## **FEMA Assistance for Houses of Worship**

## Release Date: Jun 26, 2024

FEMA may provide funds to houses of worship and other private nonprofit organizations to help pay for emergency protective measures, debris removal and restoration of facilities damaged by the storms and flooding April 26-June 5 in Texas.

FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) program may cover costs to repair or replace damaged facilities or provide funding for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process.

Eligibility:

- The house of worship must be owned or operated by a private nonprofit organization and have sustained damage caused by the storms.
- The facility must be open to the public.
- The application must include state and/or U.S. Internal Revenue Service documentation of tax-exempt status, pre-disaster charter and other documentation.

Organizations that provide non-critical services may be required to apply for a lowinterest disaster loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to be considered for Public Assistance grants. Grants may be available to these organizations for repair or replacement costs that SBA loans do not cover. These organizations can also apply to FEMA and the SBA at the same time.

For more information, see FEMA's <u>Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide</u> Version 4. Private nonprofit organizations, including houses of worship, interested in applying for a grant should contact their local or state emergency manager.

Other Resources:

- Video: Houses of Worship Applying for Disaster Assistance (2023)
- Web page: Assistance for Governments and Private Non-Profits After a Disaster | FEMA.gov



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- FEMA Fact Sheet: Public Assistance: Private Nonprofit Eligibility Factsheet (fema.gov)
- FEMA Fact Sheet: Mitigate Disaster Damage with FEMA Public Assistance



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