



FLORIDA  
nonprofit  
alliance

# Hurricane Helene Response with FEMA

October 7, 2024

North Carolina



Center *for* Nonprofits



**NONPROFIT  
NETWORK**



**Together SC**

**ALLIES FOR GOOD**

theforakergroup  
Standing Beside Alaska's Nonprofits



HANO  
Hawaii Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations

# Housekeeping

- ▶ Participants are muted
- ▶ Ask questions in the Q&A box
- ▶ Slides will be shared after the webinar
- ▶ Captioning is available
- ▶ This webinar is being recorded

# Hurricane Assistance for Nonprofits

DHS Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships



# FEMA



# Overview

- **FEMA Disaster Assistance**
  - Nicole C. Wood, Acting Director, DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships
  - Dinusha Weerakkody, Section Chief, FEMA Voluntary Agency Coordination
- **Individual Assistance**
  - Amanda Poland, Regulation and Policy Team Manager, FEMA Individuals & Households Program
- **Public Assistance**
  - Ricardo Agudelo-Doval, Partnership Advisor, DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships
- **Questions**



# Recovery

## Individual Assistance Program

# DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE VERSUS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAMS

## INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

Provides FEMA assistance directly to eligible individuals and families affected by a disaster, who have uninsured or under-insured necessary expenses and serious needs. **It is not a substitute for insurance and cannot compensate for all losses caused by a disaster.** The assistance is intended to meet your basic needs and supplement disaster recovery efforts.

### Individual Assistance May Include



Renting temporary housing



Repairing uninsured or underinsured homes



Other disaster-caused expenses and serious needs, such as repair or replacement of personal property & vehicles, or funds for moving and storage, medical, dental, child care, funeral, & other miscellaneous items.

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Provides supplemental grants to **state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and certain types of private non-profits** so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies.

### Public Assistance Projects Examples



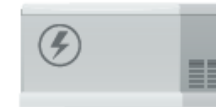
Restoration of buildings & equipment such as schools, hospitals, & facilities providing community services



Restoration of damaged roads & bridges



Debris removal from obstructed public roadways & infrastructure



Repair of public utilities & water systems



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# 4 Ways to Apply for Disaster Assistance

ONLINE



[DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov)

FEMA APP



Download the FEMA APP

CALL



800-621-3362

IN PERSON



At one of our  
Disaster Recovery Centers  
[fema.gov/drc](https://fema.gov/drc)



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# The Best Way to Apply for Disaster Assistance



## ONLINE

To avoid long wait times we *recommend applying online*. You can either **download the FEMA App** for easy access to [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov) or visit directly on your laptop or computer.



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# FEMA Assistance

FEMA assistance is not a replacement for insurance. If you have insurance contact your insurance provider. FEMA may be able to help start your recovery:

## **If your home was damaged by a federally declared disaster.**

A damage assessment may be required to verify your loss for some types of assistance.

## **If your home isn't safe to live in.**

FEMA assistance can help you repair your disaster-damaged home to livable conditions.

## **If you need help meeting basic disaster-related needs.**

FEMA may be able to assist with essential needs like personal property, transportation and medical expenses.

## **If you need somewhere to stay.**

Homeowners or renters may receive financial assistance to rent a temporary place to live if their home is unlivable because of a disaster.



