Process

Following a Presidential declaration, MEMA conducts an Applicant’s Briefing to detail the PA process. Applicants have 30 days after this briefing to submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA). If approved, applicants will be contacted by FEMA to formulate and process their PA project claims. FEMA will approve the projects and obligate funds to the State, who provides funds to the applicant. After all eligible work is complete and funds are provided to the applicant, the State closes the projects with FEMA.

FEMA Public Assistance
Open Disasters for Maryland
as of 10/2018

- Hurricane Sandy (2012) DR-4091
- Snow Storm (2014) DR-4170
- Severe Winter Storm and Snow Storm (2016) DR-4261
- Ellicott City Flooding (2016) DR-4279
- Washington and Frederick County Flooding (2018) DR-4374
- Baltimore and Howard County Flooding (2018) DR-4376

Contact

Sara Bender, State Public Assistance Officer
Phone 410-517-3620
sara.bender1@maryland.gov

John Harding, Deputy Public Assistance Officer
Phone 410-517-3625
john.harding@maryland.gov

Maryland Emergency Management Agency
State Emergency Operations Center
5401 Rue Saint Lo Drive
Reisterstown, MD 21136
Phone: 877-MEMA-USA
mema.maryland.gov
Public Assistance

FEMA’s Public Assistance (PA) grant program provides federal assistance to government organizations and certain private nonprofit (PNP) organizations following a Presidential disaster declaration. The federal share of assistance is not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost for eligible projects.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants in Maryland are State Departments and Agencies, all local governments and certain critical Private nonprofit Organizations (PNP). Eligible PNP facilities must be open to the public and perform essential services of a governmental nature.

PNP organizations are eligible for PA if they are able to show:

- Current IRS tax exemption under sections 501 (c), (d), or € of Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or state substantiating documentation that the organization does not produce revenue and is a nonprofit entity.

Eligible Applicants (cont.)

- Facility must provide a critical service; education, utility, emergency or medical services or,
- Provides non-critical, essential governmental service and is open to the public at large. Services include (but not limited to): educational enrichment, senior citizen projects, community engagements, public services such as rehabilitation, child care, food assistance and shelter

Eligible Work

To be eligible for PA, work must be required as a result of the disaster and be located in the designated disaster area.

Emergency Work:

This includes work that must be performed to reduce or eliminate an immediate threat to life, to protect public health and safety, to protect improved property, or eliminate/lessen an immediate threat of additional damage.

Categories Include:

- Category A: Debris removal from public roads and rights of way. Also includes removal from private property when it is determined to be in the public interest.

Eligible Work (cont.)

- Category B: Emergency protective measures performed to eliminate or reduce immediate threats to the public, including search and rescue, warning of hazards, and demolition of unsafe structures.

Permanent Work

Work to restore an eligible damaged facility to its pre-disaster design, function, and capacity in accordance with applicable codes. Work may range from minor repairs to replacement. Categories include:

- Category C: Roads, bridges and associated features such as shoulders, ditches, culverts, lighting, and signs
- Category D: Water control facilities including dams, levees, drainage channels, and pumping facilities. Flood control under the authority of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the United States Dept of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service are not eligible for permanent repairs under PA.
- Category E: Buildings (including their contents and systems), equipment, and vehicles
- Category F: Utilities such as water treatment and delivery systems, power generation facilities and distribution lines, sewage collection and treatment facilities, and communications
- Category G: Public parks, recreational facilities, and other facilities, including playgrounds, swimming pools and cemeteries.