



# INTERGOVERNMENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE



## FEMA

Joint Field Office, Durham, N.C.  
December 13, 2016

FEMA-4285-DR-NC

### Time running out to apply for Public Assistance

FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) program provides federal funds to help eligible local, state and tribal governments, and certain private nonprofits pay for debris removal, emergency protective measures and the repair, replacement or restoration of disaster-damaged facilities.

A Request for Public Assistance (RPA) is an applicant's official notification to FEMA of the intent to apply for a PA grant. The request is typically submitted at the Applicants' Briefing, which is conducted by North Carolina Emergency Management for potential PA applicants and addresses application procedures, administration requirements, funding and program eligibility criteria.

Once a request for assistance has been forwarded to FEMA and the applicant is deemed eligible, it is assigned a PA coordinator. The coordinator is a FEMA specialist who serves as the applicant's customer service representative on PA program matters and manages processing of the applicant's projects.

Forty-nine North Carolina counties are eligible for FEMA PA grants in seven categories (A through G), which include grants for reimbursement of emergency costs, and permanent repair or replacement of Hurricane Matthew-damaged infrastructure.

Thirteen counties were designated as eligible for FEMA PA grants A-G on **Nov. 10**.

Those counties had to submit a Request for Public Assistance before the **Dec. 10 deadline**.

An additional 36 counties were designated as eligible for PA grants A-G on **Nov. 20**.

Those counties must submit a Request for Public Assistance before the **Dec. 20 deadline**.

### Hurricane Matthew seen from space



*A satellite image shows the extent of the area affected by Hurricane Matthew as it swirled over the southeastern United States, including North Carolina, in early October.*

### Keep FEMA up to date to avoid delays

North Carolina survivors who have registered with FEMA for disaster assistance after Hurricane Matthew are encouraged to stay in touch with the agency to resolve issues, get updates on their applications or provide additional information.

It is especially important for you to update FEMA with any insurance documentation information or settlements. FEMA disaster assistance covers only basic needs and cannot duplicate insurance payments. If you are changing addresses, phone numbers or banking information you should notify FEMA. Incomplete or incorrect information could result in delays in receiving assistance.

To update your status call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 for voice, 711 and Video Relay Service. If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585. You should refer to the nine-digit number you were issued at registration.

*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 or TTY at 800-462-7585. FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. Follow FEMA on twitter at @femaregion4. Download the FEMA app with tools and tips to keep you safe before, during, and after disasters.*

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## Private nonprofits urged to apply now for federal help

Private nonprofit organizations in North Carolina may be eligible to receive federal assistance in recovering from losses connected with Hurricane Matthew. FEMA encourages all affected private nonprofits in the 49 counties designated for Public Assistance (PA) grants to apply for aid as soon as possible.

Community, volunteer, faith-based and private nonprofit organizations that had damage from the flooding caused by the hurricane may be able to receive FEMA PA grants or apply for U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest disaster loans to repair or replace their facilities.

The first step is for the applicant to contact the county emergency manager to obtain a Request for Public Assistance (RPA). The emergency manager will be able to answer questions on the application process. The applicant then submits the completed RPA to North Carolina Emergency Management for evaluation before it is forwarded to FEMA for eligibility determination.

Two types of nonprofits may be eligible to apply for Public Assistance.

### **Critical community service organizations:**

Faith-based and private schools  
Emergency services (fire/rescue)  
Hospitals and other medical treatment facilities  
Utilities like water, sewer, electrical systems

### **Non-critical, essential service organizations:**

Community centers  
Daycare centers  
Disability advocacy and service providers  
Homeless shelters and rehabilitation facilities  
Libraries, museums and zoos  
Performing arts centers  
Senior citizen centers

Organizations that provide non-critical, essential services must also apply for a low-interest disaster loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration in addition to submitting an RPA. FEMA may assist with expenses the SBA loan does not cover.

SBA may provide up to \$2 million in the form of low-interest disaster loans.

A loan application is available online at [sba.gov/disaster](http://sba.gov/disaster). Or call 800-659-2955. If you use TTY call 800-877-8339.

## NORTH CAROLINA BY THE NUMBERS

The following is a snapshot of the recovery effort as of Sunday, Dec. 11, 2016:

- Almost **\$83 million** has been distributed in individuals and household grants, including:
  - ◊ More than **\$57.8 million** has been approved in housing assistance for repairing/rebuilding homes and rental assistance for a temporary place to live.
  - ◊ More than **\$25.1 million** in other needs assistance has been approved to help cover the costs of replacing lost contents, medical, dental and other disaster-related expenses.
- More than **57,000** home inspections have been completed.
- More than **22,000** visits were made to recovery centers by people affected by the disaster.
- More than **77,000** households registered for federal assistance.
- More than **1,700** low-interest disaster loans were approved by the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- More than **\$64.6million** has been approved in low-interest disaster loans by the SBA.
- More than **\$2.25 million** has been obligated for Public Assistance Grants.
- More than **5,700** National Flood Insurance Program claims were made.
- More than **\$64.1 million** has been paid on NFIP claims.

## *Free tips on rebuilding stronger and safer*

As North Carolinians repair or rebuild their homes damaged by the flooding that followed Hurricane Matthew, FEMA and home improvement stores have teamed up to provide free information, tips and literature on making homes stronger and safer.

This week, FEMA mitigation specialists are available in **Lowe's Home Improvement** stores in Robeson, Lenoir and Dare counties from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13 through Saturday, Dec. 17 at these addresses:

**5060 Fayetteville Road, Lumberton, NC 28358**

**4489 Hwy 70 West, Kinston, NC 28504**

**1500 N. Croatan Hwy, Kill Devil Hills, NC 217948**

The specialists will offer home improvement tips along with proven methods to prevent or reduce damage from future disasters, as well as offer tips and techniques for building hazard resistant homes. The specialists will be available at other stores in impacted counties in the future.