



Funding Fundamentals For Major Disasters



North Carolina Association
of County Commissioners

Public Assistance

Public Assistance is a reimbursement program that provides federal or state funding to help communities respond to and recover from disasters.

State Public Assistance

- The eligible entity has declared state of emergency
- For state public assistance, the local government or county *must notify* a NCEM PA Team Lead or PA leadership of their damages;
- State emergency assistance in the form of public assistance grants may be made available to eligible entities located *within the emergency area* on the following terms and conditions:
 - The eligible entity suffers a minimum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in uninsurable losses.
 - The eligible entity suffers uninsurable losses in an amount equal to or exceeding one percent (1%) of their annual operating budget, whichever is higher.

FEMA Public Assistance

- For a county to be eligible for FEMA Public Assistance, they will need to be listed in the presidential declaration and the county threshold damage and state threshold damage has to be met.
- To obtain FEMA public assistance in counties that have been approved for federal assistance, applicants must submit an official Request for Public Assistance (RPAs) within 30 days of the FEMA disaster declaration date
- For all eligible subrecipients of FEMA Public Assistance Funding, the damage costs indicators are as follows for disasters declared on or after October 1, 2021:
 - Countywide Damage Cost Indicators
 - The FEMA Countywide Per Capita indicator has increased to **\$4.10** (Up From \$3.89)
 - Statewide Damage Cost Indicators
 - The FEMA Statewide indicator has increased to **\$1.63**, which takes the State of North Carolina's PA Threshold to **\$15.55M** in disaster-specific damages to qualify for FEMA Public Assistance
 - Small Project and Large Project Thresholds
 - Small Project/Large Project Threshold is now \$139,800
 - Small:Any project that has costs that total \$139,800 or less is considered a small project
 - Large:Any project that has costs that total \$139,801 or greater is considered a large project

On August 3, 2022, FEMA revised its regulations governing the Public Assistance (PA) program to update the minimum monetary threshold for large projects to \$1 million dollars for all unobligated projects for events declared on or after March 13, 2020, and all projects on declarations on or after the rule release. The intent of these changes is to expedite FEMA's processing of PA grant funding by reducing administrative burden that FEMA and FEMA's Recipients and Applicants experience in processing projects.

Costs to Write a FEMA PA Project

- FEMA PA requires at least \$3,500 in damages (after insurance reductions) to write a PA Project
- **State Public Assistance follows the general policies and guidance of FEMA's PA program.** For a state declaration, three categories of work are available: **debris operations, emergency protective measures, and roads/bridges.** Assistance is also available for case management and transportation.



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Individual Assistance

The Individual Assistance program provides financial and direct services to eligible individuals and families impacted by natural or man-made disasters.

Categories of Individual Assistance

Type 1 Disaster

- County, NCEM & SBA conduct joint damage assessment.
- If threshold is met, governor requests SBA loan assistance
- SBA & NCEM IA set up registration center

Type 2 Disaster

- Expanded damage in large area (Hurricane, Ice storm)
- Joint damage assessments conducted
- Request for federal declaration requested by governor in writing to FEMA

Type 3 Disaster

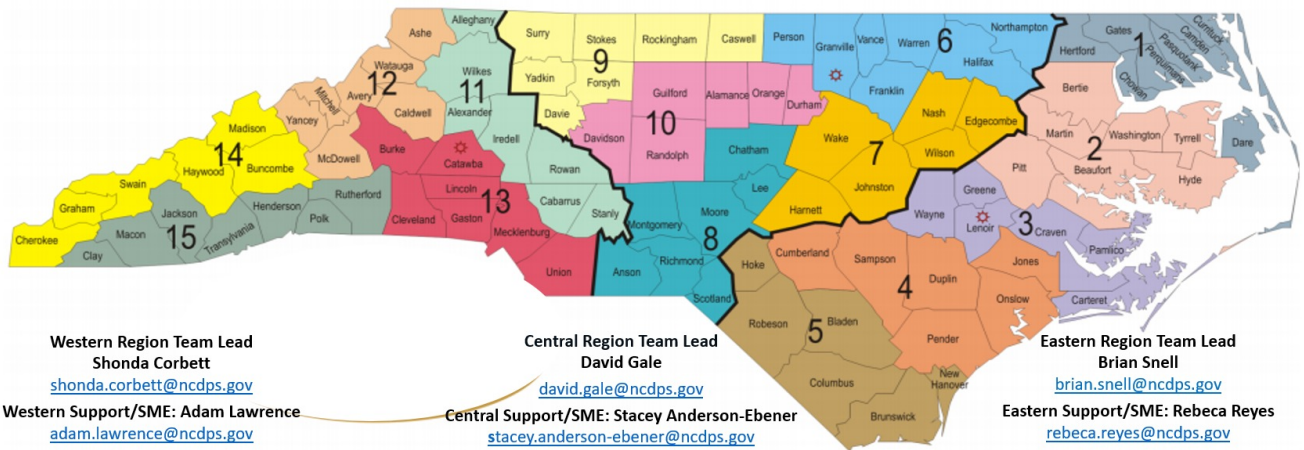
- Devastation to widespread area (major Hurricane, Ice storm)
- Federal assistance requested per type 2 disaster.

Who can request individual assistance?

- United States citizens living in declared counties
- Have uninsured or under-insured losses
- Must make application to Small Business Administration
- Citizens who applied and denied by SBA



NC Division of Emergency Management
Public Assistance Team Contact Info
 Grants Managers, Team Leads, Program Support



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