



**FEMA**

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FS019  
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# Fact Sheet

## **Public Assistance – The Other Disaster Assistance Available to Louisiana**

An April 20 amendment (amendment 7) to Louisiana's March 13 major disaster declaration for severe storms and flooding that occurred between March 8 and April 8 will provide critical funding to parishes needing reimbursement for eligible emergency work and permanent infrastructure repairs or replacement projects.

Of these parishes, 36 have also been designated for Individual Assistance which can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs and low interest disaster loans.

Those parishes are Allen, Ascension, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Catahoula, Claiborne, De Soto, East Carroll, Franklin, Grant, Jackson, La Salle, Lincoln, Livingston, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Red River, Richland, Sabine, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Union, Vernon, Washington, Webster, West Carroll, and Winn.

Lafourche Parish has been newly designated for Public Assistance emergency and permanent work.

## **What is PA?**

The Public Assistance program provides federal funds to help eligible local, state and tribal governments, and certain private nonprofit organizations pay for eligible debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged facilities.

## **Who Benefits?**

The PA program benefits everyone –neighborhoods, towns, cities, parishes, states and its residents. PA dollars reimburse expenses for measures taken to keep people safe before, during and after the storm and help clean up debris after it's over. PA funds are also used for projects to renovate classrooms, refurbish hospitals, restore parks and repair public transportation systems so students can go to safe schools, doctors and nurses can provide medical care, and families can enjoy the outdoors in public parks.

## **Emergency Work**

FEMA reimburses eligible expenses of state and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations for emergency work before, during and after the disaster. This includes reimbursing the cost for a disaster's first responders who worked around the clock to keep people safe and money spent clearing roads and removing debris after the flood waters began to recede.

## **Permanent Work**

FEMA also provides federal funding for permanent work that will build stronger communities. Funds may be used to help with the repair or replacement of damaged public facilities, such as roads, bridges, utilities, buildings and schools, as well as certain private nonprofit organizations like hospitals and utilities that provide essential services to their communities.

## **Reimbursement**

Under the PA program, FEMA reimburses applicants for 75 percent of eligible expenses, while the other 25 percent is the nonfederal share. The federal portion is paid directly to the state, which then makes disbursements to the local and tribal jurisdictions and organizations that incurred costs. The PA program also encourages protection of damaged facilities from future events by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process.

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