

Public Assistance in Maryland

Current Open Disasters

- Tropical Storm Isaias (2021)
DR 4583
- COVID-19 Disaster (2020)
DR 4491
- Baltimore & Howard County Flooding (2018)
DR 4376
- Washington & Frederick County Flooding (2018)
DR 4374
- Ellicott City Flooding (2016)
DR 4279

(as of 04/2022)

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Public Assistance Office



PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

What is

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 the assistance will be not less than 75% of the eligible cost, for eligible projects.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS INCLUDE:

- State departments & agencies
- Local governments
- Critical private nonprofits, **if they...**
 - Have facilities that are open to the public
 - Can show current IRS tax exemption under sections 501 (c), (d), or € of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or provide documentation proving the organization is a nonprofit entity & does not produce revenue
 - Provide a critical service (e.g., education, utilities, emergency medical services, etc.)

OR

Provide a non-critical, essential governmental services open to the public at large. (e.g., educational enrichment, senior citizen projects, community engagement, public rehabilitation, child care, food assistance, sheltering, etc.)

ELIGIBLE WORK

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

There are two types:

EMERGENCY WORK

Work needed to reduce/eliminate an immediate threat to life, protect public health & safety, protect public property, or eliminate/lessen an immediate threat of additional damage.

CAT. A Debris removal from public roads/rights of way, or removal from public property when it is determined to be in the public interest.

CAT. B Emergency protective measures to reduce or eliminate immediate threats to the public (e.g., search & rescue, hazard warnings, demolition of unsafe structures, etc.)

PERMANENT WORK

Work to restore eligible damaged facilities to pre-disaster design, function, capacity in accordance with applicable codes. May range from minor repairs to full replacement.

CAT. C Roads, bridges, and associated features (e.g., shoulders, lighting, signs, ditches, etc.)

CAT. D Water control facilities (e.g., dams, levees, drainage channels, pumping facilities, etc.).

CAT. E Buildings (incl. contents & systems), equipment, and vehicles

CAT. F Publicly-owned utilities (e.g., water treatment & delivery systems, power generation facilities & distribution lines, sewage treatment facilities, communications infrastructure, etc.)

CAT. G Public parks, recreational facilities, and other public facilities (e.g., playgrounds, swimming pools, cemeteries, etc.)

To learn more, visit:

<https://mdem.maryland.gov/community/Pages/Public-Assistance-Program.aspx>

1. A Presidential Disaster Declaration is issued.
2. MDEM conducts an Applicant's Briefing to explain the PA process.
3. Applicants have 30 days from the Declaration date to submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA).
4. FEMA contacts approved applicants to formulate & process their PA project claims.
5. FEMA approves projects & directs funds to the State.
6. The State provides funds to approved applicants.
7. After all eligible work is complete, the State closes the projects with FEMA.

Detailed info on the process, including how we request a Disaster Declaration, can be found in the Public Assistance Program & Policy Guide (FP-104-00902 / June 2020)

HOW IT HAPPENS