

Retired Minister's Fellowship

Tennessee State Office
Financial Assistance Guidelines
(Current as of 9/11/2019)

Guidelines Assistance will be given based on availability of funds. Therefore, amounts will be adjusted and approved by the State Council annually.

Terms:

RMF – Retired Minister's Fellowship

WRMF – Widow/Widower Retired Minister's Fellowship

NOTE State Office Financial Assistance Includes:

Current Assistance as Of 06/04/19. See Addendum Benefits

In order to qualify for financial assistance from State Funds and RMF, the applicant must have reached the age of sixty-two (62) years or be 100 percent disabled and have served a minimum of fifteen (15) years of fulltime/faithful ministry in Tennessee and verified through the records department at the (International Headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee) before official retirement.

1. Applicants must complete a RMF Application thirty (30) days prior to a scheduled state council meeting in order to be considered for approval during a state council meeting.
2. The applicant must reside in Tennessee unless otherwise approved by the Care and Benevolent Committee and the State Council.
3. All RMF candidates must remain as a "faithful member in good standing" with the Church of God in (International Offices in Cleveland, Tennessee). "Faithful member in good standing" means minimally that they are faithful in local church attendance as health allows, a faithful tither into the local church tithe fund, and supportive of the pastor and the church's vision. (Pastor's endorsement)
4. Applicants applying for assistance due to disability must provide proof of disability through documentation by the Social Security Administration.
5. Assistance is limited to "one per household" for Prayer Conference, Camp Meeting, and General Assembly.
6. RMF members must reapply biannually to remain eligible for the program.

Disqualifications

1. If the status of an applicant and/or spouse changes to anything other than retired, he/she will be given a thirty (30) day period of continued financial assistance. After thirty (30) days, the financial assistance is discontinued. When their status is that of retired again, he/she must reapply for financial assistance. (Special Note): This applies to all individuals –credentialed minister and/or spouse. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify the state office of any changes in their application and/or retirement/disability status. (Any funds received after change of status must be returned to the State Office within thirty (30) days.)
2. If a **RMF Member** remarries due to the death of a spouse, the new spouse is not eligible to receive any assistance unless they otherwise qualify as a **RMF Member**.

Special Provisions

1. When an individual is approved for R.M.F. financial assistance “but” requires permanent nursing home/institutional, assistance will continue.
2. Due to unforeseen personal or medical crisis where the candidate can no longer care for himself/herself and necessitates a caregiver, we require the following for financial assistance to continue:

A notarized letter from the candidate or legal representative explaining these conditions.
A letter from the physician confirming the condition.
3. If a **RMF Member’s** credentials are suspended, revoked or voluntarily surrendered, he/she is ineligible for financial assistance. Furthermore, if the individual’s credentials are restored, he/she can apply for reinstatement. The spouse remains eligible for financial assistance, provided they meet the qualifications for a **RMF Member**.

For additional information or specific questions concerning the **RMF Member** Financial Assistance Policy, email ckazy@cogtn.org or call 423.892.4831x2.