**THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND:** A fund has been established by Colorado legislators and is available to military personnel who meet certain criteria.

***FOR Colorado National Guard and Reserve Military Members:***

-The Service Member is currently on active military duty for a minimum of thirty (30) days on overseas mobilization orders;

-The Service Member or the family member of the Service has submitted a complete application;

-The Service Member is a Colorado resident for income tax purposes as evidenced by a current Leave and Earning Statement

If you feel that you meet **ALL** of the above listed criteria, please go to the website to download the complete instructions and application, and follow the instructions:

[www.colorado.gov/dmva](http://www.colorado.gov/dmva)

* Forms and Publications
* Military Family Relief Fund

The Point of Contacts for this fund are:

Army National Guard - Charlene Shields at 720-250-1190, Charlene.m.shields.civ@mail.mil

Air National Guard – Michelle Abarca at 720-847-9116, michelle.abarca@ang.af.mil

Army Reserve – CSM Kristal Florquist at 720-235-6711, kristal.j.florquist.mil@mail.mil

 Marine Reserves – James Heitman at 720-847-7852, James.e.heitman@usmc.mil

 Navy Reserves – PS2 Lotyease Killingsworth at 720-847-7819, ty.killingsworth@navy.mil

***NOTE***: This is NOT an emergency fund, so applications are reviewed at a monthly meeting, approximately every 30 days. All documentation that is required by the instructions must accompany the application.

Feel free to contact Ms. Charlene Shields at 720-250-1190 or charlene.m.shields.civ@mail.mil with any specific questions regarding the Military Family relief Fund.

**28-3-1501. Legislative declaration **

**Statute text**

The general assembly hereby finds and declares that, due to the many involuntary mobilizations subsequent to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, many families of Colorado National Guard members and reservists face financial hardships when the National Guard member or reservist is called to active military duty because the military pay of a soldier is often far less than his or her civilian salary. Because private companies often do not make up the difference in salary, military families may see a significant drop in household income while a family mem- ber is away on active military duty. In addition, active duty military personnel and their families encounter additional hardships when the active duty member is deployed to zones in which he or she will encounter hostile fire. Many families of Colorado National Guard members, reserv- ists, and active duty military personnel also face additional expenses caused by a long family separation. The general assembly further finds and declares that grants from the military family relief fund are intended to help families defray the costs of food, housing, utilities, medical ser- vices, and other expenses that may be difficult to afford when a family member leaves civilian employment for active military duty or is on active military duty in a hostile fire zone.