

Serious Needs Assistance Available for Storm Survivors in Texas

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AUSTIN – FEMA’s disaster assistance offers new benefits that may provide flexible funding directly to survivors when needed the most. In addition, a simplified process and expanded eligibility allows Texans access to a wider range of assistance and funds for serious needs.

If you have serious needs due to the severe storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes and flooding that began April 26, you may qualify for a one-time payment per household through FEMA’s Serious Need Assistance (SNA). This payment would be in addition to any other assistance up to FEMA’s maximum grant award.

SNA is money to pay for emergency supplies like water, food, first aid, breast-feeding supplies, infant formula, diapers, personal hygiene items, or fuel for transportation. It is available in all disasters declared for Individual Assistance and is available to eligible survivors who apply within the first 30 days after the disaster was declared. To qualify for SNA, you must be displaced, need shelter or have emergency costs listed on your application for assistance.

Another new benefit is FEMA’s Displacement Assistance which includes money to help with housing needs if you cannot return to your home because of the disaster. The money can be used to stay in a hotel, with family and friends or other options.

These new benefits are available to eligible survivors who apply for FEMA’s Individual Assistance and whose primary home is in **Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity** or **Walker** county.

Serious Needs Assistance and Displacement Assistance require an inspection to confirm eligibility before funds are provided to applicants.

Apply to FEMA



Survivors can apply to FEMA in several ways including online at DisasterAssistance.gov, downloading the [FEMA App](#) for mobile devices, or calling the FEMA Helpline at **800-621-3362**. Calls are accepted every day from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. CDT. Help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service, such as video relay (VRS), captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA the number for that service. To view an accessible video about how to apply visit: [Three Ways to Register for FEMA Disaster Assistance - YouTube](#).

You may be eligible if:

- You complete a FEMA application;
- FEMA can confirm your identity;
- The home where you live most of the year is in a declared disaster area;
- FEMA confirms the disaster damage from an inspection or documents you send; and
- You apply for FEMA assistance while Serious Needs Assistance and Displacement Assistance are available.

To watch an accessible video about Serious Needs Assistance, go to [FEMA Accessible: Serious Needs Assistance \(youtube.com\)](#).

For the latest information about Texas' recovery, visit fema.gov/disaster/4781. Follow the FEMA Region 6 Twitter account at twitter.com/FEMARegion6 or on Facebook at facebook.com/FEMARegion6/.



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