


## Poppy Funds & National Mission Outreach Activities

Poppy funds are used to support three major national mission outreach activities. The first is the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, which the Auxiliary has proudly co-presented for over 20 years. The second mission outreach activity is to support aspects of the Honor Flight mission. The third mission outreach activity is food insecurity among servicemembers nationwide. For more information on any of these national mission outreach activities log into your MyAuxiliary member portal and navigate to <https://member.legion-aux.org/poppy-funds>



### Poppy Funds – By the Book!

*Submitted by Eastern Division Chairman Carole Baldwin*

#### POPPY FUNDS MAY BE USED FOR:

- For the rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces after April 6, 1917, or for the welfare of their immediate families.
- For the rehabilitation of military personnel hospitalized and awaiting discharge, who require treatment in service hospitals.
- For the benefit of veterans, active military personnel, and their families during the specified period, where financial and medical needs are evident.
- For poppy kits and supplies used to create symbolic poppies and related items for donations to the poppy fund.

#### POPPY FUNDS CAN NOT BE USED FOR:

- Any general operating fund of a department, unit, or post.
- Any community service project that does not strictly benefit the welfare of an individual veteran/military servicemember or the welfare of his/her family.
- General maintenance, beautification, or improvement projects of American Legion or Auxiliary families, including adding ramps to a post home.
- Investments, even those that would bring profit to the unit or post.
- POW/MIA programs.
- Memberships, including other veteran support organizations such as Gold Star Mothers. Contributions to, or payout from the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.
- ALA Girls State/ALA Girls Nation fees.
- Flags or flagpoles.
- Scholarships, which do not restrict eligibility solely to military servicemembers or their children, or where financial need is not evident.
- Mileage, travel, or lodging expenses; registration of conference fees; or costs incurred by a person – including ALA members, volunteers, and staff – to attend any meeting, conference, or event, even about veterans, military, or any other topic.
- Attire or uniforms used by volunteers or staff in promoting or conducting ALA program activity or business.

## Important Dates and Deadlines

**January 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00 P.M. EST. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Poppy Committee Meeting** - Department Chairmen, Department Presidents, and Department Secretary are all encouraged to attend. Registration link: [https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/poppy\\_quarterly\\_meeting\\_registration](https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/poppy_quarterly_meeting_registration)

## Resources

**Poppy Program Guide** Additional details on the use of Poppy Funds may be found in the Poppy Program Guide. [https://member.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Guides/ALA\\_Poppy\\_Guide.pdf](https://member.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Guides/ALA_Poppy_Guide.pdf)

### National Poppy Facebook Group

Join us on Social Media for additional information and ideas. Don't forget to answer the questions! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAPoppy>

### Honor Flight Network: ALA Lends a Hand | American Legion Auxiliary -

The American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters has a formal partnership with Honor Flight Inc. to support their mission to celebrate America's veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our nation's memorials by enabling our units and departments to directly donate funds generated from the distribution of our poppy — the symbol of the sacrifice of service made by our veterans, military, and their families. Learn more about the important mission of Honor Flight Inc.: [https://youtu.be/jDivLUE\\_VX0?si=56eDNp-PrDgwOT6P](https://youtu.be/jDivLUE_VX0?si=56eDNp-PrDgwOT6P)