

# President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Approves Major Disaster Declaration for Tennessee

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**WASHINGTON** -- FEMA announced that federal disaster assistance is available to the state of Tennessee to supplement recovery efforts in the areas affected by Tropical Storm Helene from Sept. 26, 2024 and continuing.

The President's action makes federal funding available to affected individuals in Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hawkins, Johnson, Unicoi and Washington counties. Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster.

Federal funding is also available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work in Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hawkins, Johnson, Unicoi and Washington counties.

For a period of 45 days of the state's choosing within the first 120 days from the start of the incident period, assistance for debris removal and emergency protective measures, including direct federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program is authorized at 100% of the total eligible costs.

Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures statewide.

Darryl L. Drago has been named the Federal Coordinating Officer for federal recovery operations in the affected areas. Additional designations may be made later if warranted by the results of damage assessments.

Individuals and business owners who sustained losses in the designated areas can begin applying for assistance by registering online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov), by calling 1-800-621-3362 or by using the [FEMA App](#). If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service.



**FEMA**

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