



FEMA

November 4, 2020

Dear Tribal Leader:

On March 13, 2020, the President declared a nationwide emergency for the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. As a result, over two hundred tribal nations have applied for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as Public Assistance (PA) Recipients or Subrecipients under an emergency or major disaster declaration.

I am pleased to announce that FEMA's Recovery Directorate, in partnership with FEMA's Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Division, will be hosting a virtual listening session to consult with tribal nations on Recovery policies and their implementation during our continuous response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This listening session will take place virtually on December 8, 2020, 1:00-4:00 P.M. ET.

FEMA will be hosting the virtual listening session to discuss Recovery's COVID-19 policies and guidance and their implementation and impact on tribal nations. In addition, FEMA is interested in hearing about tribal experiences as Recipients of FEMA PA and opportunities to improve tribal program delivery. During the listening session, Recovery staff will provide a brief overview of PA Category B: Emergency Protective Measures, the policies and guidance listed below, tribal inquiries received by Recovery, and an opportunity for tribal leaders to provide additional input and feedback to FEMA.

In response to this unprecedented event, FEMA, in collaboration with its federal partners, developed numerous interim policies, job aids, fact sheets, resource roadmaps, and pandemic planning guidance to quickly assist our tribal, state, local, and territorial partners in the delivery of eligible emergency protective measures and assistance to survivors across the nation. A compilation of COVID-19 resources, including these new policies and guidance may be found the [COVID-19 page on FEMA.gov](#). The COVID-19 assistance-related Recovery policies include:

1. [*Work Eligible for Public Assistance Interim Policy*](#);
2. [*Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance Policy*](#); and
3. [*Medical Care Costs Eligible for Public Assistance Policy*](#).

Additionally, FEMA produced the following policies and guidance on providing assistance in a COVID-19 environment:

1. [*Streamlined Inspection Process, Individuals and Households Program Interim Policy*](#);
2. [*Pandemic Remote Inspection Process Individuals and Households Program Interim Policy*](#);

3. [Non-Congregate Sheltering during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Interim Policy](#); and
4. [Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Pandemic Planning Considerations](#).

FEMA remains committed to its responsibility under Executive Order 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*, to engage in consultation and collaboration with tribal officials. We look forward to receiving your valuable input.

Questions and any written comments may be directed to Recovery through FEMA-Tribal-Recovery@fema.dhs.gov or through FEMA Regional Tribal Liaisons until January 8, 2021. Contact information for FEMA Tribal Liaisons may be found at www.fema.gov/about/contact.

Respectfully,



Keith Turi
Assistant Administrator
Recovery Directorate
Office of Response and Recovery

cc: Tribal Emergency Managers