



14 October 2025

Soldiers and Airmen of the North Carolina National Guard:

The North Carolina National Guard recognizes the uncertainty surrounding the current government shutdown and the impact on you and your families. It is not lost on me the gravity of the situation and this is why we are committed to providing you with the most up-to-date information as it is made available. I want to personally thank you for your continued commitment to service, building readiness, and upholding the highest standards, despite potential financial difficulties.

There are support systems in place to assist if you or your family are experiencing hardships. Do not hesitate to reach out to your chain of command, Family Programs Office, or local support services, some are listed below.

- **Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund (FEEA):** Offers no-fee, no-interest loans for emergency hardship. <https://feea.org>
- **Military Aid Societies:** The Air Force Aid Society and Army Emergency Relief may provide financial assistance. <https://afas.org>, <https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org>
- **National Guard Relief Foundation:** Offers grants and loans to Guardsmen in need. <https://eangus-wcfa.org>
- **NC National Guard Soldier and Airmen Assistance Fund (SAAF):** Available to all NCNG Service Members regardless of status. Contact your unit chain of command/and Full-Time Soldier and Family Readiness Specialist for grant application assistance. <https://www.saaf-nc.com>
- **Chaplain Resources:** Regional support for Soldiers and their families is available, please contact CH Farid Awad at **919-344-1628** or additional information.
- **Family Programs:** The **NC National Guard Family Programs Office** is available at **984-664-6088** for direct support and connection to additional resources.

I am proud of your service, your strength, and your continued resilience. Remember our organization is made stronger because of you, and if we don't complete the mission, then who will? As the mission continues, so does our responsibility to assist each other as well as this great nation.

Thank you.