



FEMA & COVID-19

The President declared a national emergency over the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

What could this mean for you?

THERE WILL LIKELY BE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANY OF OUR CLIENTS TO RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR COSTS INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE EMERGENCY DECLARATION.

GMC can assist our clients in the possible reimbursement of expenses associated with the emergency of COVID-19 at the federal cost share.

What can you do to prepare for reimbursement?

All federal declarations reimbursements are dependent on good record keeping and documentation. Keep a record of all activities associated with COVID-19 outside of your normal expenses. At this time, it will be difficult to determine what is eligible as this disaster is still evolving. Track all expenses including, but not limited to:

- Call logs – track all calls associated with COVID-19 through information hot lines, call centers, emergency operations, etc.
- All requirements from the HHS or CDC that result in expense to your organization
- Workers' time (time cards) and description of duties associated with this emergency
- Receipts for supplies associated with this emergency (cleaning supplies, etc.)
- Invoices for any services rendered as a result of this emergency (ex: sanitizing schools, public buildings, etc.)



While there are still many unknowns, there are actions that can be taken now to prepare should you be able to apply for reimbursement from FEMA, primarily tracking expenses related to the coronavirus response.

We have provided information on the next page about the emergency declaration, its potential impact and some of the steps that entities can take to prepare should they be eligible to receive funding. We will provide more information as it becomes available, but for now we wanted to pass along what we do know at this time.



What do we know now?

On March 13, the President issued an Emergency Declaration for the coronavirus (COVID-19). This declaration is for all states, tribes, territories, the District of Columbia and certain non-profit (PNP) organizations. This declaration is for Emergency Protective Measures (Category B).

In accordance with section 502 of the Stafford Act, eligible emergency protective measures taken to respond to the COVID-19 emergency at the direction or guidance of public health officials may be reimbursed under Category B of the agency's Public Assistance program. FEMA will not duplicate assistance provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or other federal agencies. This includes necessary emergency protective measures for activities taken in response to the COVID-19 incident. FEMA assistance will be provided at the 75% federal cost share.

(See attached FEMA Fact Sheet)



What are Emergency Protective Measures (Category B)?

FEMA can help pay for actions taken by the community (almost always government agencies) before, during and after a disaster to save lives, protect public health and safety and prevent damage to improved public and private property. Examples of measures that may be eligible include:

- Warning of risks and hazards
- Search and rescue
- Emergency evacuations
- Emergency mass care
- Rescue, evacuation, transportation, care, shelter and essential needs for humans affected by the outbreak and spread of influenza pandemic
- Protection for an eligible facility
- Security in the disaster area
- Provision of food, water, ice and other essential items at central distribution points
- Temporary generators for facilities that provide health and safety services
- Rescue, care, shelter, and essential needs for household pets and service animals if claimed by a state or local government
- Temporary facilities for schools and essential community services
- Emergency operations centers to coordinate and direct the response to a disaster
- Demolitions and removal of public and private buildings and structures that pose an immediate threat to the safety of the general public
- Removal of health and safety hazards
- Construction of emergency protections measures to protect lives or improved property (for example, temporary levees)
- Emergency measures to prevent further damage to an otherwise eligible facility (for example, boarding windows)
- Restoration of access
- Inspection, if necessary, to determine whether structures pose an immediate threat to public health or safety

Please let me know
any way I can
assist you.



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COVID-19 Emergency Declaration

On March 13, 2020, the President declared the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia pursuant to section 501 (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). State, territorial, tribal, and local government entities and certain private non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for Public Assistance.

In accordance with section 502 of the Stafford Act, eligible emergency protective measures taken to respond to the COVID-19 emergency at the direction or guidance of public health officials’ may be reimbursed under Category B of the agency’s Public Assistance program. FEMA will not duplicate assistance provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or other federal agencies. Reimbursable activities typically include emergency protective measures such as the activation of State Emergency Operations Centers, National Guard costs, law enforcement and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety. FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75 percent Federal cost share.

This declaration increases federal support to HHS in its role as the lead federal agency for the federal government’s response to COVID-19. The emergency declaration does not impact measures authorized under other Federal statutes.

FEMA assistance will require execution of a FEMA-State/Tribal/Territory Agreement, as appropriate, and execution of an applicable emergency plan. States, tribal and territorial governments do not need to request separate emergency declarations to receive FEMA assistance under this nationwide declaration.

FEMA encourages officials to take appropriate actions that are necessary to protect public health and safety pursuant to public health guidance.



FEMA