com