

Media Advisory: Clarification on Federal roles in school openings

Release Date: November 3, 2017

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does not make the decision whether a school should open or stay closed. Their only role is to provide technical assistance for the structural integrity of school facilities. That information is then provided to the Puerto Rico Department of Education and with assessments from other Puerto Rico and local agencies, it is the Puerto Rico Department of Education who makes the final decision on whether or not to open a school.

###

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at **800-621-3362** (voice, **711/VRS** - Video Relay Service)*

*(TTY: **800-462-7585**). Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish).*

The SBA is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged property. SBA helps businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners and renters, which can cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged real estate and personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations.

Join the conversation with FEMA on social media. Follow us at:

www.fema.gov/hurricane-maria
www.facebook.com/femapuertorico
www.twitter.com/femaregion2



FEMA

Page 1 of 2

Get updated information and help us tell your story. The social media links provided are for reference only. FEMA does not endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.



FEMA

Page 2 of 2