



**LONG-TERM SHELTER**

<p><b>DESCRIPTION</b></p>	<p>A Long-Term Shelter is in a safe and accessible location to provide sustained support services to disaster survivors for more than 2 weeks. The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) establishes shelters when housing stock is not available or is insufficient for intervals longer than two weeks and up to several months. Long-Term Shelters are existing facilities temporarily converted by the AHJ to provide safe, accessible, and secure housing. Soft-sided or temporary structures may be available when existing facilities are unavailable or insufficient, depending on the availability of open space and support services.</p>		
<p><b>RESOURCE CATEGORY</b></p>	<p>Mass Care</p>	<p><b>RESOURCE KIND</b></p>	<p>Facility</p>
<p><b>OVERALL FUNCTION</b></p>	<p>Long-Term Shelters (All Types):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provides for the long-term needs of disaster survivors, typically for more than two weeks</li> <li>2. Transitions from portable, temporary services to more durable, fixed or permanent services, such as utility providers, showers, toilets, and sinks</li> <li>3. Provides sustained basic services, including:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Feeding</li> <li>b. Hydration</li> <li>c. Basic medical care</li> <li>d. Sanitation</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Provides a range of essential resident services greater than those typically associated with Evacuation or Short-Term Shelters:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. On-going support for people with disabilities and access and functional needs</li> <li>b. Health and behavioral health services</li> <li>c. Family reunification assistance</li> <li>d. Childcare</li> <li>e. Service animal and household pet care</li> <li>f. Distribution of life sustaining, comfort, and other essential supplies</li> <li>g. Laundry</li> <li>h. Access to transportation</li> <li>i. Disaster recovery related information and services</li> <li>j. Educational and recreational activities</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The AHJ estimates the shelter resident capacity required and determines the facility accessibility requirements to support people with disabilities, access and functional support needs, and those with service and assistance animals</li> <li>2. Facility planning considerations include the maximum number of shelter residents expected; proximity to the displaced population's homes, schools, and jobs; and the status of the utility and transportation infrastructure.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The facility should be a safe, accessible, and secure structure not at risk from the disaster</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. A Long-Term Shelter maintains a variety of staffing, equipment and material resources; Refer to the Sheltering Guidance Aid and Staffing Matrix on the National Mass Care Strategy (NMCS) website for sample staffing ratios</li> <li>4. For equipment and material ordering guidance, refer to the FEMA Commonly Used Sheltering Items &amp; Services Listing (CUSI-SL)</li> <li>5. The AHJ bases space planning for long-term shelters on the extended duration and wider range of services provided to residents             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The need for additional living space and privacy for shelter residents should be a key planning consideration, to include residents with disabilities, access and functional needs, and those with service and assistance animals</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. The AHJ may request a Shelter Facility Selection Team to support planning for long-term shelters</li> </ol>



RESOURCE TYPES			TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4
COMPONENT	METRIC/ MEASURE	CAPABILITY				
Facility	Per facility	Shelter residents	2,000 or more	500 – 1,999	250 – 499	249 or fewer
			<b>NOTES:</b> Refer to the NMSC Mega-Shelter Planning Guide for additional guidance on NIMS Type 1 and NIMS Type 2 shelters			
Facility	Per facility	Area	Over 160,000 sq. ft.	40,000 – 160,000 sq. ft.	20,000 – 40,000 sq. ft.	Under 20,000 square feet (sq. ft.)
			<b>NOTES:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Calculate dormitory requirements for Long-Term Shelters using an average of 80 sq. ft. per shelter resident. Americans with Disability Act (ADA)-related reasonable accommodation requirements may necessitate additional dormitory space for shelter residents with disabilities, access and functional needs, and those with service and assistance animals, usually estimated at up to 100 sq. ft. per person.</li> <li>2. Other shelter activity and support areas may need additional space.</li> <li>3. A potential shelter site may meet the general space and access needs, but may need supplemental sanitation and other capabilities, such as toilets, showers, and hand-washing stations.</li> <li>4. The timeframe to establish a soft-sided shelter can vary greatly, depending on the desired capacity, services, and site improvements.</li> </ol>			

### COMMENTS

1. These shelters are facilities that can accommodate survivors, including people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs that require supportive services to maintain their independence while accessing the shelter, its programs, and services.
2. Shelters must meet the accessibility requirements under the ADA. In certain circumstances, however, where supportive services are not initially available, the AHJ can use a non-compliant facility if the AHJ makes reasonable and timely modifications to make it accessible.
3. Long-Term Shelters established in large vacant stores, warehouses, arenas, stadiums, convention centers, or similar high-capacity venue, facility, or soft-sided structures may require significantly more planning, preparation, and resources to operationalize.
4. The primary distinction between Short and Long-Term Shelters are per-person space considerations, range of services provided, and the sustainment of those services over an extended period of time.
5. FEMA and American Red Cross National Shelter System (NSS) databases can inventory and track Long-Term Shelter facility information.

### REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 509-9: Shelter Manager
2. FEMA, NIMS 508-9: Shelter Management Team
3. FEMA, NIMS 508-9: Shelter Facility Selection Team
4. FEMA, NIMS 509-12: Access and Functional Needs Coordinator
5. FEMA, NIMS 508-12: Public Health and Medical Support Team in a Shelter

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6. FEMA, NIMS 509-6: Fixed Site Security Team Supervisor
7. FEMA, NIMS 509-1: Animal Premises Site Manager
8. FEMA, NIMS 509-9: Shelter Facilities Support Leader
9. FEMA, NIMS 509-9: Shelter Resident Services Leader
10. FEMA, Commonly Used Sheltering Items & Services Listing, August 2011
11. FEMA, Planning for Integration of Functional Needs Support Services in General Population Shelters, November 2010
12. International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM)/American Red Cross, Mega-Shelter Planning Guide, October 2010
13. National Mass Care Council, Shelter Guidance Aid and Shelter Staffing Matrix, October 2010
14. National Mass Care Council, Multi-Agency Sheltering/Sheltering Support Planning Template, October 2014
15. US Department of Justice, Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Checklist for Emergency Shelters, July 2007
16. US Department of Justice, Guidance on the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, September 2010

### NOTE

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Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

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