

FEMA Hurricane Recovery Assistance For National Organizations

Empowering community leaders serving survivors of Hurricanes Helene and Milton



FEMA

Today's Webinar

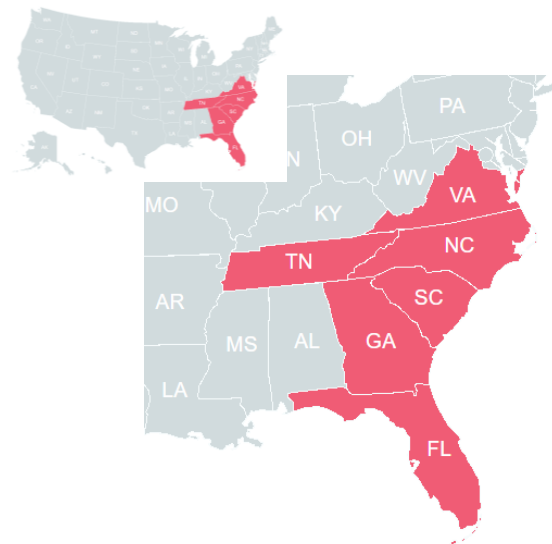
- ✓ Overview of FEMA Recovery Resources and Assistance
- ✓ Applying for FEMA Assistance
- ✓ Rumor Control and Fraud Awareness
- ✓ Moderated Q&A
- ✓ A Call to Action
- ✓ Closing Remarks



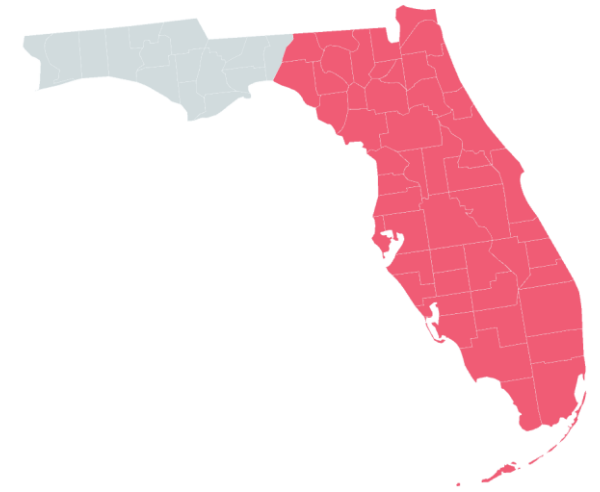


Impact of Hurricanes Helene and Milton

States Impacted by Hurricane Helene



Florida Counties Impacted by Hurricane Milton



Current Disaster Operations

- **\$2.7 billion in FEMA assistance to help communities** impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.
- **Over 9,000 personnel from across the federal workforce, including FEMA staff**, are deployed to affected communities.
- Integration and coordination with local officials to conduct damage assessments.
- Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) Teams are deployed across the Southeast.



Overview of FEMA Recovery Resources and Assistance

Public Assistance (PA)

- FEMA's Public Assistance Program provides supplemental grants to state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and certain types of private nonprofits.
- Provides financial support to help communities recover after a disaster.
 - ✓ Emergency response
 - ✓ Debris removal
 - ✓ Repair, replacement, or restoration of infrastructure
- Certain [private nonprofit \(PNP\) organizations](#) and [houses of worship](#) are eligible to apply for funding through FEMA's Public Assistance Program under emergency and major disaster declarations.
- Only organizations with state or IRS tax-exempt status may be considered.

What is FEMA Individual Assistance?

FEMA assistance can help you and members of your household jumpstart your recovery with money and support services after a Presidentially declared disaster.



Initial Assistance

- Crisis Counseling
- Disaster Unemployment
- Voluntary Agencies and Mass Care



Personal & Professional Support

- Disaster Legal Services
- Disaster Case Management



Housing Assistance

- Lodging
- Rental
- Direct Housing - Temporary
- Home Repair
- Home Replacement
- Direct Housing - Permanent



Other Needs Assistance

- **Serious Needs***
- Clean and Sanitize
- **Displacement***
- Childcare
- Medical and Dental
- Personal Property
- Moving and Storage
- Transportation
- Funeral
- Misc. Expenses

Individual Assistance – Individuals & Households Program (IHP)

IHP provides financial and direct services to eligible individuals and households affected by a disaster, who have uninsured or under-insured necessary expenses and serious needs.

Who's Eligible?

If your home was damaged by a federally declared disaster.

A damage assessment may be required to verify your loss for some types of assistance.

If your home isn't safe to live in.

FEMA assistance can help you repair your disaster-damaged home to livable conditions.

If you need help meeting basic disaster-related needs.

