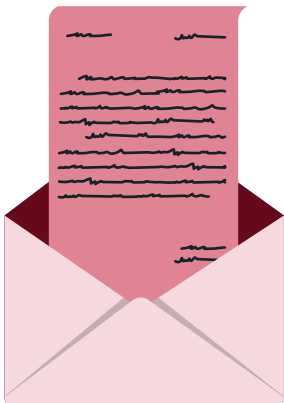


How to Appeal a Decision from FEMA



Name: Malva
Age: 27
Location: Washington
Disaster: Flooding
Job: College Professor
Family: Single
Home: Renter
Renter Insurance: Yes
Flood Insurance: No



Sometimes, FEMA may not immediately approve applications for a number of reasons, such as lack of documentation, misspelled names, or wrong identification numbers, which may require people to submit an appeal.

People who wish to appeal FEMA's decision do not need to provide a signed, written appeal letter describing the reason for the request. They can simply submit their appeal by submitting the requested documentation to support their claim, or by filling out an Appeal Request Form, which will be provided with FEMA's decision.

MALVA'S STORY:

The Scenario

Malva is a legal permanent resident (green card holder) from Greece, and English is not her primary language. Many of her belongings were destroyed during a flooding event.

The Process

Malva applied for FEMA assistance but was initially denied because she didn't have all the required documentation to prove her permanent residency.

The Result

Fortunately, FEMA's appeals process didn't require Malva to write her own appeal letter in a language she didn't speak fluently. Malva was able to get the issue quickly resolved by submitting the correct identity information online at DisasterAssistance.gov.

The above story uses fictional characters and events to help explain the disaster assistance process for disasters declared on or after March 22, 2024. If you live in an individual assistance area and want to learn more about how FEMA can help you, call [800-621-3362](tel:800-621-3362), visit disasterassistance.gov or [download the FEMA app](#) to apply for FEMA assistance.

To learn more about FEMA's disaster assistance programs, please visit: fema.gov/ia



FEMA