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# NEWS

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## **Disaster Assistance For Union Plus Program Participants Impacted By Torrential Rain and Flooding in the Midwest**

Union members living in areas impacted by the devastating flooding in the Midwest and who participate in Union Plus programs may have one less financial worry.

The Union Plus Credit Card Disaster Relief Fund is available to help cardholders who are facing financial hardship due to the floods. Union cardholders are eligible to apply for Disaster Relief Fund grants of \$500. The money does not have to be repaid.

To qualify for a Union Plus Credit Card Disaster Relief Fund grant, the union member must:

1. Have been a victim of the flooding in counties designated by FEMA as qualifying for individual assistance in states including Colorado, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin.\*
2. Have experienced a significant loss of income or property due to the disaster.
3. Have been a Union Plus Credit Card holder for at least 12 months and have an account in good standing.
4. Describe his or her circumstances and document the income or property loss.

To apply for a Disaster Relief Fund grant, cardholders can call the **Union Plus Credit Card Disaster Relief Fund at 1-877-761-5028**. The Disaster Relief Fund provided \$400,000 to 800 union members on the Gulf Coast impacted by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Other special assistance for cardholders includes skip payments, lower rates, fee waivers and other help.

Disaster victims who participate in the Union Plus Loan, Auto Insurance, Mortgage and UnionSecure Insurance programs may be eligible to receive payment extensions or other special help from the program providers. Assistance plans vary by program provider.

To find out more, members who participate in any of the following programs should call:

- Union Plus Loan: 1-800-343-7097
- Union Plus Mortgage: 1-866-766-2164
- Union Plus Auto Insurance: 1-877-244-0304

- UnionSecure Insurance: 1-800-393-0864

All members are also eligible for free credit counseling through the Union Plus Credit Counseling Program and free legal advice through the Union Plus Legal Service:

- Union Plus Legal Service: 1-888-993-8886
- Union Plus Credit Counseling: 1-877-833-1745

For more information about the Union Plus benefits visit [www.UnionPlus.org](http://www.UnionPlus.org).

\* Counties designated by FEMA as qualifying for individual assistance include:

**Colorado:** Larimer and Weld Counties.

**Indiana:** Adams, Bartholomew, Brown, Clay, Daviess, Dearborn, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Henry, Jackson, Jennings, Johnson, Knox, Marion, Monroe, Morgan, Owen, Parke, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, Shelby, Sullivan, Vermillion, and Vigo Counties.

**Iowa:** Adams, Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Cedar, Cerro Gordo, Delaware, Fayette, Floyd, Hardin, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Louisa, Marion, Muscatine, Page, Polk, Story, Tama, Union, and Winneshiek Counties.

**Missouri:** Barry, Jasper, and Newton Counties.

**Wisconsin:** Crawford, Columbia, Sauk, Milwaukee, Racine, Richland and Vernon Counties.

# # #

The Union Plus Credit Card Disaster Relief Fund is administered by Union Privilege. Union Privilege and HSBC, the company providing the credit card program, established the fund. Union Privilege, founded by the AFL-CIO in 1986, develops and manages the Union Plus benefits programs. Union Privilege uses the combined buying power of millions of union families to obtain top quality goods and services at competitive prices with unique union-member-only features. For more information visit [www.UnionPlus.org](http://www.UnionPlus.org).

The Disaster Relief Fund is part of the Union Plus Credit Card Safety Net, which offers valuable protection for working families, including access to:

- Lifeline Trust Grants, which help members who are out of work due to a prolonged disability.
- A Layoff Helpline, which helps protect members who lose their jobs.
- Credit counseling, which includes a free counseling session, budget analysis, and advice.
- Consumer credit education, which helps members understand credit.
- A secured credit card helps build and repair credit.