



Buckeye Power Sales Emergency Assistance Program Eligibility Guidelines

Buckeye Power Sales Emergency Assistance Program will support eligible employees who experience a financial hardship resulting from an unexpected emergency, hardship, or qualified disaster from the list of events below.

The following events do not qualify for the Buckeye Power Sales Emergency Assistance Program:

- Accumulated financial distress due to the employee's extravagance, poor economic planning or gross negligence that results in the employee not having enough income to cover regular monthly bills, including situations where work hours have been reduced or scheduled hours are not enough to pay the bills
- Maternity/paternity leave is not considered an unexpected emergency. If an employee is put on bed rest prior to due date due to complications, this could be considered a short-term illness under the guidelines. Please reach out with questions.
- Inflation, higher gas prices, increase in the cost of living
- Loss of a 2nd job/income from another employer

Buckeye Power Sales Emergency Assistance Program General Requirements

- Employee must provide documentation of eligible hardship event AND eligible expenses related to the hardship event. If documents are not provided with the application, the employee will be contacted via email with a list of requested documents (see chart below). *The IRS requires documentation for approval.*
- Employee has 60 days from the initial follow-up email to provide documents or the application will be closed. Employees may re-apply if documents can be provided at a later date if timing meets guidelines.
- All documentation should have employee's name and address, if applicable. Mobile phone app screenshots are accepted but must show name and/or address of employee.
- This program does not reimburse the employee for fees to obtain documents such as death certificates.

Employment Eligibility: To be eligible for the Buckeye Power Sales Emergency Assistance Program, all of the following employment criteria must be met:

- Buckeye Power Sales associates are eligible to apply if they are an active full or part-time team member with Buckeye Power Sales (including on leave, short-term disability and paid time off) with at **least six months of service**.
- Requested expenses must be the result of an event that has occurred after the employee's hire date and after the program start date of July 18, 2022.

Contract, temporary/seasonal associates, interns, retirees or those on long-term disability are not eligible to apply or to receive assistance.

Grant Amount & Frequency Eligibility: Buckeye Power Sales Emergency Assistance Program allows for the following grant amounts and frequency of grants:

- Minimum amount of \$250 and maximum amount of \$1,500 in a rolling 12-month period
- Multiple applications can be for the same disaster or hardship in a rolling 12-month period.
- \$4,500 lifetime maximum

Eligible Hardships Events, Documents and Expenses: Below are eligible hardship events and types of expenses that are covered by this program as a result of the hardship event. Documentation is required for an application to be reviewed and approved. This is not an all-inclusive list so if an employee is not able to provide what is listed the program can accept alternative documentation. Please contact your program via email BPSEAP@columbusfoundation.org if you have questions about documents.

You may be asked to provide your essential monthly bills for ALL hardships to determine how the event and expenses create a hardship to your household.

All documents must contain your name and or address to be accepted. Mobile app screenshots are acceptable but they must include the employee's name and/or address.

Qualified Disasters	Hardship Document Examples	Related Eligible Expenses
Acts of Nature	News articles, weather reports, insurance claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rent/Mortgage/Security Deposits• Utilities (electric, water/sewage, natural gas, internet bills/statements)• Car payment/insurance• Food (receipts)• Clothing (receipts)• Temporary Housing (hotel receipts)• Child care• Reasonable evacuation expenses (receipts)• Damage repair (estimates/invoices/insurance claims)• Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)
House Fire	Fire Marshal's report, insurance claims, news reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food (receipts)• Clothing (receipts)• Temporary housing (hotel receipts)• Reasonable repairs (estimates/invoices)• Essential appliances & furnishings (receipts)• Moving or storage expenses (invoices/statements/receipts)• Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)

Government-declared natural disaster (excludes health pandemics such as Covid-19)	News article, weather reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent/Mortgage/Security Deposits • Utilities (electric, water/sewage, natural gas, internet bills/statements) • Car payment/insurance • Food (receipts) • Clothing (receipts) • Temporary Housing (hotel receipts) • Child care • Reasonable evacuation expenses (receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)
Terrorist or military action disaster	News article, government documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent/Mortgage/Security deposits (estimates, receipts, lease agreements) • Utilities (electric, water/sewage, natural gas, internet) • Food (monthly bills/statements, receipts) • Clothing • Temporary housing (hotel) • Child care • Reasonable evacuation expenses resulting from the event (receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates), • Reasonable repairs • Essential appliances and furnishings, • Car payment/car insurance/cost of public or commercial transportation, and cost of rental car (monthly bills, professional estimates, receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)
Emergency Hardships	Document Examples	Eligible Expenses
Accident (unless caused by the associate's or applicable family member's negligence)	Accident/Police Report, Insurance Claim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent/Mortgage • Utilities (electric, water/sewage, natural gas, internet) • Food (monthly bills/statements, receipts) • Car payment/car insurance, non-routine maintenance or repairs, cost of public or commercial transportation, and cost of rental car (monthly bills, professional estimates, receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)

