

Public Assistance Grant Program

Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance Grant Program

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Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance Grant Program



Public Assistance Grant Program

Mission: To provide supplemental financial assistance to state, local and tribal governments, and certain private non-profit organizations for response and recovery activities required as the result of a declared disaster.

Funding is cost shared at a federal share of no less than 75% of eligible costs.




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FEMA's Review Process




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graph TD; A[Incident] --> B[FEMA-State-Tribal PDA]; B --> C[Governor's Request]; C --> D[FEMA Recommendation]; D --> E[Presidential Declaration];
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 FEMA

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Major Disaster (DR)




“Any natural catastrophe . . . or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion in any part of the United States which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.”

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Characteristics



Is beyond State, County, Tribal and local capabilities.

Supplements available resources of State/Tribal/local governments, disaster relief organizations, and insurance.

Must be requested within 30 days of the incident.

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Emergency (EM)



"Any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States."



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Characteristics



Is beyond State, tribal and local abilities

Supplementary emergency assistance.

Not to exceed \$5 million.

Must submit request within 5 days, but no longer than 30 days after the occurrence of the incident.



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Evaluation Factors



- Individual Assistance
 - Concentration or dispersion of damage
 - Demographic considerations
 - Assistance from other sources
- Public Assistance
 - Estimated cost of the FEMA-eligible damage on a statewide and county per capita basis.
 - State, Tribal and local capabilities
- Hazard Mitigation
 - Has an approved Tribal and State Mitigation Plan that complies with 44 CFR § 201



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EPA Coordination with FEMA

- Emergency Support Function 10
- Two roles:
 - Exercising own authority
 - Tasked by FEMA and State under Mission Assignment reimbursement



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Actions After Declaration

The PA Program



The PA Program is based on a partnership with its Applicants, our "customers." FEMA PA staff consist of management and field personnel who assist the Applicant during the recovery process. These staff members include PA Group Supervisor, PAC Crew Leader and PA Project and Technical Specialists.

The FEMA PAC is there at the beginning of the disaster and is your "customer service manager" who works with the Applicant to resolve disaster-related needs and ensure applicant's projects are processed as efficiently and expeditiously as possible.



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The Public Assistance Process



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Eligible Applicants

- Native American Tribal Governments and Tribal Organizations
- State
- County
- City / Town / Village
- Other political subdivision of the State
- Certain Private Non-Profit Organizations

A **grantee** is a State or tribal government that is responsible for administering Public Assistance grants.

A **subgrantee** is an eligible applicant that receives a Public Assistance grant as reimbursement for performing eligible disaster work.



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Private Non-Profit Entities

Critical Services

Private Non-Profit (PNP) facilities that provide the following critical services are eligible for Public Assistance:

- Fire / Emergency Rescue
- Medical Treatment
- Power, Water, & Sewer Utilities
- Communications Systems



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Facility Eligibility

To be eligible, the facility must:

- Be the legal responsibility of an eligible applicant
- Have been in active use at the time of the disaster
- Be damaged as a result of the declared disaster
- Be located in the designated disaster area



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Types of Work

Emergency Work

- A. Debris Removal
- B. Emergency Protective Measures

Permanent Work

- C. Roads and Bridge Systems
- D. Water Control Facilities
- E. Public Buildings / Equipment
- F. Public Utilities
- G. Other (Parks, Recreation, etc.)



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Emergency Work

Category A – Debris Removal



Debris removal is eligible when:

- It eliminates an immediate threat to life, health, and safety
- It eliminates an immediate threat of significant damage to improved property
- It ensures economic recovery of the community and provides a benefit for the community-at-large



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Emergency Work

Category B – Emergency Protective Measures



Emergency Protective Measures are actions taken by a community before, during, and following a disaster to save lives, protect public health and safety, or eliminate immediate threat of significant damage to improved public and private property through cost effective measures.



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Permanent Work

Work Categories C - G

Eligible permanent work:

- Must repair, restore or replace disaster-damaged facilities in accordance with regulations
- Must restore to pre-disaster design, capacity and function in accordance with applicable codes and standards
- Must be required as a result of the disaster
- May include cost effective hazard mitigation measures



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Special Considerations

Special considerations are issues other than program eligibility that could affect the scope of work and funding of a project. These issues include:

- Insurance
- Floodplain Management
- Hazard Mitigation
- Environmental Protection
- Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources



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Program Review

- The Public Assistance Program assists in the restoration of community infrastructure.
- It is a supplemental cost reimbursement program with specific eligibility requirements.
- The FEMA share of eligible costs will be awarded to the grantee for disbursement to the subgrantees.



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