

Guide to FEMA's Other Needs Assistance

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Other Needs Assistance is one type of funding you might receive under FEMA's Individuals and Households Program. It provides money for disaster-related necessary expenses and serious needs that are not covered by insurance or provided by another source.

Residents of the eight counties designated for Tropical Storm Debby assistance and the 63 Georgia counties designated for Hurricane Helene assistance who apply with FEMA may be eligible for Other Needs Assistance.

Types of 'Other Needs Assistance'

Displacement: Helps with housing needs if you cannot return to your home because of the disaster.

Childcare Assistance: For childcare expenses or an increase in childcare expenses caused by a disaster.

Clean and Sanitize: Helps pay for minor damage caused by the disaster to prevent additional loss or potential health or safety concerns.

Medical/Dental Assistance: Helps cover expenses related to disaster-caused injuries or illnesses.

Personal Property: Help to repair or replace appliances, room furnishings, and a personal or family computer damaged in the disaster.

The following specific **disaster-damaged accessibility items** are eligible for repair or replacement under Personal Property Assistance:

- Assistive Communication Device, if used as the sole means of communication for a household member
- Raised toilet seat



- Front-loading washer, if a member of the household uses a wheelchair or has similar mobility limitation
- Side-by-side refrigerator, if a member of the household uses a wheelchair or has similar mobility limitation
- Grab bars
- Eyeglasses
- Dentures
- Ramps
- Hospital-style bed
- Walker
- Wheelchair
- Shower chair
- Specialty smoke alarm, if a member of the household is sight- or hearing-impaired
- TTY/TDY telephone

Transportation: Assistance to repair or replace a vehicle damaged by the disaster when you don't have another vehicle to use.

Miscellaneous Items: Assistance that may help pay for specific items that were purchased or rented after the disaster to help you recover. For example, a chainsaw to help clear fallen trees that prevent safe access to your home.

Moving and Storage: Assistance for moving and storing personal property from your home to prevent additional damage, usually while making repairs to your home or moving to a new place due to the disaster.

Funeral Assistance: For unexpected funeral or reburial expenses caused by the disaster for the passing of an immediate family member. This assistance is for expenses not covered by insurance.

Group Flood Insurance Policy: FEMA may purchase a group flood insurance policy on your behalf from your

Individual and Households grant, providing three years of coverage if your home is in a Special Flood



Hazard Area, and you have flood damage caused by the disaster. If the cost of the group policy is greater than what you were awarded, you will not be eligible for the policy, and you will have to purchase flood insurance on your own.

Ways to Apply

There are several ways for Georgia residents to apply: Go online to [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/assistance), use the [FEMA App](#) or call the FEMA Helpline at **800-621-3362**. The telephone line is open every day and help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service such as Video Relay Service, captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA your number for that service.

Survivors may also contact the Georgia Call Center at **678-547-2861, Monday through Saturday**, for assistance with their application.

To watch an accessible video on how to apply, visit [FEMA Accessible: Registering for Individual Assistance \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...).

You may also apply for a low-interest disaster loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration. SBA disaster loans are the largest source of federal recovery funds for homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes. To learn more or apply, visit [sba.gov/disaster](https://www.sba.gov/disaster) or call 800-659-2955.

For the latest information about Georgia's recovery, visit [fema.gov/helene/georgia](https://www.fema.gov/helene/georgia). Follow FEMA Region 4 [@FEMARegion4](#) on X or follow FEMA on social media at: [FEMA Blog](#) on fema.gov, [@FEMA](#) or [@FEMAEspanol](#) on X, [FEMA](#) or [FEMA Espanol](#) on Facebook, [@FEMA on Instagram](#), and via [FEMA YouTube channel](#). Also, follow Administrator Deanne Criswell on Twitter [@FEMA_Deanne](#).

