PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLICATION
To raise awareness of the assistance available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) program authorized under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act).

INTENDED AUDIENCE
This publication is intended for local and State officials, Federally recognized Tribal governments, those applying for and/or receiving recovery grants through the FEMA PA program and other recovery and mitigation stakeholders.
The Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program provides supplemental Federal assistance to States and local communities to return an area impacted by a Presidentially Declared disaster to its pre-disaster conditions and function. PA supports initiatives that protect against immediate threats to life, public safety and improved property; the removal of debris as a result of a disaster and the restoration – through repair or replacement – of disaster-damaged structures and facilities.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE PA PROGRAM?
There are four (4) eligibility requirements that must be met to participate in the PA program. The Applicant must be eligible, for the facility to be eligible. The facility must be eligible, for the work to be eligible. The work must be eligible, for the cost to be eligible.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS
- State and Territorial Governments
- Local Governments
- Private Nonprofit Organizations
- Federally recognized Tribal Governments can apply on their own directly to FEMA or through the State

COST SHARE
The funding for eligible work is typically a shared cost. The Federal share of assistance is generally not less than 75% of the eligible cost for emergency work and permanent work. There are EXCEPTIONS. Under certain circumstances, the Federal share may be 90% or even 100%.

PA AWARD PROCESS
### Eligibility Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>There are three (3) types of eligible Applicants for PA. If an entity meets the requirements of one (1) of these types, the Applicant may be eligible to receive Federal disaster assistance:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State and Territorial Governments;</td>
<td>• State and Territorial Governments;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local governments and special districts – for example, school districts, irrigation districts, fire districts and utility districts; and</td>
<td>• Local governments and special districts – for example, school districts, irrigation districts, fire districts and utility districts; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private nonprofit (PNP) organizations. PNPs must own or operate facilities that are open to the general public and that provide certain essential and critical services otherwise performed by a government agency.</td>
<td>• Private nonprofit (PNP) organizations. PNPs must own or operate facilities that are open to the general public and that provide certain essential and critical services otherwise performed by a government agency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Houses of Worship (HOW)</td>
<td>• Houses of Worship (HOW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Co-Op Utilities</td>
<td>• Co-Op Utilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federally recognized Native American Indian Tribes or authorized Tribal organizations can apply on their own directly to FEMA or through the State.</td>
<td>Federally recognized Native American Indian Tribes or authorized Tribal organizations can apply on their own directly to FEMA or through the State.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>To be eligible for PA funding, disaster recovery work performed on an eligible facility must be:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Necessary as a direct result of a declared incident;</td>
<td>• Necessary as a direct result of a declared incident;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Located within a designated disaster area; and</td>
<td>• Located within a designated disaster area; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The legal responsibility of an eligible Applicant.</td>
<td>• The legal responsibility of an eligible Applicant.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>The facility must be:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Located in the designated disaster area;</td>
<td>• Located in the designated disaster area;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Damaged by the declared incident; and</td>
<td>• Damaged by the declared incident; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In active use and open to the general public at the start of the incident period.</td>
<td>• In active use and open to the general public at the start of the incident period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Generally, costs that can be directly tied to the performance of eligible work are eligible. Costs must be:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Reasonable and necessary to accomplish the work;</td>
<td>• Reasonable and necessary to accomplish the work;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Compliant with Federal, State and local requirements for procurement;</td>
<td>• Compliant with Federal, State and local requirements for procurement;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reduced by all applicable credits, such as insurance proceeds and salvage values;</td>
<td>• Reduced by all applicable credits, such as insurance proceeds and salvage values;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Directly tied to the performance of eligible work; and</td>
<td>• Directly tied to the performance of eligible work; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Adequately documented.</td>
<td>• Adequately documented.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are two (2) broad categories of eligible work – emergency work and permanent work. Each category is further subdivided as shown in the graphic to the right (not directly listed, but administrative costs will be eligible costs for administering the Public Assistance grant program).

- **Emergency work** must be performed to reduce or eliminate an immediate threat to life, protect public health and safety, or to protect improved property that is threatened in a significant way as a result of a disaster.

- **Permanent work** is work required to restore a damaged facility to its pre-disaster design, function and capacity – in accordance with applicable codes or standards.

- **Temporary facilities** may also be eligible for PA when they are needed to ensure a continuity of services provided by eligible applicants that have been disrupted due to the disaster event.
An **Applicant Briefing** is conducted by the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) as soon as feasible following a **Presidential Declaration (PD)**. At the briefing, FDEM staff will address application procedures, administrative requirements, funding, and program eligibility criteria for potential Applicants.

**Local communities, State and Territorial Governments,** and **private nonprofits (PNPs)** apply for assistance from **FEMA** through FDEM by completing a Request for Public Assistance (RPA). The RPA is FEMA’s **official** application form. The form can be submitted to FDEM through [FloridaPA.org](http://FloridaPA.org) – FDEM’s PA grants management portal – or directly to FEMA in Grants Portal.

