

FEMA Approves Another \$2.9 Million for Utah COVID-19 Response

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DENVER – FEMA has approved an additional \$2.9 million in additional Public Assistance funding for the COVID-19 response in Utah. The assistance was made available under a major disaster declaration issued April 4, 2020. FEMA has now provided more than \$300 million for the Utah COVID-19 response with this additional funding.

- FEMA awarded \$1.5 million in grant funds to the Utah Department of Health to reimburse them for the cost of contracted long-term medical care for COVID-19 positive patients. The state reserved skilled nursing beds at designated COVID-19 nursing facilities for long-term care patients who were discharged from acute care, or for patients who did not require hospitalization, but needed to be transferred from other nursing or assisted living facilities to accommodations specifically geared towards COVID-19 care until they were deemed safe to return to their original living situation. Ninety-three beds were reserved at three separate facilities within the state of Utah, to prevent or mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. This award covers contracted nursing facilities from January 17, 2022, to March 31, 2022.
- FEMA also awarded \$1.3 million to Salt Lake County as reimbursement for the cost of setting up and operating a COVID-19 emergency coordination center. Salt Lake County used their own staff and contracted labor to operate the emergency coordination center and provide technical expertise for the county's COVID-19 response. This included the cost to staff quarantine and isolation centers, and to serve as a liaison to volunteer organizations and community partners regarding COVID-19 issues. It also includes rental of a warehouse facility for receiving and handling of COVID-19 supplies, cleaning supplies, and materials needed to set up testing and vaccination sites. This award covers Salt Lake County's COVID-19 coordination center costs from January 30, 2020, through December 31, 2021.



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For the COVID-19 response, FEMA has simplified the Public Assistance application and funding process to address the magnitude of this event and to allow state and local governments to receive eligible funding more quickly. These reimbursements play a critical role as state, tribal and local officials work to assist their communities during this response.

To fully support this essential work, the President authorized provision of FEMA Public Assistance at 100 percent federal funding through July 1, 2022. Beginning July 2, 2022, the federal cost share for COVID-19 projects is 90 percent of the eligible cost.

Additional information about FEMA's Public Assistance program can be found at www.fema.gov/assistance/public.

