



TRTF is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit that works to provide resources for retired TRS annuitants, as well as active school personnel. We are the charitable partner of TRTA. The Foundation helps educators of the past, present, and future by supporting four charitable programs and an endowment fund.

TEXAS RETIRED TEACHERS FOUNDATION | WWW.TRTF.ORG

**First-Year Teacher Scholarship Program** (previously Beginning Teacher Scholarship). Provides funds to assist the recipient in purchasing materials for his or her first-year classroom, providing the opportunity to enhance their students' learning environment. TRTF will award up to 35 \$1,000 scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year to first-year public-school educators. More than \$155,000 has been awarded in scholarships since 2008.



**Classroom Assistance Grant Program.** Awarded to public-school teachers, librarians, coaches and more who demonstrate daily commitment to public education and Texas students through the creation of programs, events, or other learning platforms that go beyond the basic curriculum. TRTF will award up to 30 \$1,000 grants for the 2024-2025 school year. More than \$177,000 has been awarded in classroom assistance grants since 2008.



**"A Helping Hand" Program.** Provides retired school personnel with charitable assistance for a one-time special need or short-term hardship. Grant seekers are not required to be members of the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) but must be receiving an annuity from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). Please note, applications for this program are NOT posted online. Since its inception in 2010, the "A Helping Hand" program has awarded more than \$240,000 in assistance for medical and dental bills, home and auto repair, utilities, groceries, and much more.

**Disaster Relief Program.** Assists public education personnel and retirees who require emergency financial assistance for a financial hardship due to a disaster. Grant seekers are not required to be members of the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) but must be eligible to receive benefits from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). Please note, applications for this program are NOT posted online. More than \$375,000 in aid has been awarded to repair damage to homes caused by flooding, fire, tornadoes, and other emergencies.

**Lehr-Pritchard "A Helping Hand" Endowment Fund.** TRTF established an endowment fund to continue the good work of two of the Foundation's most iconic, important figures, Mike Lehr and Tom Pritchard. Lehr served as the Executive Director of the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) from 1994 to 2003. He went on to serve on the TRTF Board of Trustees until 2015. Pritchard was TRTA President from 2002 to 2004. Subsequently, Pritchard became the President of the TRTF Board of Trustees, serving in this position until 2015. The endowment fund solidifies and expands the "A Helping Hand" program, which Lehr and Pritchard fostered to success. The purpose of the "A Helping Hand" program is to assist retired Texas school personnel in times of financial crisis. Additionally, the fund will forever secure TRTF's future as a fixture within the retired educator community.



Scholarship and grant applications will be available online at [www.trtf.org](http://www.trtf.org) in September 2023. To learn more about TRTF and its charitable programs or how you can donate online or by mail please visit [www.trtf.org](http://www.trtf.org). Training materials for Foundation Liaisons and Representatives can be found at [www.trtf.org/resources](http://www.trtf.org/resources). Applications for "A Helping Hand" and the Disaster Relief programs can be acquired by emailing [help@trtf.org](mailto:help@trtf.org) or calling 1.800.880.1650 and asking for Sarah Richardson.