

Texas Education

Hurricane Katrina did not damage the infrastructure of Texas jurisdictions; however hundreds of thousands of evacuees from Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama entered the state to get out of the storm's path or to seek shelter. Then, in less than three weeks, Texas was faced with the onslaught of Hurricane Rita.

Twenty seven counties in Texas suffered disaster damage as a result of Hurricane Rita.

More than \$34 million in FEMA funds was provided for education to agencies and jurisdictions impacted by these disasters. Educational funding was made available for primary and secondary schools as well as colleges and universities, for services as well as repairs to damaged facilities.

As a result of the influx of Hurricane Katrina evacuees, school districts throughout the state received additional students. A total of \$1.14 million dollars was awarded to the Spring Independent School District to provide for additional portable classrooms at 11 campuses. These funds reimbursed for the furnishing and installation of the buildings. Other funding was provided to schools for Mental Health Counseling for evacuee students, bus transportation, computers, janitorial services and additional security.

FEMA also obligated funding to Lamar University in the amount of \$1.95 million for repair and mitigation measures for the university library. Damages to the library were repaired and roof upgrades to make the roof more storm resistant were made possible under the FEMA Public Assistance Program.