



## ***AFAS SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE GRANT***

**PURPOSE:** Assist eligible Airmen/Guardians who are faced with increased financial requirements due to costs associated with having dependents with special needs.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Active duty, Active Guard Reserve (AGR), Guard/Reserve on an Initial or Continuation Full-Time order and Traditional Guard/Reserve on a long-term order who have dependents enrolled in the Air Force's Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP).

**GRANT AMOUNT:** Up to \$3,000 per special needs family member over a five-year period.

### **EXAMPLES OF ASSISTANCE:**

- Adaptive equipment – items such as wheelchairs, shoes, heavy duty strollers
- Assistive Technology Devices (communication device, hearing aids, specialized computer software, etc.)
- Fees for specialized activities such as camps, clubs, sporting leagues (must be specific to EFMP – not a traditional camp not specific for special needs). This includes fees for siblings when siblings of special needs children are part of the intended target audience.
- Membership fees to organizations that provide special needs services.
- Members may also request assistance for a cranial helmet. Assists for cranial helmets are processed separately from the special needs grant and require a prescription from a medical doctor, a denial letter from Tricare, and an invoice from the provider. Grant funds for a cranial helmet are in addition to the \$3K special needs grant.

**NOTE:** In some cases, AFAS may request a letter from a Dr. recommending the purchase of an item that is not specifically intended for a special needs family member with information stating how the item will benefit the recipient.

### **AIRMAN/GUARDIAN**

- Assistance will be provided as a grant (up to \$3000 grant within a 5-year period).
- Apply at ([www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org)) under Standard assistance. Include statement of need – what you are requesting.
- No budget is required.
- Provide documentation from personnel record showing EFMP/"Q Coded"
- Upload LES to application request.
- Provide/upload invoice or receipt to application -- bill from company for requested item(s) or enrollment verification if request is to attend a special needs camp.
- Must submit a separate application each time there is a new request.