

One Month Left to Apply for Federal Disaster Assistance

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LOS ANGELES – Homeowners and renters who have incurred damage or losses from the Los Angeles County wildfires that began Jan. 7 have until **Monday, March 10, 2025**, to apply for **FEMA Individual Assistance**. The program provides financial and other assistance to eligible individuals and households to help meet their basic needs and supplement their wildfire recovery efforts.

FEMA may reimburse eligible applicants for temporary housing, home repairs to their primary home, personal property losses, medical and dental expenses related to the disaster, childcare and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance.

Residents who have insurance need to file insurance claims for damage to their homes, personal property and vehicles before applying. FEMA assistance is not taxed and will not affect Social Security, Medicaid or other federal benefits. FEMA grants do not have to be repaid.

Apply for FEMA Individual Assistance:

- Online at DisasterAssistance.gov (fastest option).
- On the [FEMA App](#) (available at the Apple App Store or Google Play).
- By phone on the FEMA Helpline at **800-621-3362**. If you use a relay service, give FEMA your number for that service. Helpline operators speak many languages: press 2 for Spanish or press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language. Lines are open from **7 a.m. to 10 p.m. 7 days a week**.
- Visit a **Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)**. To locate a DRC near you, visit the [DRC Locator](#).

For an American Sign Language video on how to apply, visit [FEMA Accessible: Three Ways to Register for FEMA Disaster Assistance](#).



After You Apply

If you had damage and applied for FEMA assistance, you can expect a call, text or email from FEMA to schedule a **home inspection** to assess disaster damage.

Please note phone calls from FEMA may come from an unfamiliar number.

Inspectors will try to reach you multiple times but eventually will stop calling if you do not respond. You will learn FEMA's decision on what benefits you may receive in a **Determination Letter** sent by email or U.S. Mail.

FEMA may refer you to the **U.S. Small Business Administration** for a SBA low-interest disaster loan to help offset damage and losses caused by the wildfires. Disaster loans are available to renters, homeowners and businesses and are the largest source of federal disaster funding for people impacted by disasters. The deadline to apply with the SBA is also **March 10, 2025**. Do not wait for your FEMA Determination Letter to apply for a SBA loan.

To apply visit sba.gov/disaster; call SBA's Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955** or email DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov for more information or to have a loan application mailed to you. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability, dial **711** to access telecommunications relay services.

You may also apply with the help of a

SBA representative or submit your loan application at a Business Recovery Center. To find one to Appointment.sba.gov

. Completed paper loan applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, P Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

