## Alameda, Contra Costa, Mendocino, Ventura Counties Can Now Request FEMA Assistance

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SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Alameda, Contra Costa, Mendocino and Ventura counties have been added to the major disaster declaration for California's severe storms and flooding, meaning residents who had damage or losses from the storms that began Dec. 27, 2022, may now apply for FEMA disaster assistance.

The declaration allows FEMA to provide direct support to individuals and households in 13 counties: Alameda, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Merced, Mendocino, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Ventura.

Homeowners and renters who had damage or losses as a direct result of the storms are encouraged to apply for FEMA assistance by the **March 16, 2023**, deadline. Disaster assistance may include grants to help pay for temporary housing and essential home repairs as well as other serious disaster-related needs such as medical and dental expenses, transportation, childcare, and moving and storage expenses.

If you have insurance, first file a claim with your insurance provider. FEMA provides assistance to applicants for your uninsured or underinsured disastercaused expenses and serious needs.

There are several ways you can apply for FEMA assistance under the Individual Assistance program:

- Visit DisasterAssistance.gov
- Download the <u>FEMA mobile app</u>
- Call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. Help is available in many languages. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service. Helpline operators speak many



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languages and lines are open from **7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily**. Press 2 for Spanish. Press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language.

- For an accessible video on how to apply, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LU7wzRjByhl
- You can also visit any Disaster Recovery Center and meet with FEMA staff and representatives of other federal and state agencies who can provide information about disaster assistance. To find a recovery center near you, visit DRC Locator (fema.gov).

