

FEMA Announces First States to Receive Lost Wages Grants

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On August 8, 2020, President Trump made available up to \$44 billion from FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund to provide financial assistance to Americans who have lost wages due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The states of Arizona, Iowa, Louisiana, and New Mexico are the first states to agree to administer a lost wages program for its citizens who are unemployed due to COVID-19.

FEMA Administrator Pete Gaynor approved the states of Arizona, Iowa, Louisiana, and New Mexico for the first FEMA grants under this unprecedented program. FEMA's grant funding will allow Arizona, Iowa, Louisiana, and New Mexico to provide those unemployed due to COVID-19 \$300 per week on top of their regular unemployment benefit. FEMA will work with Arizona Governor Ducey, Iowa Governor Reynolds, Louisiana Governor Edwards, and New Mexico Governor Lujan Grisham as they implement state systems to make this funding available to the residents of their states.

FEMA looks forward to working with the governors of additional states who agree to administer a lost wages program to bring financial relief to unemployed Americans.

To learn more about FEMA's lost wages supplemental payment assistance, visit: <https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/fema-lost-wages-supplemental-payment-assistance>.

