



TJCOG Guide to FEMA Public Assistance

Local governments are now eligible for FEMA disaster funding to cover unanticipated costs due to COVID-19. Make sure you know what's covered and next steps.

Who Can Apply?

State and local governments, certain private non-profits including, those that offer critical services and non-critical, but still essential, services. Facilities must be tax exempt under Sections 501(c), (d), or (e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or through the North Carolina Secretary of State.

Applying for Assistance Checklist

- Attend virtual applicant briefing or watch [recorded briefing](#).
- Create an account on the Public Assistance [grant portal](#).
- Submit a Request for Public Assistance.
- Estimate eligible costs over the first 90 days.
- Develop and submit Expedited Project Worksheet for up to 50% of the total approved project value. A PW should describe the set of emergency circumstances, and detail a scope of work and cost estimate.
- Review by FEMA /State recipient (provide additional details as needed). Sign final grant.
- Receive funding.

- Follow financial management best practices - [guidelines here](#). Know the rules for [Procurement Under Emergency Circumstances](#). Make sure all transactions have an audit trail.
- Document everything.

Fiscal Tracking and Federal Reimbursement Tips and Tricks

What is Eligible for Assistance?

FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75 percent federal cost share. FEMA will not duplicate any assistance provided by other agencies including but not limited to Health and Human Services (HHS) or Center for Disease Control (CDC). Costs must be directly related to, not just a result of, the COVID-19 emergency and can include:

- **Management, control and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety:** EOC costs, training specific to the declared event, disinfection of public facilities, technical assistance on emergency management and control of immediate threats to public health and safety.
- **Emergency medical care:** Non-deferrable medical treatment of infected persons in a shelter or temporary medical facility, related medical facility services and supplies, temporary medical facilities, enhanced medical/hospital capacity, use of specialized medical equipment, medical waste disposal, emergency medical transport
- **Medical sheltering**
- **Purchase/distribution of food, water, ice, medicine, and other consumable supplies,** to include personal protective equipment and hazardous material suits movement of supplies and persons.
- **Security and law enforcement**
- **Communications of general health and safety information to the public.**
- **Search and rescue to locate and recover members of the population requiring assistance.**
- **Reimbursement for state, tribe, territory and/or local government force account overtime costs.**

Useful Resources & Documentation

- [NC Emergency Management Public Assistance Resources](#)
- [FEMA Public Assistance and Policy Guide](#)
- [FEMA State, Local, and Tribal Government Resources](#)
- [Municipal Resources Guide to Federal Funding](#)