

THE POWER OF US

# 2026 Annual Fundraising Campaign Frequently Asked Questions



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### Q. Why does CGMA conduct an Annual Fundraising Campaign?

- A. Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) is a fully donor funded, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and receives no federal funding. The Annual Fundraising Campaign generates vital revenue needed to support the Coast Guard Community through its programs. Like many charitable organizations, CGMA would deplete its resources and be unable to provide assistance without an annual infusion of funds.

The campaign also provides an opportunity to publicize and reinforce awareness of CGMA and the array of assistance programs available.

### Q. Where does CGMA get its funding?

- A. As a charitable donor-supported organization, CGMA is financed through individual contributions and return on investments. CGMA does not receive any federal or state funds.

### Q. Are donations to CGMA tax-deductible?

- A. CGMA is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, EIN 31-1801931. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

### Q. Why doesn't CGMA participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)?

- A. While CGMA would qualify to participate in the CFC program, there are a number of reasons to keep the CGMA Fundraising Campaign separate from CFC:
- CGMA campaigns have a two-fold purpose of collecting contributions as well as informing you, your shipmates and co-workers of the assistance available, particularly new and expanded programs.
  - CGMA participation in the CFC program might jeopardize authorization to conduct a separate CGMA fundraising campaign.
  - Contributions through CFC would most likely be significantly less than those realized with a separate campaign.

There are many worthy organizations involved with CFC, and we support any decision to contribute to them. However, we are confident that you will not find a CFC organization that comes close to providing as much assistance directly to members of the Coast Guard as CGMA does. True to its motto "**Helping Our Own**" — CGMA is Coast Guard people helping Coast Guard people.

### Q. How do I continue my allotment/payroll deduction from last year?

- A. Active Duty members and civilian employees do not need to take any action to continue their allotment/payroll deduction from the previous year. Child Development Center (CDC) and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) employees, however, must start a new allotment or payroll deduction each year.

Allotments/payroll deductions will continue until a change is requested. Starting or increasing an existing allotment or payroll deduction is easy. Active Duty members or civilian employees simply complete the Pledge Form (CGMA Form 33), indicating the new pledge amount. At any point throughout the year an adjustment of your allotment may be requested by emailing [donations@mycgma.org](mailto:donations@mycgma.org).

Allotment contributions/payroll deductions are the lifeblood of CGMA. Without them, CGMA would be unable to meet assistance needs. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

### Q. Why does CGMA need my donation when it has millions in investments?

- A. Investment revenue provides operating funds, and the investment portfolio represents reserve funds for the organization. Recent hurricanes and other natural disasters, as well as the U.S. Government Shutdown and pandemic, demonstrate how important it is to have a financially strong and healthy organization like CGMA in place through which assistance can be provided swiftly and efficiently.

These investments also enable CGMA to give out more grants and loans than the money raised each year through fundraising efforts. In 2025, every dollar raised from the Coast Guard community was returned as a grant.

### Q. Why is it more important than ever to donate to CGMA?

- A. CGMA is funded entirely through donations. They are the lifeblood for our continued operation and essential to our ability to provide financial support at the level of speed and scale the Coast Guard community has come to expect. With demand and requests for assistance continuing to rise each year, donations are more important than ever.

If you'd like to learn more about our donations, investments and aid, all CGMA annual statements can be found on the website: <https://mycgma.org/about-us/official-documents/>

### Q. Does CGMA support truly impact the Coast Guard Community?

- A. You bet it does! **Over \$250 million** in assistance has been provided since 1924. In 2025, CGMA provided **\$12 million** in assistance, serving more than 4,000 Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian Employees, Retirees and families. In 2025 alone, CGMA supported about 10 percent of the U.S. Coast Guard workforce, including:

- More than \$8 million for Active Duty members, who comprise the majority of the Coast Guard workforce.
- More than \$2.5 million for Civilian Employees impacted by the 2025 government shutdown.
- More than \$400,000 for Reserve members.
- More than \$770,000 for Retirees.
- Approximately two-thirds of all support went to individuals in pay grades E-6/GS-7 and below.

### Q. Who is eligible to receive assistance?

- A. Everyone associated with the Coast Guard family is eligible to receive assistance. This includes Active Duty, Reserve and Retired military personnel, Civilian, and NAF employees; Auxiliary members, Public Health Service officers and Chaplains serving with the Coast Guard. Certain parameters and restrictions apply — consult with your CGMA Representative for more information.

### Q. What types of assistance are available?

- A. CGMA offers a wide range of support in three primary areas:

**Disaster and Emergency Relief • Day to Day Support • Education Assistance**

Assistance is offered in the form of grants and interest-free loans. CGMA strives to meet the comprehensive needs of the entire Coast Guard Community by promoting the financial stability and general wellbeing of Coast Guard people through grants, interest free loans, financial counseling, and other resource programs. Additional information on specific types of assistance is available online at [www.mycgma.org](http://www.mycgma.org) or by contacting your CGMA representative.

**Q. Do I have to contribute to CGMA to receive assistance?**

A. NO! There is no requirement that an individual contributes in order to receive assistance. All requests are processed based on the financial need of the individual at the time assistance is requested.

**Q. Since Active Duty members receive the bulk of assistance, why should others contribute?**

A. Individuals in every segment of the Coast Guard Community are eligible for assistance. CGMA strives to review each case based on its own merits and provides assistance accordingly. While Active Duty members receive the bulk of assistance, they are also the largest group of contributors. CGMA provides the opportunity for people, through their contributions, to help others in the Coast Guard family, regardless of member type.

**LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?**

Visit [mycgma.org](http://mycgma.org)

**Talk with your local CGMA Representative.**  
If you're unsure who that is, you can find out [here](#).