### WHEN IS THE APPLICATION PERIOD?

An RPA must be submitted to FEMA within **30 days** after **Presidential-declaration designation** of the area where the damage occurred, unless extended.

### ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

PA projects must meet **environmental** and **historic regulations**. To learn more, download the **EHP environmental + historic preservation** brochure and visit [Environmental and Historic Preservation Guidance for FEMA Grant Applicants](https://fema.gov/office-enviromental-planning-and-historic-preservation), as well as other codes, standards and regulations.
EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE PA WORK

Eligibility rules are sometimes complex and can be confusing. To learn more, visit [https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-frequently-asked-questions](https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-frequently-asked-questions) OR contact the Florida Division of Emergency Management Recovery Bureau at 850-815-4002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY A: DEBRIS REMOVAL</th>
<th>CATEGORY B: EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trees + woody debris</td>
<td>Security in the declared disaster area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derelict Vessels</td>
<td>Transportation of disaster victims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building components or contents</td>
<td>Emergency tarping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand + mud + silt + gravel</td>
<td>Generator run time for facilities that provide health and safety services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wreckage produced during conduct of emergency protective measures (for example, drywall)</td>
<td>Removal of dead animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vector control when serious pests/mosquitoes threat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under certain conditions, ice removal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CATEGORY A: DEBRIS REMOVAL
- Emergency evacuations of medical and custodial care facilities
- Emergency mass care and shelter operations
- Emergency medical facilities
- Food + water + ice + other essential needs
- Nursing homes/Assisted living facilities
- PNP facility emergency protective measures IF the facilities are otherwise eligible
- Rescue + care + shelter + essential needs for household pets and service animals
- Search + rescue

### CATEGORY B: EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES
- Alerts + warning of risks + hazards
- Building stabilization
- Emergency communications
- Security in the declared disaster area
- Transportation of disaster victims
- Emergency tarping
- Generator run time for facilities that provide health and safety services
- Removal of dead animals
- Vector control when serious pests/mosquitoes threat
- Under certain conditions, ice removal
### CATEGORY C: ROADS + BRIDGES (Non-FHWA)
- Road surfaces + bases + shoulders
- Road ditches
- Road drainage structure + low-water crossings
- Bridge approaches
- Bridge decking + pavement
- Bridge piers + girders + abutments
- Bridge slope protection

### CATEGORY D: WATER CONTROL FACILITIES
- Canals + aqueducts + sediment basins
- Certain irrigation facilities
- Dams + reservoirs + levees
- Engineered drainage channels
- Pumping facilities
- Shore protective devices

### CATEGORY E: BUILDING + EQUIPMENT
- Codes + standards upgrades or a portion of that work
- Contents
- Equipment
- Mold remediation
- Restoration through repair or replacement of damaged facilities to pre-disaster design + function
- Routine or delayed maintenance
- Temporary or permanent relocation
- Under certain circumstances, ADA compliance work or a portion of that work

### CATEGORY F: UTILITIES
- Communications
- Power generation + distribution

### CATEGORY G: PARKS + RECREATION + OTHER
- Fish hatcheries
- Golf courses
- Mass transit facilities
- Picnic tables
- Piers + boat docks
- Playground equipment
- Swimming pools + bath houses
- Tennis courts
- Trees + ground cover + landscaping
- Other facilities that do not fit in Categories C – F
- Beach renourishment
REFERENCES

Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) - April 2018
https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a0138b8ef9083d7dfe7f538e775
1a9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf

FEMA Public Assistance
https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1534520705607-3c8e6422a44db56e4885b5b1b183b7ce/PublicAssistanceFactSheetJune2017_Updated2018.pdf

FEMA Public Assistance Debris Removal Tips
https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1504970460719-ab1c12e1ef7be35b8e37d
3e83444169/PublicAssistanceDebrisRemoval_Tips.pdf

FEMA Public Assistance Management Costs

FEMA RPA Application Form
https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1505397829631-758807d2f22ea320a71a74ade429675d/FEMA_Form_009-0-49_RPA_508_FINAL.pdf

Grants Portal Fact Sheet
https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1499785988024-b612207f1c3ed6623850e796f640a57/GrantsMgrPortalFactSheet2017A.pdf

NEED HELP?

If you need assistance with a PA application; want to know more about PA funding opportunities; and be updated on current guidance or announcements, please visit https://floridapa.org OR contact the Florida Division of Emergency Management Recovery Bureau at 850-815-4002.

This public document is published by the Florida Division of Emergency Management. Eight hundred (800) copies of this public document were published in this 7th printing at a cost of $800.00. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is $1,702.00. This document was published for the purpose of providing public information and education to the Applicants of the State of Florida. This document was prepared under grants from the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) grant program. Points of view or options expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of DHS or FEMA. This document is designed and produced by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration’s Multimedia Design unit.