

Area Schools Continue Flood Recovery with \$6.6 Million in FEMA Assistance

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BATON ROUGE, La. – An additional \$6.6 million will help schools devastated by the August floods move forward with repairs and rebuilding efforts. This brings the total to nearly \$67 million FEMA has obligated for schools.

FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) program will pay for such projects as temporary facilities, basketball court enhancements, fencing and team and maintenance equipment in Tangipahoa, Ascension, East Feliciana and East Baton Rouge parishes. Funding will also pay for emergency protective measures, building construction, remediation and utility assistance in these areas.

As of March 17, FEMA's PA has obligated over \$317 million to reimburse local and state governments as well as certain private nonprofits for the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities and infrastructure. The funds also cover debris removal and emergency response activities in designated parishes.

In general, FEMA's PA program helps to repair or replace critical infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, public buildings and schools. The program encourages protection of damaged facilities from future events by providing assistance for certain hazard mitigation measures. PA offers supplemental financial assistance on a cost-sharing basis. FEMA typically reimburses 75 percent of eligible PA expenses. However, FEMA will reimburse applicants 90 percent of eligible PA expenses given the magnitude of the August floods.

