

Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program for Emergency Declarations

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act has been amended to expand the Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) to Presidentially declared Emergencies. This change seeks to address the trauma from natural and man-made threats. The changes outlined below apply to emergencies and disasters declared on or after December 23, 2022.

Presidentially declared Emergency with no Major Disaster declaration

For incidents that receive a Presidentially declared emergency, a state (including the District of Columbia), tribe, or territory (STT) can apply for a CCP federal award under the Immediate Services Program (ISP) and/or the Regular Services Program (RSP). FEMA will apply implementing regulations in 44 CFR 206.171 and CCP policies from FEMA Policy 104-009-03 Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guide (IAPPG) to the Emergency declaration.

Presidentially declared Emergency that later receives a Major Disaster declaration

Once CCP is approved for an Emergency declaration, the STT or State Mental Health Agency does not need to reapply for a CCP award when counties declared for Emergencies later get declared for Major Disasters for the same incident.

1. There might be counties added in the process of Emergency declarations becoming Major Disaster declarations, and there might be counties authorized under the Emergency that are not authorized under the Major Disaster Declaration. When this occurs, STTs should work with their SAMHSA Program Officer and FEMA Regional Program Officer to learn what their options are to ensure continuation of services for survivors under the changing authorities.
2. If an STT applies and is denied for ISP and RSP awards when the President declares an emergency, they can apply for ISP and RSP again if the President declares a major disaster for the same incident.
3. The STT may seek a modification to the CCP award it received under the Emergency declaration if needed.



FEMA

Presidentially declared Major Disaster that was not preceded by an Emergency Declaration

For incidents that receive a Presidentialy declared major disaster and no emergency declaration, implementing regulations from 44 CFR 206.171 and CCP policies from FEMA Policy 104-009-03 Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guide (IAPPG) will apply to the Major Disaster declaration.