FEMA may be able to assist with essential needs like personal property, transportation, and medical expenses.

If you need somewhere to stay.

Homeowners or renters may receive financial assistance to rent a temporary place to live if their home is unlivable because of a disaster.



***IHP assistance is not a substitute for insurance and cannot compensate for all losses caused by a disaster.**

Individual Assistance

Other Needs Assistance (ONA)

- Group Flood Insurance (for eligible residences)
- Damaged essential household items, clothing, tools, accessibility items, moving/storage expenses
- Damage to an essential vehicle
- Disaster-related funeral and burial expense
- Disaster-related child-care expense
- Disaster-related medical, dental, disability-related, and breastfeeding equipment



Individual Assistance (IA) Serious Needs Assistance

- Serious Needs Assistance helps survivors pay for emergency expenses related to a disaster, such as food, water, baby formula and other emergency supplies.
- FEMA gives Serious Needs Assistance as a **one-time payment of \$770 (fiscal year 2025) and \$750 (fiscal year 2024) per household.**
- Available for eligible survivors who apply during the **first 30 days after a disaster is declared.**



Individual Assistance

Sheltering and Housing Assistance

- Displacement Assistance
- Rental Assistance
- Transitional Sheltering Assistance
- Home Repair or Replacement
- Direct Temporary Housing



Applying for FEMA Assistance

Who Can Apply for Assistance?

- ✓ U.S. Citizens
- ✓ Legal Permanent Residents (“Green Card” holders)
- ✓ Refugees or Non-citizens granted asylum
- ✓ Non-citizens whose deportation status is being withheld for at least one year
- ✓ Non-citizens paroled into the U.S. for at least one year for urgent humanitarian purposes or significant public benefit
- ✓ Cuban/Haitian entrants
- ✓ Certain battered non-citizens or their spouses or children
- ✓ The parent or legal guardian of a minor child who is a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified non-citizen applies for assistance on behalf of the minor child, so long as they live in the same household. The parent or legal guardian must apply as the co-applicant, and the minor child must be under 18 at the time disaster occurred.

4 Ways to Apply for Disaster Aid

ONLINE



DisasterAssistance.gov

FEMA APP



Download the FEMA APP

CALL



800-621-3362

IN PERSON



At one of our
Disaster Recovery Centers
fema.gov/drc



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Applying for FEMA Assistance

Essential Documents & Information

- ✓ Social Security Number (SSN)
- ✓ Description of the damage
- ✓ Your address at the time of the disaster
- ✓ Current contact information
- ✓ Insurance information: policy number, agent/company (if applicable)
- ✓ Annual Household Income
- ✓ Bank account/routing info for direct deposit

Individual Assistance Application Period End Dates

Hurricane Debby

November 12, 2024
(GA: January 7, 2025)

Hurricane Helene

November 27, 2024
(GA and NC: January 7, 2025)

Hurricane Milton

December 11, 2024

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs)



What A Disaster Recovery Center Has To Offer

- Help with rent or lodging
- Home repair or replacement
- Replacing personal property
- Medical or dental care
- Transportation
- Child care
- Replacing important documents

More resources beyond the options listed above are available along with access to other federal partners.



Visit a Disaster Recovery Center Near You - fema.gov/drc

find a DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER



Text DRC and your ZIP CODE to 4FEMA (43362)

Standard message and data rates apply



Install the FEMA App



Visit fema.gov/drc



Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) Accessibility

FEMA ensures all applicants receive **critical, accessible, and understandable** disaster assistance communications, regardless of language proficiency. To best assist all applicants, FEMA provides the following:

- ✓ Disaster information in languages identified through demographic analysis of the impacted area.
- ✓ Translation and interpretation services (available in 250 languages).



What if Applications are Denied?

Common Reasons for Not Getting Approval

There are a few reasons why you might not be approved for disaster assistance. Below are the **top 5 reasons** for not getting approved for FEMA assistance.



You have insurance coverage for the loss



Your home is still safe to live in despite the damage



The damaged home was not your primary residence



You received assistance for the same losses or expenses from another source



Inspectors have been unable to reach applicants at the contact information provided

Know Your Civil Rights

Based on a protected characteristic, FEMA cannot:

- Deny programs, benefits, or services.
- Provide a program in a manner different from the way the program is provided to others.

Civil Rights Resource Line:

 **833-285-7448**
711 or Video Relay Service (VRS): 1-800-621-3362

 fema.gov/civil-rights

 FEMA-CivilRightsOffice@fema.dhs.gov



**Contact FEMA Civil Rights Division
if you feel you have been
discriminated against based on:**

 **Race**

 **Color**

 **National Origin**

 **Sex**

 **Sexual Orientation**

 **Religion**

 **Age**

 **Disability**

 **English Proficiency**

 **Economic Status**

Rumor Control and Fraud Awareness

How to Avoid Scams and Fraud

FEMA will...

