



Cost Share Adjustment for Public Assistance – Hurricane Harvey in Texas

Due to the severity and magnitude of the damage resulting from Hurricane Harvey in certain areas of the State of Texas, the President authorized an adjustment to the cost share for Federal funds provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq. (the “Stafford Act”).

Specifically, as part of the major disaster declaration of August 25, 2017 (FEMA-4332-DR-TX), the President authorized a 90 percent Federal cost share for debris removal, including direct Federal assistance. Additionally, the President authorized a 100 percent Federal cost share for emergency protective measures, including direct Federal assistance, for 30 days from the start of the incident period, and then a 90 percent Federal cost share thereafter.

This adjustment to State and local cost share applies to the FEMA Public Assistance Program and direct Federal assistance authorized under the Stafford Act. The Stafford Act specifically prohibits a similar adjustment for funds provided for Other Needs Assistance (Section 408), and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (Section 404). These funds will continue to be reimbursed at 75 percent of total eligible costs.

Debris removal activities include clearance, removal and disposal of vegetative debris, construction and demolition debris, sand, mud, silt and other debris resulting from the disaster. FEMA may provide funding for the cost of debris removal when it is necessary to eliminate immediate threats to lives, public health and safety; eliminate immediate threats of significant damage to improved property; or ensure economic recovery of the affected community. FEMA assistance for debris removal will be provided at a cost share of 90 percent Federal funding and 10 percent non-Federal funding for the duration of the disaster.

Emergency protective measures include flood fighting, emergency access, supplies and commodities, medical care and transportation, evacuation and sheltering, search and rescue, and other emergency actions. FEMA may provide funding for the cost of emergency protective measures when they are necessary to eliminate immediate threats to lives, public health and safety; or eliminate immediate threats of significant damage to improved property. FEMA assistance for emergency protective measures will be provided at a cost share of 100 percent Federal funding for emergency actions taken during the first 30 days of the disaster starting at the beginning of the incident period, and 90 percent Federal funding and 10 percent non-Federal funding for the remainder of the disaster.