

FEMA Encourages Families with Diverse Immigration Status to Apply

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Des Moines, Iowa — If you had flood related damage or storm-caused expenses and live or own a business in **Buena Vista, Cherokee, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Humboldt, Lyon, Monona, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pottawattamie, Scott, Sioux and Woodbury** counties, FEMA assistance can provide grants to help cover temporary housing, home repairs and other disaster related needs.

You or a member of your household must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified non-citizen to apply.

Families with diverse immigration status, including adults who are undocumented, may still apply for assistance if:

- Another adult member of your household meets the eligibility criteria and certifies their citizenship status during the application process or signs the Declaration and Release form, or
- The parent or guardian of a minor child who is a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or a qualified non-citizen applies for assistance on behalf of the child living in the same household. The parent or legal guardian must register as the co-applicant, and the child must be under age 18 as of May 24, 2024, the first day of the incident period.
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How to Apply with FEMA

- Visit DisasterAssistance.gov
- Call FEMA directly at 800-621-FEMA (3362)
- Download and use the [FEMA app](#).
- Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish)

U.S. Citizens



Anyone born in the U.S.; a person born outside of the U.S. to at least one U.S. parent; or a naturalized citizen.

Non-Citizen Nationals

A non-citizen national is a person born in an outlying possession of the U.S. – for example, the Republic of the Marshall Islands -- on or after the date the U.S. acquired the possession, or a person whose parents are U.S. non-citizen nationals. All U.S. citizens are U.S. nationals, but not every U.S. national is a U.S. citizen.

Qualified Non-Citizens

- A legal permanent resident (“green card” holder)
- An asylee, refugee or a non-citizen whose deportation is being withheld
- Non-citizen paroled into the U.S. for at least one year
- Non-citizen granted conditional entry (per law in effect prior to April 1, 1980)
- A Cuban or Haitian entrant
- Certain non-citizens in the U.S. who have been abused, subject to battery or extreme cruelty by a spouse or other family/ household member or have been a victim of a severe form of human trafficking, including people with a “T” or “U” visa.

Resources

See Citizenship and Immigration Status Requirements for Federal Public Benefits for more information in multiple languages at fema.gov/assistance/individual/program/citizenship-immigration-status.

If you’re unsure of your immigration status, talk to an immigration expert to learn if your status falls within the immigration status requirements for FEMA disaster assistance. Visit nvoad.org/ to learn about other voluntary organizations.

Iowa homeowners and renters affected by the flooding on **June 16 through July 23, 2024**, now have until **October 22, 2024**, to apply for FEMA assistance.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability,



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English proficiency, or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA for more information or assistance free at 833-285-7448. For Spanish, press 2. If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service.



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