

FEMA COVID-19 Update: Funeral Assistance and Community Vaccination Centers

WASHINGTON -- This week, more than 90,000 people began the application process to receive funeral assistance for deaths caused by COVID-19.

The agency provides funeral assistance as a normal part of the disaster process through our [Individual Assistance program](#). However, FEMA has never delivered this assistance on this scale before and we expect a high volume of calls to continue. We recognize the frustration this brings to people who have already dealt with so much and are working to ensure every person who needs to file an application can do so as easily as possible.

Using a call center guarantees that applicants already experiencing loss and grief can speak to people who are specifically trained to walk them through the application process. They can also help minimize delays by ensuring callers thoroughly understand the process and any additional steps needed to complete the application.

To help speed the process, we have 5,000 phone agents available and are training additional staff to support the large call volume. Multilingual services are available on the helpline.

The funeral assistance call center is now open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EDT, Monday through Friday. Applicants can call 844-684-6333 or TTY: 800-462-7585 toll free and speak directly to a trained representative who will guide them through the application process.

Anyone who may apply for the assistance should remember the following items:

- There is no deadline to apply for this assistance. Funding is not going to run out - and people who need this assistance will have every opportunity to apply.



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- If you are trying to apply and receive a busy signal or automated message, please try calling again at another time. We appreciate your patience as we continue helping people across the country who have lost loved ones. Once you have a representative on the line, the application process will take approximately 20 to 30 minutes to complete. Monetary assistance will be delivered about a week later.
- Before applying, gather documentation you'll need to help speed up the process. Exact documentation needed can be found on [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov), but will include receipts, official death certificates and funeral contracts.

To provide additional assistance to individuals who may need to apply for this assistance, a listing of frequently asked questions is available and being updated on [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov).

Working with state governments, FEMA will open additional federal pilot community vaccination centers, which include federal support and supplemental vaccine allocation. Today, a center is scheduled to open in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

FEMA mobile vaccination units have begun operations. These vehicles can bring vaccinations to hard-to-reach and high-risk populations who cannot access services from fixed sites. Eight mobile vaccination units are currently deployed to Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico and Oregon.

