FEMA Public Assistance for Surfside Building Collapse

Release Date: Jul 14, 2021

- FEMA is committed to supporting the Surfside community in its recovery from the Champlain Towers South building collapse, in coordination with our state and local partners.
- FEMA's Public Assistance program (PA) provides supplemental assistance to states, territories, tribal, and local governments, as well as certain private nonprofit organizations. The program provides funding for emergency response to save lives and property as well as debris removal and restoration of community infrastructure.
- Under the Emergency Declaration, PA is authorized to provide reimbursement for emergency work (Categories A and B). It is not authorized to provide reimbursement for permanent work (Categories C-G).
- Normally, the removal of debris from commercial properties such as condominiums is not eligible for FEMA assistance because commercial enterprises are expected to retain insurance that covers debris removal. In very limited circumstances, FEMA may grant an exception.
- FEMA will cover 100 percent of the cost of emergency work (Category A and B) for the first 30 days beginning June 24, 2021.
- FEMA Public Assistance staff have been onsite and monitoring operations since June 25, 2021.
- Removal of the collapsed/demolished structure material is managed by Miami-Dade County.
- FEMA and federal partners are providing technical support and FEMA will provide reimbursement for costs.



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