

# Citizenship and FEMA Eligibility

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**Release Date: nov 8, 2024**

FEMA is committed to helping all eligible disaster survivors recover from the August 18-19, 2024 Severe Storm, Flooding, Landslides and Mudslides, including U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals and qualified aliens.

Disaster survivors in Fairfield, Litchfield and New Haven Counties may apply for assistance from FEMA's Individuals and Households Program (IHP). You or a member of your household must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien.

If you do not meet the status of either U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien, your household may still apply for and be considered for IHP assistance if:

- Another adult member of your household meets the eligibility criteria and certifies their citizenship status during the registration process or signs the Declaration and Release form, or
- The parent or guardian of a minor child who is a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or a qualified alien applies for assistance on behalf of the child, if they live in the same household. The parent or legal guardian must register as the co-applicant, and the minor child must be under age 18 at the time the disaster occurred.

## Qualified aliens

"Qualified alien" includes:

- A legal permanent resident ("green card" holder).
- An asylee, refugee or an alien whose deportation is being withheld.
- An alien paroled into the U.S. for at least one year.
- An alien granted conditional entry (per law in effect prior to April 1, 1980).
- A Cuban or Haitian entrant.
- Certain aliens subjected to extreme cruelty or who have been a victim of a severe form of human trafficking, including persons with a "T" or "U" visa.



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- Aliens whose children have been abused and alien children whose parent has been abused who fit certain criteria.
- Legal residents in accordance with the Compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

## Non-Citizen Nationals

A non-citizen national is a person born in an outlying possession of the U.S. (e.g., American Samoa) on or after the date the U.S. acquired the possession, or a person whose parents are U.S. non-citizen nationals. All U.S. citizens are U.S. nationals; however, not every U.S. national is a U.S. citizen.

## Qualified Minor Children

The parent or guardian of a minor child living in the same household may apply for assistance on behalf of the minor child who is a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien. The minor child must be under age 18 as of the first day of the incident period, August 18, 2024.

## Resources

See Citizenship and Immigration Status Requirements for Federal Public Benefits for more information in multiple languages at [fema.gov/assistance/individual/program/citizenship-immigration-status](https://fema.gov/assistance/individual/program/citizenship-immigration-status).

If you're unsure of your immigration status, talk to an immigration expert to learn if your status falls within the immigration status requirements for FEMA disaster assistance.

Visit [nvoad.org](https://nvoad.org) to learn about voluntary organizations that mitigate and alleviate the impact of disasters. For local information, visit [ctvoad.org](https://ctvoad.org)

## Apply for FEMA Disaster Assistance



To be eligible for any FEMA Individual Assistance program you must apply to FEMA. **The deadline to apply is November 19, 2024.**

- There are four ways to apply for FEMA assistance:
  - Visit the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) located at the Southbury Town Hall, 501 Main Street, South, Southbury, CT 06488 with operational hours of Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday closed.
  - Online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov),
  - Download and use the [FEMA Mobile App](#).
  - Call the FEMA Helpline at **1-800-621-3362**. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service. Helpline operators are available from 7 a.m. to 12 a.m. daily. Press 2 for Spanish. Press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language.



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