

COVID Relief Fund FAQ

I. What is the COVID Relief Fund?

The fund consists of \$50,000 from the Health and Welfare savings account.

II. Where does this money come from?

When the first contract was negotiated between the Federation and the school system, the Health and Welfare fund was created. The school system gives the St. Tammany Federation of Teachers and School Employees Health and Welfare money each year to contribute to the health and welfare of the employees. According to Louisiana state law, RS 17:1224, the money can be used to "...provide for employee benefits, including but not limited to group insurance, benefits, or services for medical, dental, hospital, and nursing care and other compensation on account of sickness, disability, or death, or any other related benefits..."

III. Who is eligible to receive the benefit?

Any STPSB employee who is eligible to receive the free dental insurance benefit is eligible to receive this benefit.

IV. How will recipients be selected?

The benefit will be awarded on a first come, first served basis based on the post marked date. All applications must be complete and there must be sufficient documentation proving that you have been docked pay and COVID quarantining/isolation was a factor.

V. What type of documentation do I need to provide?

The purpose of the documentation is to prove that you have actually been docked pay and it was for COVID reasons. You can provide check stubs, positive COVID test, documents and/or any orders stating that you have had to quarantine, and any other documentation that may apply.

VI. How long will this fund last?

Disbursement will continue until the fund is out of money, the school system has implemented COVID days for employees, or the school year has come to an end; whichever comes first.

VII. I am being docked days because I had to stay home with my child who was ordered to quarantine, will I qualify?

The law that governs the fund states that we can use the money for an employee's sickness or medical reasons. Since you, the employee, wouldn't medically be required to stay home in this situation, we would not be able to compensate you for those days. If your, the employee's, child were to test positive during quarantining, then you would be deemed a close contact and would then be missing days due to medical reasons. Therefore, at this point, you would be a candidate for the relief fund.

VIII. I had to stay home because my child tested positive, will I qualify?

As stated in the previous question, if your, the employee's, child were to test positive, you would be deemed a close contact and would then be ordered to quarantine. Therefore, you would be missing days due to medical reasons, and you would be a candidate for the relief fund.

IX. UPDATE: I used all of my sick days because of COVID and now I am sick with an illness that isn't COVID, can I apply?

If you have used your days because of COVID, and are now being docked because of a medical reason, you can apply. You would have to provide documentation that proves that your sick days were taken because of COVID, you have been docked pay, and a doctor's note for the medical reason you are being docked pay.

X. UPDATE: I used all of my sick days because of COVID and now I will be docked pay because I have to go to an appointment, does this count?

This depends on your appointment. If you are being docked because of a medical reason, you can apply. You would have to provide documentation that proves that your sick days were because of COVID, you are being docked pay, and a doctor's note for the medical reason you are being docked pay