

FEMA Funding for Tornado-Damaged Houses of Worship

Release Date: Feb 8, 2022

Houses of Worship and other religious nonprofit organizations may be eligible for FEMA Public Assistance to cover the costs for emergency protective measures, debris removal and repairing or replacing facilities damaged during the severe storms and tornadoes that occurred from Dec. 10-11, 2021, in **Cheatham, Davidson, Decatur, Dickson, Dyer, Gibson, Henderson, Henry, Lake, Obion, Stewart, Sumner, and Weakley counties**. The program is funded by FEMA and administered through the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.

FEMA Public Assistance provides federal disaster funding to protect and restore eligible public facilities such as roads, bridges, buildings, parks, and even private nonprofit organizations (PNPs) and houses of worship, that have been damaged or destroyed. Funding is also available to reimburse eligible entities for emergency protective measures. Public Assistance is a cost share reimbursement program: 75% FEMA and 25% Applicants.

- **Process to Apply:**

- The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) will host informational Applicant Briefings for interested entities in Cheatham, Davidson, Decatur, Dickson, Dyer, Gibson, Henderson, Henry, Lake, Obion, Stewart, Sumner, and Weakley counties. During the briefing, a TEMA representative will provide education on the program, program deadlines, eligibility factors, grant administration, and what else to expect throughout the Public Assistance Process. For the Applicant Briefing schedule and other information, go to [Active Disasters FEMA-4637-DR-TN](#).

- **Applicant Briefings/Training: Applicant Briefings schedule for this event is as follows:**

Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 9:00 a.m. CST

Phone Line: 415-655-0001



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<https://tn.webex.com/tn/j.php?MTID=m417b4dfeb55e1ae44412bbe1ec95c5e6>

Meeting number: 2310 250 8117

Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 2:00 p.m. CST

Phone Line: 415-655-0001

<https://tn.webex.com/tn/j.php?MTID=mfcb64e0d6c28e888847ba121fe6e595e>

Meeting number: 2314 835 2299

Thursday, February 10, 2022, 9:00 a.m. CST

Phone Line: 415-655-0001

<https://tn.webex.com/tn/j.php?MTID=mf0caf299b6015d35cb034380aa755070>

Meeting number: 2306 803 3877

Thursday, February 10, 2022, 2:00 p.m. CST

Phone Line: 415-655-0001

<https://tn.webex.com/tn/j.php?MTID=me3c82b50eb1c1db0b1da2805a861013d>

Meeting number: 2315 179 9494

Following the Applicant Briefing, interested parties must submit a **Request for Public Assistance** (RPA) within 30 days of the Public Assistance declaration in their county, which is **March 4, 2022**, for this mission.

■ **Applicant Registration Forms:**

- For the West Tennessee region and state agencies, including Decatur, Dyer, Gibson, Henderson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley counties, [click here](#).
- For the Middle Tennessee region, including Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Stewart, and Sumner counties, [click here](#).

■ **Additional Application Information:**

- Applicants will be asked to submit an IRS letter establishing tax exempt status or state documentation confirming nonprofit status.
- As with all nonprofit organizations, religious private nonprofits that provide a non-critical, essential service (such as a community center or daycare) may have to submit an application to the U.S. Small Business Administration for a low-interest disaster loan before FEMA can provide financial grants for permanent work. FEMA can provide assistance once an SBA loan is denied or if loan is insufficient to cover damage repair costs.



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- **Additional Online Public Assistance Tools and Resources:**
 - [Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide, June 1, 2020](#)
 - [Public Assistance Debris Monitoring Guide 3-1-2021](#)
 - [Public Assistance Debris Management Guide July 2007](#)
 - [Public Assistance Guidance on Inundated and Submerged Roads](#)
 - [2021 Schedule of Equipment Rates](#)



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