

# ***NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION***

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## **The Health Care Assistance Reimbursement Program**

The program is available to all active and qualified members of this Association regardless of what state they retire to or decide to live in within the continental United States.

To obtain an application for this program, contact the New Jersey State Firemen's Association directly or your Local Relief Association Officers. You may also download a copy from our website [www.njsfa.com](http://www.njsfa.com) from the "Forms" tab.

All applications, on Form 114, are to be filled out completely and submitted to your Local Relief Association Secretary. The application is then reviewed by the Local Relief Association Trustees to verify that the Firefighter needs care. There are no financial requirements associated with this program. Once the application is approved at the local level and the Local Association Officers sign the application, it is sent to the NJSFA State Office for final approval.

Reimbursements will begin to the member once the NJSFA Advisory Committee has given final approval. Reimbursement begins with the month that the State Office approval is given and will be done after copies of the full calendar month's invoices and copies of proof of payment have been submitted to the NJSFA Field Examiner. Copies of invoices and copies of proof of payment can be mailed in, faxed in or emailed to [LocalReports@njsfa.com](mailto:LocalReports@njsfa.com). Facility and Care Company licensing will be confirmed by the NJSFA State office. Social Daycare programs will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the NJSFA Advisory Committee. The decision of the Advisory Committee is final.

Starting January 1, 2021, the spouse of an active Firefighter, Qualified Firefighter, or the non-remarried surviving spouse of a Qualified Firefighter may apply for this reimbursement program. They would need to fill out an original Form 114. The approval process and program rules are the same as it is for a Firefighter. Contact your Local Relief Association Officers or the NJSFA State Office if you need additional information or have any questions concerning the program. At this time, the reimbursement level for spouses is not at the same level as for Firefighters.

This reimbursement program is not available to Firefighters that are admitted or residing in the New Jersey Firemen's Home located in Boonton, NJ. The New Jersey Firemen's home is fully funded from the same property insurance tax that funds the New Jersey Firemen's Association and the Local Firemen's Relief Associations.

**Things to consider when assessing need for care:**

- The Member is having difficulty caring for themselves.
- Personal hygiene needs are not being met.
- Member is not capable of taking medications as prescribed.
- Care by the spouse and family can no longer meet the needs of the member.
- Spouse or family need respite for their own personal obligations.
- Member cannot be left alone while spouse or family members work or are away from the home.
- If the application is for care of a spouse of a Qualified member, the same considerations need to be addressed as listed above.

**This program does not cover various types of services such as lawn care, property maintenance, maid service, meal preparation companies, or any similar types of service.** It is for the direct care of the individual in need.

Should there still be additional financial need, Regular Relief can still be applied for even if the member/spouse is enrolled in this program. Need must still be demonstrated and fully documented for Relief to be awarded.

The program is designed to provide reimbursement to members of this Association for out-of-pocket expenses that have not been covered by insurance or other existing medical reimbursement programs. It covers in home care that is provided by certified employees working and billing through a licensed health care provider in the state where the care is being provided.

Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities, In Home Care, and Adult Medical Daycare Facilities are all types of care our members may need at some point when they are no longer able to care for themselves or their families need additional assistance to help with that care. Reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses for this support can also be covered by this program.

The Officers and Executive Committee Members of the New Jersey State Firemen’s Association recognize the need to provide assistance to those members of the Association who are no longer able to perform normal daily activities for themselves.

Keeping in mind that spouses, family members, neighbors, and brother and sister Firefighters wish to remain together during these times, we will all work together to make sure the best care is available to the Firefighters who took care of so many others during their time of service.



**If you suspect abuse by any caregiver while receiving in home care or care in any nursing home facility,** the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs can provide a hidden camera to help verify suspected abuse. The *Safe Care Cam Program* is available to any New Jersey Resident and additional information or contact can be made by calling them directly at 973-504-6375 or visiting their website at [www.njconsumeraffairs.gov](http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov) .