- FEMA personnel will always have an official ID or badge.
- FEMA will contact you only if you called FEMA first or registered for assistance.
- FEMA may verify identity using the last four digits of SSN, but **never** all nine.

FEMA will NOT...

- FEMA will not call to ask for SSN or bank account information unless a correction is needed to an existing application.
- FEMA will not solicit or accept money.
- FEMA will not endorse or hire specific contractors or recommend repairs.



Beware of Fraud and Scams

After a disaster, scam artists often attempt to take advantage of disaster survivors. We encourage survivors to watch for and report any suspicious activity.

Ways to Report Fraud

Email: StopFEMAFraud@fema.dhs.gov

Call: 1-866-223-0814

Fax: 202-212-4926

For more information visit [fema.gov/disaster-fraud](https://www.fema.gov/disaster-fraud)



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Rumor Control

Rumors can delay storm response efforts.

What you can do:

1. Find trusted sources of information.
 - ✓ [Hurricane Helene](#)
 - ✓ [Hurricane Milton](#)
2. Share information from trusted sources.
3. Discourage other from sharing information from unverified sources.
4. Visit [FEMA's Rumor Response Page](#).

Rumor: FEMA is preventing residents and companies from removing debris in hurricane-affected areas.

This is false.

FEMA is not blocking or preventing any aspect of debris removal, which is handled by local governments. FEMA does not directly handle debris removal, hire contractors to remove debris, or manage dump sites or transfer stations. FEMA does reimburse local, state or tribal governments for their storm-related debris removal.

If you were affected by a hurricane and are wondering how to address debris removal for your property, check with your local county or municipal government for guidelines. Volunteer organizations and companies operating in your area may also be able to help. Learn more: [9 Ways to Stay Safe Cleaning Up Debris After a Disaster](#).

Additional Resources



Consider Becoming a Local Hire

Local hire employees are local residents who aid in the recovery of their community for 120-day appointments supporting in:

- ✓ Administrative Support
- ✓ Engineering
- ✓ Human Resources
- ✓ Analytics
- ✓ Environmental Protection
- ✓ External Affairs
- ✓ Emergency Management Specialists
- ✓ Disaster Support Assistants
- ✓ IT
- ✓ And more!

[Apply at USAJobs.gov](https://USAJobs.gov)


Mental Health Resources

Thank you for reaching out to 988 Lifeline. We're here to help. By continuing to text with us, you agree to our terms. (bit.ly/ourtos) Reply STOP at any time to disconnect.

Para español, envía la palabra AYUDA

Veterans/service members, text [838255](https://www.838255.com) directly

Otherwise, reply NEXT to continue

+ Text Message 

- Disaster Distress Helpline at **1-800-985-5990**
 - Available 24/7, free, in 100+ languages
 - Deaf and Hard of Hearing ASL Callers call using preferred Relay provider
- 988 Crisis Lifeline
 - Call or text **988** or chat at [988lifeline.org](https://www.988lifeline.org)
- Trevor Lifeline for LGBTQ youth at **866-488-7386**
- [Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program](#) (if approved in your state)

Disaster-Specific Websites

FEMA has developed comprehensive resources online for Hurricanes Helene, Milton, and Debby disaster survivors:

- Applying for Assistance
- How to Help
- Family Reunification
- Safety Tips
- Tools

Helping people before, during and after disasters



[Florida Hurricane Debby | FEMA.gov](#)

[Florida Hurricane Helene | FEMA.gov](#)

[Florida Hurricane Milton | FEMA.gov](#)

[Georgia Tropical Storm Debby | FEMA.gov](#)

[Georgia Hurricane Helene | FEMA.gov](#)

[North Carolina Tropical Storm Helene | FEMA.gov](#)

[South Carolina Hurricane Helene | FEMA.gov](#)

[Tennessee Tropical Storm Helene | FEMA.gov](#)

[Virginia Tropical Storm Helene | FEMA.gov](#)



Available Toolkits

- [Disaster Multimedia Toolkit](#)
- [Hurricane Helene After the Storm Messaging Resource Toolkit](#)



Share accurate information



Address misinformation



Notify FEMA of trends

A Call to Action

Community leaders are essential in helping disaster survivors:

- ✓ Better understand FEMA assistance programs.
- ✓ Clarify FEMA's role in disaster recovery.
- ✓ Learn and share how to access and apply for FEMA assistance.
- ✓ Combat misinformation and ensure accurate recovery information.
- ✓ Rebuild and be resilient.

It's a whole of community effort!