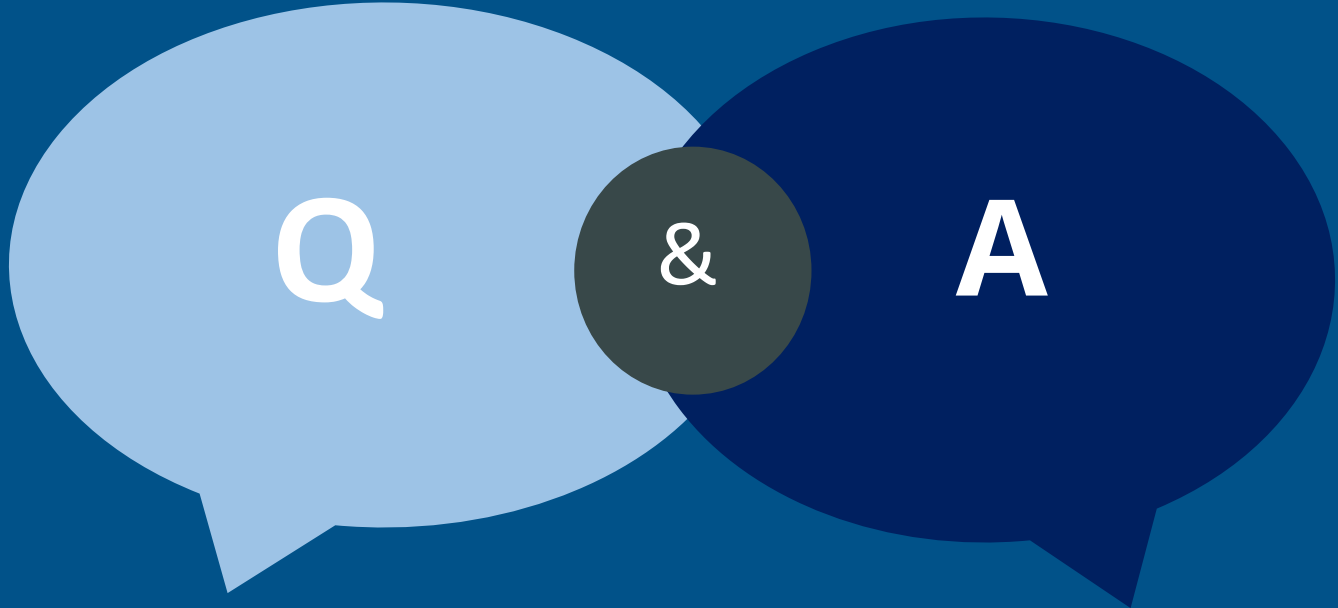
Apply for assistance on [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov) or visit [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov) for more information.

Disaster assistance isn't limited to one specific type or amount.

One of the many kinds of assistance available is for **serious needs**. It provides \$750 and helps with immediate needs like water, food, baby formula or fuel.



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# Recovery Public Assistance Program



# Tip #1 – Don't Wait to Register Your Organization for Public Assistance

The screenshot shows the FEMA Grants Portal interface. At the top left is the FEMA logo and the text "Grants Portal". At the top right is a "Help" link. A yellow warning box contains the text: "This Portal Is for Governments and Non-Profits Use Only", "Individuals looking for Individual Assistance, please visit [disasterassistance.gov](\"http://disasterassistance.gov\") for assistance.", and "Businesses looking for assistance should visit the [Small Business Administration's disaster assistance website](\"http://Small Business Administration)". Below this is a "Sign in to Your Account" section with a key icon. It includes "USERNAME" and "PASSWORD" labels, each with a "Forgot your [username/password]?" link and an input field. A blue "SIGN IN" button is highlighted with a black border. Below the button is a link: "⊕ [Register Your Organization for Public Assistance](\"#\")". A large grey arrow points from the right towards this link.

The image shows the FEMA Grants Portal Grants Manager logo, which includes the FEMA logo and the text "Grants Portal Grants Manager". Below the logo is a blue box with a white telephone icon, the phone number "(866) 337-8448", and the text "Customer Support".



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# Emergency Work

**A Debris Removal**



**B Emergency Protective Measures**



**FEMA**



# Permanent Work



- C** Roads and Bridges
- D** Water Control Facilities
- E** Buildings and Equipment
- F** Utilities
- G** Parks, Recreational, Pools etc.



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## Tip #2 – Be Prepared to Request Assistance

### Gather the Documentation and Information Needed Prior to a Disaster

#### Request for Public Assistance:

1. Ruling letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in effect at the time of the disaster; and
2. Tax exemption under sections 501(c), (d), or (e) of the Internal Revenue Code; or
3. Documentation from the State substantiating the organization is a non-revenue producing, nonprofit entity organized or doing business under State law; and
4. Proof that the organizations owns or operates a facility that provides an eligible service.

#### Section III – Private Nonprofit Organization

Which status best describes this private nonprofit organization? Please upload documentation to support answer.

