

Two Weeks Left to Apply for Federal Disaster Assistance

Release Date: May 23, 2023

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Homeowners and renters in **Cannon, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Lewis, Macon, McNairy, Rutherford, Tipton** and **Wayne** counties who had damage or losses in the **March 31 to April 1** storms and tornadoes have just two weeks left to apply for federal disaster assistance.

Tuesday, June 6 is the last day to apply for a grant from FEMA and a disaster loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Residents are encouraged to file insurance claims for damage to their homes, personal property and vehicles before applying for FEMA assistance. FEMA assistance is not taxed and will not affect Social Security, Medicaid or other federal benefits. If there's a delay in your insurance settlement, any FEMA funding would be considered an advance that must be repaid when you receive your settlement.

If approved for funding under FEMA's Individual Assistance program, you may receive a limited amount of disaster assistance to make repairs to your primary home and/or repair and replace essential personal property when the damage is not covered by insurance. FEMA grants may also cover childcare, medical or dental care, and other serious disaster-related needs such as transportation and moving-and-storage expenses.

FEMA may refer individuals to the **U.S. Small Business Administration** even if they do not own a business or home. SBA loans are the largest source of federal disaster funding for people impacted by disasters. The deadline to apply for a low-interest disaster loan from the SBA is also **June 6**. If you decide you do not want to submit a loan application, you will not be eligible for additional assistance from FEMA.

To apply to SBA online or to download applications, go to <https://DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov/>. You may call SBA's Customer Service



FEMA

Page 1 of 2

Center at **800-659-2955** or email DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov for more information or to have a loan application mailed to you. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability, dial **711** to access telecommunications relay services.

Completed paper loan applications should be mailed to **U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155**. You may also apply with the help of an SBA representative or submit your loan application at a Business Recovery Center. To find one, click <https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20230421/its-important-return-your-sba-loan-application>.

To apply for FEMA disaster assistance:

- Visit DisasterAssistance.gov
- Use the [FEMA mobile app](#)
- Call the **Disaster Assistance Helpline at 800-621-3362**. If you use a relay service such as video [relay service](#) (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service when you apply. Helpline operators speak many languages and lines are open from **6 a.m. to midnight Central Daylight Time daily**. Press 2 for Spanish. Press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language.
- For an American Sign Language video on how to apply, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LU7wzRjByhI&list=PL720Kw_OoJlKOhtKG7HM_0n_kEav

For the latest information on Tennessee's recovery from the severe storms, straight-line winds and tornadoes, visit FEMA.gov/Disaster/4701. You may also follow TN.gov/TEMA; Twitter.com/TEMA, [@FEMARegion4/Twitter](https://Facebook.com/TNDisasterInfo) and Facebook.com/FEMA.



FEMA

Page 2 of 2