Crime Victim (Non-violent or Violent)	Police report, insurance claim, court documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deductible for non-insured motorist • Rent/Mortgage/Security deposits (estimates, receipts, lease agreements) • Utilities (electric, water/sewage, natural gas, internet) • Food (monthly bills/statements, receipts) • Clothing • Temporary housing (hotel) • Child care • Reasonable evacuation expenses resulting from the event (receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates) • Reasonable repairs, essential appliances and furnishings • Car payment/car insurance, non-routine maintenance or repairs, cost of public or commercial transportation, and cost of rental car (monthly bills, professional estimates, receipts)
Death of associate, Spouse/Partner or Dependent	Death certificate, obituary or birth certificate that lists the applicant as an eligible family member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funeral home invoice • Funeral home payment receipt • Travel receipts such as airfare, hotel, food, gas. <p><i>*Applicant's name must be on invoice or receipt for funeral home to be eligible expense</i></p>
Domestic/Physical Abuse Victim	Police report, court documents, social worker or counselor letter, in some cases a letter from a manager or supervisor may be accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expenses may include security deposit, application fees and rent for new housing (<i>new lease document or letter from landlord</i>) • Temporary housing such as hotels (receipts) or moving expenses (invoices/receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)
Experiencing Homelessness Must be result of landlord selling property, landlord negligence or being asked to leave a residence that you are listed on lease/mortgage. You cannot be in violation of your lease agreement to be eligible.	Eviction notice, court documents, a letter from landlord/spouse/partner/room mate, case manager or shelter documentation, medical documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security deposit and application fee for new apartment/home (new lease agreement or letter from landlord) • Moving expenses such as moving truck and/or storage unit (invoices/estimates/receipts) • Temporary housing such as hotels (receipts/invoices)

Loss of Child Support Payments <i>*Inability to pay child support is not eligible</i>	Court documents, bank statements, paystubs, termination letter, police report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent/Mortgage • Utilities (electric, water/sewage, natural gas, internet) • Car payment/car insurance • Food (receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)
Non-Routine Vehicle Repairs	Insurance documents, Professional estimate of repairs/damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional estimate of repairs (invoice/receipt/estimate)
Residential Disaster (Ownership Required) such as foundation, septic tank, sewer lines or water well damage <i>*Does not cover normal wear and tear of appliances or routine home repairs</i>	Insurance documents, professional estimates that state the cause of the damage/repairs, news articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repairs to home/structure/appliances that provide basic needs to employee (estimates/invoices/receipts) •
Short-term illness or other short-term medical, dental, vision or hearing condition.	Doctor's excuse, hospital paperwork, medical chart app screenshots, FMLA or Leave of Absence paperwork, paystubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent/Mortgage • Utilities (electric, water/sewage, natural gas, internet) • Car payment/car insurance • Food (receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)
Spouse/Partner Loss of Job/Income due to illness, injury or workforce reduction/layoffs.	Termination letter, paystubs, unemployment claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent/Mortgage • Utilities (electric, water/sewage, natural gas, internet) • Car payment/car insurance • Food (receipts) • Medical expenses (bills/statements/receipts/estimates)

Ineligible Expenses: *This list is not all-encompassing and is at the discretion of the Review Committee.*

- Non-essential household utilities: cable/television, cell phone, etc.
- Routine car maintenance or cosmetic repairs
- New vehicle purchase
- Legal fees
- Wage garnishments
- Credit card debt
- Pay day loans
- Expenses incurred due to lack of homeowners or medical insurance
- Private school or higher education tuition
- Expenses associated with divorce or child custody settlements

- Veterinary expenses
- Employee benefits during waiting periods of coverage

*** Definition of a Buckeye Power Sales Family Member**

Immediate family/close relative (including in-law/step) that is financially dependent on the associate and resides in their household.

- Parent
- Spouse
- Registered Domestic Partner (*as defined and required by city ordinance and state law*)
- Brother
- Sister
- Child of associate or of associate's registered domestic partner (*as defined and required by law*)
- Grandparent
- Grandchild
- Aunt/Uncle
- Niece/Nephew/Cousin
- Guardian