- Tax exempt under sections 501 (c), (d), or (e) of the Internal Revenue Code. Please provide a ruling letter from the Internal Revenue Service that was in effect on the declaration date and granted tax exemption.
- Non-revenue producing under applicable State law. Please provide documentation from the State substantiating it is a non-revenue producing, nonprofit entity organized or doing business under State law.
- Exempt from both 501(c)(3) requirements and State tax requirements. Please provide articles of association, bylaws, or other documents indicating it is an organized entity and a certification that it is compliant with Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3) and State law requirements.
- Other. Please describe:

Please provide the facility [facilities] owned or operated by the Private Nonprofit.

Facility name	Physical address [Street address City, State, ZIP code]	County, Parish, or Municipality [system generated]
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Does the Applicant own or operate the facility?

- Owns and operates the facility. Please upload documentation to support proof of ownership.
- Owns, but does not operate the facility (i.e., leases the facility to another entity). Please upload lease or other proof of legal responsibility to repair incident-related damage.
- Operates, but does not own the facility (i.e., leases the facility from another entity). Please upload lease or other proof of legal responsibility to repair incident-related damage.
- Other. Please describe how the Applicant owns or operates the facility:

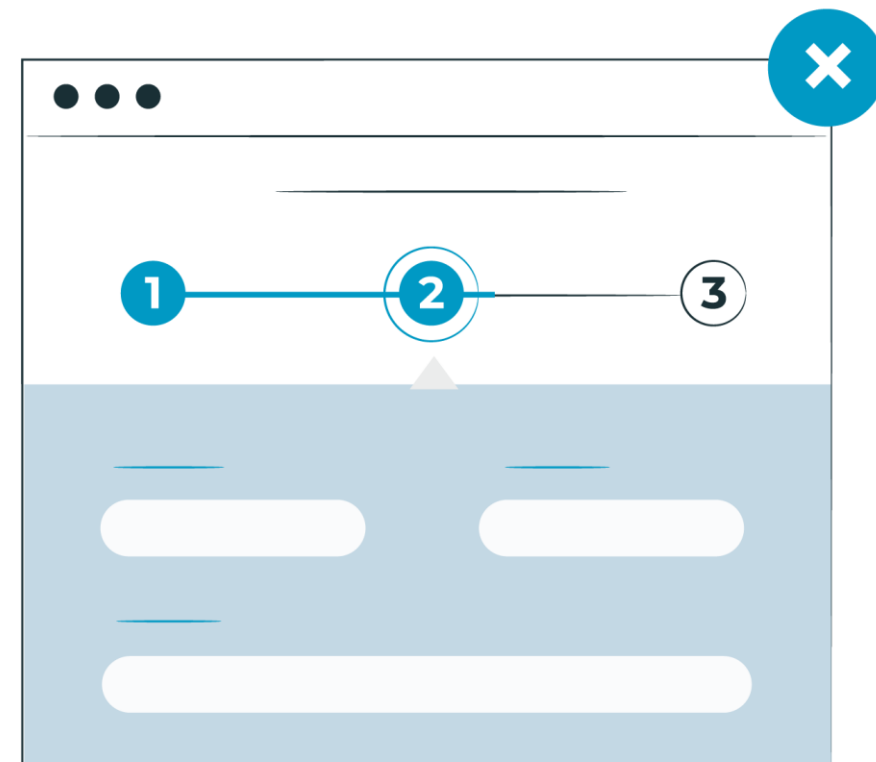


# FEMA



## Tip #3 Request for Public Assistance

- ❑ Public Assistance application period has a **30-day** deadline from the date of declaration.
  
- ❑ Applying for a Low-Interest Loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the first step.
  - ❑ If an applicant applies for an SBA loan, is approved, and opts not to take the loan, the applicant still may be eligible for funding by FEMA for the difference between the SBA loan and eligible costs.
  
- ❑ Submit insurance claims as soon as possible.
  
- ❑ Attend the State, Tribal, or Territory Applicant Briefing.



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# FEMA PA Mitigation

- While Public Assistance provides reimbursement funding to repair eligible damaged facilities, it also provides mitigation funding that allows applicants to incorporate mitigation measures (resiliency) during the permanent repair phase of damaged facilities.
  - **Public Assistance Mitigation** funding is available to applicants with permanent work projects that enhance the level of protection against future disaster-related damages.
- Public Assistance Mitigation funding is available immediately after a disaster declaration.
- Mitigation saves lives and protects communities!
- For every \$1 invested in mitigation, an average of \$6 is saved in avoided losses.



