

How to Appeal FEMA's Decision

Release Date: Oct 24, 2023

Survivors who applied for assistance from FEMA after Hurricane Idalia will receive a letter from FEMA explaining the status of your application. Survivors who disagree with FEMA's decision can appeal. Read the letter carefully because it will explain the reason for denial and what may be needed to submit with an appeal letter.

The Appeal Process

To appeal, you must submit a signed letter explaining why you disagree with FEMA's decision and providing additional information or documents supporting your appeal. The appeal must be submitted within 60 days of the date on the eligibility letter. Please include the following:

- Applicant's full name, pre-disaster primary address, current address and current phone number
- Applicant's 9-digit FEMA application number on each page, found at the top of the determination letter.
- FEMA disaster declaration number DR 4734 (on every page)
- Applicant's signature and the date.
- Additional documentation to support your appeal (verifiable contractor's estimate, insurance paperwork, any additional documents FEMA requested in the eligibility letter)

Questions about your letter or the appeal process can be answered by calling the disaster assistance help line at 800-621-3362.

If you choose to have a third party submit an appeal letter on your behalf, the letter must be signed by the third party. Additionally, please include a statement signed by you authorizing the third party to appeal on your behalf.

Send your letter:

By mail to: FEMA, P. O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-8055



Appeal letters and supporting documentation also can be uploaded to your account on DisasterAssistance.gov, click “Check Status” on the home page and follow the instructions, or by fax to 800-827-8112 Attn: FEMA.

You may also visit your nearest Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) and submit your appeal. For information on open DRCs, and DRC hours you can visit our DRC Locator page at: [DRC Locator \(fema.gov\)](https://DRCLocator(fema.gov)) Search by state and select Florida.



FEMA