



Financial Disaster Aid for U.S. Citizens, Non-Citizen Nationals, and Qualified Aliens

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is committed to helping all eligible disaster survivors recover from disasters including U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, and qualified aliens.

To register for FEMA's Individuals and Households Program (IHP), disaster survivors must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or qualified aliens to qualify for monetary disaster assistance. However, undocumented families with diverse immigration statuses only need one family member (including minor children) who is a citizen and has a social security number to apply. The minor child must live with the parent or legal guardian applying on their behalf.

When registering for disaster assistance, FEMA requires applicants to certify whether they are U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or qualified aliens. If the survivor cannot verify due to their citizenship status but has a minor child that meets the eligibility criteria, they can apply for assistance on the child's behalf and no information regarding the survivor's status will be gathered.

The status of a qualified alien includes:

- Legal permanent residents (green card holders);
- An asylee, refugee, or an alien whose deportation is being withheld;
- Aliens paroled into the U.S. for at least one year;
- Aliens granted conditional entry (law in effect prior to April 1, 1980);
- Cuban/Haitian entrants;
- Aliens in the U.S. who have been abused, subject to battery, or extreme cruelty by a spouse or other family/household member or have been a victim of a severe form of human trafficking;
- Aliens whose children have been abused and alien children whose parent has been abused who fit certain criteria.

Other Individual Assistance programs such as Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program, Disaster Legal Services, and other short-term, non-cash emergency assistance, such as congregate shelters, are available to an individual and family regardless of citizenship status. Additionally, voluntary agencies provide help regardless of citizenship/immigration status.

People who do not qualify for monetary assistance may still call the FEMA registration line for referrals to voluntary agencies. These survivors may be eligible for emergency assistance (such as search and rescue, medical care, shelter, food, and water, and assistance for the purpose of reducing threats to life, property, and public health or safety). Disaster Legal Services, Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training, Disaster Case Management and Disaster Food Stamps (Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or D-SNAP) may also be available to these survivors.

Assistance for survivors who meet the eligibility criteria include, but are not limited to, assistance for temporary housing, home repair, personal property, disaster unemployment assistance, and low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual orientation), religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status, or retaliation. If a survivor believes their civil rights are being violated, they may call 800-621-3362 or 800-462-7585 (TTY/TDD).

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FEMA's Mission: "Helping people before, during, and after disasters."

Last update: May 2018