**FEMA**

# State's Public Assistance Contacts

- [North Carolina Public Assistance](#)
- [South Carolina Public Assistance](#)
- [Florida Public Assistance](#)
- [Tennessee Public Assistance](#)



**FEMA**

# RUMOR CONTROL

[Hurricane Helene: Rumor Response | FEMA.gov](#)



# Preparing for Hurricane Milton



**The Time to Prepare is Now**

Gather supplies for your family, pets and service animals.

- ✔ Food & water
- ✔ Medications
- ✔ Flashlights
- ✔ Chargers
- ✔ IDs & insurance documents

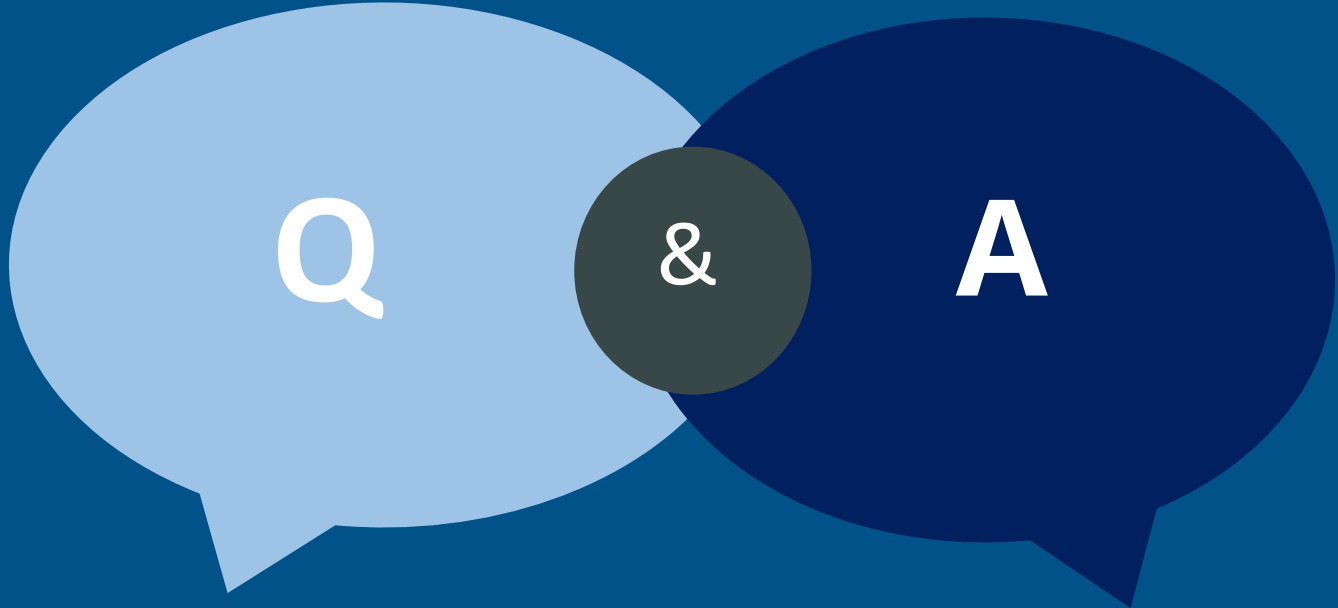
Ready. ✓

[Disaster Multimedia Toolkit | FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov)



The FEMA App can help you  
**Plan.**  
**Protect.**  
**Recover.**









**DHS Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships**  
**[www.dhs.gov/faith](http://www.dhs.gov/faith) and [Partnerships@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Partnerships@fema.dhs.gov)**





# Recovery: Extra Slides

## Individual Assistance Program

# Regulatory Changes



## Establish New Benefits

- Standardize Serious Needs Assistance
- Create Displacement Assistance



## Cut Red Tape and Expand Eligibility

- Simplify Other Needs Assistance
- Help Underinsured Survivors
- Expand Habitability Criteria
- Simplify Assistance for Entrepreneurs
- Expand Assistance for Computing Devices



## Simplify the Application Process

- Streamline Temporary Housing Assistance Applications
- Remove Barriers for Late Applicants
- Simplify the Process for Appeals



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# Recovery: Extra Slides Public Assistance Program



# Tip Sheet

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- Document Inventory Pre and Post Disaster

- Get Connected

With your local first responders and emergency management agency. Local emergency managers can share information about potential risks for your area, including whether your church is in a flood zone. First responders can be helpful in helping you think through creating an emergency operations plan.

