

Claims Conference

Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

HARDSHIP FUND – Former Soviet Union

фонд помощи

Eligibility Guidelines

November 2012

As of November 1, 2012, the Hardship Fund is available to eligible applicants residing in all areas of the former Soviet Union. Those eligible will be entitled to a one-time payment of €2,556.46.

Payments under the Hardship Fund are limited to Jewish Nazi victims who were persecuted as Jews and who meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Applicant does not currently receive, or has not ever received, a payment under the following programs:
 - German Federal Indemnification Law (BEG);
 - The Article 2 Fund;
 - The Central and Eastern European Fund (CEEF);
 - Under the Austrian law regarding relief for victims (OFG);
 - From Berlin under the law on recognizing and supporting people persecuted by the Nazis for political, racial or religious reasons (PrVG);
 - A GDR compensation pension for victims of the Nazi regime (VdN)
 - A pension from the Israeli ministry of finance under the Israeli Nazi persecution disabled persons law 5717-1957
2. Applicant is alive at the time of filing the application. Heirs are not eligible to file an application.¹
3. Applicant suffered the following types of persecution:
 - they fled from the Nazi regime from territory later occupied by the Nazis; or
 - they fled between June 22, 1941 and January 27, 1944 from areas of the Soviet Union that were generally up to 100 kilometers east of the German army's (Wehrmacht) advance, even if these areas were not later occupied by the Nazis. This includes Jews who fled from Moscow , Leningrad and Stalingrad during that period, or
 - they stayed in Leningrad at some time between September 1941 and January 1944

¹ In the event that an applicant to the Hardship Fund passes away after the application is submitted and the application would have ultimately been approved, the legal successor(s) that contact the Claims Conference within the appropriate time and complete the appropriate documentation are entitled to the appropriate portion of Euro 2556.46 (the Hardship Fund payment). The legal successor to the eligible applicant is his or her spouse (or common law spouse) and if he or she is deceased, the legal successor is his or her children in equal parts. If one or more of the children do not indicate, by completing the appropriate documentation within the specified time, that he or she wishes to obtain his or her share of the payment, the share of that child shall be distributed among the children that do complete the documentation within the specified time.

- they were deprived of liberty as defined by the German government (such as, ghetto, camp, hiding or false identity); and/or
- their movement was restricted, for example by curfew, compulsory registration with limitation of residence, wearing the Star of David (yellow star), etc.; or
- they were a fetus at the time that their mother suffered persecution described above.

Applicants not found eligible will have the right of appeal to the Independent Review Authority of the Claims Conference. Instructions on the appeal process will be included in any decision letter.