

LIFT Fund FAQ for NRLA Members



What is the LIFT Fund?

LIFT is an industry-specific fund and member benefit established by the NRLA through its Lumber and Building Material Dealers Foundation (LBMDF) to provide immediate financial assistance and peer support to NRLA member employees who are significantly impacted by a fire or natural disaster resulting in a loss of shelter.

What level of funding can I expect to receive if I qualify?

Grants vary based on the claim, and are capped at \$3,000 per recipient, \$10,000 per yard.

How do I know if an employee or I qualify for the fund?

To qualify to receive LIFT funding you must:

- 1) Lose the use of your home due to a fire or natural disaster, such as high winds or flooding. Loss of use should be authenticated by a civic authority (e.g., building inspector, fire or police report), media report, or by evidence of long-term loss of basic utilities, such as electricity and water, that renders the home uninhabitable.
- 2) Apply for LIFT funding within 30 days of the qualifying event.
- 3) Work for an NRLA retail member company, associate member company or the NRLA. All applicants must reside in the NRLA's territory.

How does one apply for funding?

- 1.) Complete the Lumber Industry Fund for Today Application, available [here](#) on the NRLA's website. Both the potential grant recipient and the employer MUST sign off on the form.
- 2.) Provide any supporting documentation (i.e., photos, newspaper reports, internet reports, building inspector documentation, insurance report, fire/police log or report) to accompany the application.
- 3) Submit the form directly to the Lumber and Building Material Dealers Foundation at the NRLA. Email: rferris@nrla.org, fax: 518-880-6353, or mail: Attn: Education Department, 585 North Greenbush Road, Rensselaer, NY12144 (submitting by email or fax will expedite the process).

How long does it take to receive LIFT Funding?

Once we receive your application via US mail or fax, a check will be issued or you will receive an explanation of why funding was denied within two business days.

Do I need to repay the grant money given to me through the LIFT Fund?

No. LIFT gifts are tax-free, debt-free grants to help you get back on your feet after disaster strikes.





Who makes the decision as to whether my claim will be funded or not?

Funding decisions are made by and at the discretion of the NRLA/LBMDF Disaster Assistance Committee.

How can I spend the LIFT grant money?

LIFT funding is intended to be used on necessities such as shelter, food, furniture and clothing by you and your dependents.

What are my responsibilities as an employer of a potential grant recipient?

You must confirm the veracity of your employee's claim, to the best of your knowledge, by your signature on the LIFT Application. In addition, you are **strongly encouraged** to donate 25% (\$750 in the case of the typical grant of \$3,000) to help sustain the LIFT Fund for future recipients.

You may not ask your employee for any repayment related to this grant. Finally, you will be contacted by an NRLA regional director after the grant is made for follow-up.

If I am an employer who has suffered an inventory or business loss due to fire or natural disaster, what kind of support can I expect from the NRLA?

The Disaster Assistance Committee can put you in contact with other NRLA members who have suffered a similar catastrophe.



How else can I support the LIFT Fund?

Individuals and corporations can contribute to LIFT in two ways.

1) Financially.

Contributions can be made to LBMDF, c/o LIFT, 585 N. Greenbush Rd., Rensselaer, NY 12144. Your donation may be tax deductible.

2) Peer Volunteers.

Volunteers are an invaluable resource for the LIFT mission. Please contact the NRLA at 800.292.6752.

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