- Verify your insurance coverage



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# Resources for Private Non-Profits on Navigating Public Assistance

**Downloadable Informational Flyer:** [What Houses of Worship Need to Know About the FEMA Disaster Aid Process Flyer](#) (Zip file has item available in English, Spanish, French, German, Haitian Creole, Korean, Portuguese, Simplified Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese)

**Mass Care Guide:** [How to Develop Agreements for Mass Care Services \(nationalmasscarestrategy.org\)](#)

**Procurement Guide:** [Purchasing under a FEMA Award: Resources for Private Nonprofits and Religious Organizations](#)

**Downloadable FEMA Fact Sheet:** [Public Assistance: Private Nonprofit Eligibility Factsheet \(fema.gov\)](#)

**Downloadable Graphic:** [Documents Needed When Applying for Public Assistance Graphics | FEMA.gov](#)

**Downloadable Graphic:** [Public Assistance Appeal Process Graphics | FEMA.gov](#) (Zip file has item available in English, Spanish, French, German, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese)

**Downloadable FEMA Fact Sheet:** [Mitigate Disaster Damage with FEMA Public Assistance](#)

**Spanish Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide:** [FEMA PAPPG v4 in Spanish](#) (version 4 applicable to emergencies and major disasters declared on or after June 1, 2020.)

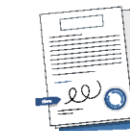
## Recorded Public Assistance Webinars:

[DHS Center Webinar 20220816 - FEMA Public Assistance and SBA Office of Disaster Assistance resources for places of worship and other community Private Non-Profits \(connectsolutions.com\)](#)

[DHS Center Webinar 20220824 - Sources of Disaster Assistance \(connectsolutions.com\)](#)

**Spanish Webinar Presentation:** *Recursos del Programa de Asistencia Pública de FEMA y Agencia Federal de Pequeños Negocios (SBA) para Casas de Adoración y Organizaciones Sin Fines de Lucro:* [DHS Center Webinar 20220813 \(connectsolutions.com\)](#)

## What Houses of Worship Need to Know About the FEMA Disaster Aid Process



### Applying for a Low-Interest Loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the First Step

Houses of Worship are considered private nonprofit organizations that provide a noncritical, essential social service, such as community and senior citizen centers. This category of nonprofits must go through the loan application process with the Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Assistance program before FEMA can determine eligibility for the agency's Public Assistance program, which reimburses expenses for emergency protective measures, debris removal and repair or rebuilding of disaster-damaged property.

SBA's low-interest disaster loans provide up to \$2 million for damaged real estate and the repair or replacement of property, such as furniture, fixtures and other eligible inventory.

While a House of Worship is not required to take out a loan, Public Assistance will not fund any associated permanent work unless an SBA loan application has been denied or does not fully cover the permanent work costs.

### Religious Organizations that Provide a "Critical Service" do not Have to go through the SBA Process

Nonprofit organizations that run medical and educational facilities are considered "critical services". This category of nonprofit can work with FEMA on a potential grant without applying to SBA first. However, this only applies to facilities providing "critical services". Houses of Worship must still apply for an SBA loan for damaged facilities providing "noncritical services".

### Submit Insurance Claims as Soon as Possible

Not all Houses of Worship may carry insurance, but those that do must submit documentation. By law, FEMA cannot duplicate benefits. Federal grants may cover uninsured or underinsured losses.

We encourage everyone to document and insure property and be familiar with their policy. Not all insurance policies are the same. Coverage amounts, deductibles, and payment caps can vary significantly.

### Application Process

After a federal disaster declaration is approved, check your state emergency management's website for a schedule of applicant briefings which provide an overview of the Public Assistance program.

All Houses of Worship, whether they provide critical or essential social services, should submit a FEMA Request for Public Assistance through Grants Portal, an online recovery management tool, within 30 days of the date of a presidential disaster declaration. Any questions about the process can be answered by your local and/or state emergency manager.

If eligible, FEMA and the state will then coordinate a Recovery Scoping Meeting to determine reimbursable damages.