



Week of December 29, 2014

Important Dates and Deadlines:

[Office of Management and Budget Super Circular Stakeholder Webinar](#)
(January 7, 2015)

[Public Assistance Simplified Procedures Thresholds](#)
(January 20, 2015)

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Super Circular Stakeholder Webinar

FEMA is hosting a webinar on **January 7, 2015 at 3 p.m. ET** to discuss the implementation of the new OMB 2 C.F.R. 200 – “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards” rule (OMB Super Circular). Participants should sign in to [Adobe Connect](#) as “Guest.” This webinar will be a repeat of one that FEMA presented on December 18, 2014.

The Super Circular streamlines all of the federal government’s various guidance on administrative requirements, cost principles and audit requirements for federal awards. It is a federal government-wide framework for grants management and is intended to reduce administrative burden for non-federal entities receiving federal awards while reducing the risk of waste, fraud and abuse. The reform affects administrative aspects of federal grants, e.g., how grants are awarded, managed, audited, and closed out.

The new “Super Circular” will supersede previous OMB Circulars, administrative requirements and cost principles for all awards made on or after December 26, 2014.

Heating Fire Safety and Carbon Monoxide

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. Many of these home fires are caused by space heaters, as well as fireplaces and wood stoves. The [U.S. Fire Administration \(USFA\)](#) advises the following [heating and carbon monoxide](#) tips to stay safe this winter season:

Portable Heaters

- Only use portable heaters from a recognized testing laboratory.
- Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off so if it tips over, it shuts off.
- Keep anything that can burn such as bedding, clothing and curtains at least three feet away from the heater.
- Plug portable heaters directly into outlets. Never plug a portable heater into an extension cord or power strip.
- Turn heaters off when going to bed or leaving the room.



Fireplaces

- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace to prevent embers or sparks jumping out.
- Do not burn paper in the fireplace.
- Put the fire out before going to sleep or leaving the home.
- Put ashes in a metal container with a lid, outside, at least three feet from the home.

Wood Stoves

- Have the chimney inspected and cleaned each year by a professional.
- Make sure the wood stove is three feet away from anything that can burn.
- Do not burn paper in the wood stove.
- Put the fire out before going to sleep or leaving the home.

Carbon Monoxide

- When using heaters that require fuel, install a carbon monoxide detector.

FEMA’s Office of External Affairs provides this bulletin to highlight recent and upcoming program and policy activities and announcements. Feedback is welcome at fema-ea-bulletin@fema.dhs.gov. Previous editions are available at the [FEMA library](#).

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[Learn more.](#)

Improvements to the EA Bulletin in 2015

Starting the week of **January 5**, the EA Bulletin will be transitioning to a new delivery format to provide greater functionality to EA stakeholders. Upcoming editions of the EA Bulletin will be distributed through Gov Delivery and be formatted for mobile devices. Current subscribers will continue to receive the bulletin, and those interested in subscribing should email fema-ea-bulletin@fema.dhs.gov.

REMINDER: FEMA Seeks Comments to Public Assistance Simplified Procedures Thresholds

FEMA seeks public comments from state, local, tribal and territorial governments, private non-profit organizations, and interested members of the public regarding the agency’s recent revision of the Public Assistance simplified procedures program. FEMA is seeking comments on specific questions to inform any future revisions to the project thresholds that are updated annually based on the Consumer Price Index. Comments are due on **January 20, 2015**, and may be [submitted online](#).

This bulletin is not intended to provide a comprehensive list of policies that are open for public comment, nor does it describe all of the instructions or requirements necessary to submit a comment. For a complete list of instructions and deadlines please click the hyperlinks included. FEMA does not endorse any non-government organizations, entities or services.

Ready Campaign's 2015 National Preparedness Messaging Calendar

As part of the [Ready Campaign's](#) "Resolve to be Ready" for 2015, below is a [seasonal preparedness messaging calendar](#) to assist with planning preparedness messaging and activities throughout 2015.

WINTER		
<p>DECEMBER Winter Weather Preparedness* Holiday Preparedness*</p>	<p>JANUARY Resolve To Be Ready*</p>	<p>FEBRUARY Flood Safety*</p>
SPRING		
<p>MARCH Severe Weather Safety* Flood Safety* Tsunami Safety American Red Cross Month</p>	<p>APRIL Financial Literacy Month National Volunteer Week National PrepareAthon! Day (4/30)*</p>	<p>MAY Older Americans Month National Building Safety Month National Police Week National EMS Week National Small Business Week Wildfire Community Preparedness Day Pet Preparedness Day Military Appreciation Month</p>
SUMMER		
<p>JUNE Hurricane Safety* Lightning Safety Wildfire Safety*</p>	<p>JULY Firework and Park Safety Heat and Drought Safety* Youth Preparedness Summit</p>	<p>AUGUST National Night Out Back to School</p>
FALL		
<p>SEPTEMBER National Preparedness Month* National PrepareAthon! Day (9/30)*</p>	<p>OCTOBER Fire Prevention Week National Crime Prevention Month Great ShakeOut Cybersecurity Awareness Month</p>	<p>NOVEMBER Critical Infrastructure Preparedness Month American Education Week Military Family Month Native American Heritage Month</p>

Visit Ready.gov/Ready2015 to plan your year #Ready2015



* Asterisks denote topics that will feature a preparedness related digital toolkit from FEMA that will be shared on www.ready.gov.

The mission of the Office of External Affairs (OEA) is to engage, inform, and educate all of FEMA's stakeholders in support of the Agency's programs and initiatives to achieve its mission. OEA accomplishes its mission by coordinating and maintaining visibility of public and internal communications; advising FEMA program and support offices on decision-making regarding policies, plans, and actions that affect stakeholder, media, and Congressional audiences; and organizing outreach efforts targeted at principal stakeholders to include local, state, territorial, and tribal governments, the private sector, national organizations and associations, and the American public.



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