

Message to Garrison Commanders
from Deputy IMCOM CDR

Army Emergency Relief (AER) recently launched a new way for Soldiers, Retirees, and Family Members to receive financial help. AER financial assistance can now be requested through the new easy six step “On-Line” application on AER’s new and improved website. This new “On-Line” feature allows those in need to apply any time anywhere day or night using either a desktop, laptop, tablet, or smart phone.

A key aspect of the new “On-Line” application is that it greatly expedites the assistance process for the Soldier and for the AER Officer. With the Soldier completing the application on-line, the information the AER Officer normally types into the AER system is already prepopulated and available for action. The AER Officer just needs to review the information, validate documentation the Soldier brings in to support the assistance, and cut the check. The new “On-Line” process will greatly expedite assistance to the Soldier while reducing time away from the unit and reduce processing time for the AER Officer - a Win-Win on all accounts.

The new “On-Line” application is available on AER’s newly redesigned website. The redesign allows for easier navigation of the website and contains new and improved information like how Soldiers can access their account, apply for a scholarship, donate and a new loan calculator where anyone can compare the savings from a no-interest no-fee AER loan to loan offers from others.

As it approaches its 75th anniversary, AER continues to distinguish itself as an organization with a legacy of helping Soldiers. Over its history, AER has provided \$1.7 billion to our greatest assets, the American Soldier. AER is truly unique giving interest free loans, grants, and with no fees. There is not another organizations like AER. Just last year AER saved Soldiers and Families more than \$22.4 million in interest! AER truly puts the Soldiers’ financial well-being first!

I expect each of you to help get the word out on your installations, to include having your garrison PAO share the AERHQ social media posts on your installation pages. Encourage use of AER, the new website and the “On-Line” assistance application.