
From: State Association Executive <SAES@LIST.NACO.ORG> on behalf of Matt Chase
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Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2020 2:44 PM

To: SAES@LIST.NACO.ORG <SAES@LIST.NACO.ORG>

Subject: FEMA Update

To: NCCAE

Re: FEMA Process Update

We are pleased to report that NACo now has greater clarity on the FEMA process for public assistance for states, local governments and eligible nonprofits. Below is a direct response from FEMA for NACo members – and please be sure to **reference the attached file for eligible emergency protective measures.** We will also have a representative from FEMA on the NACo national membership call today at 5:00 pm. Thank you to FEMA for their partnership.

“The Administration continues to place its full weight and resources behind the response to COVID-19. As you reference in your email, FEMA currently has over \$500 million in available balances in the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) Base to support all 56 States and Territories for COVID-19 response efforts, including for direct Federal assistance, temporary facilities, commodities, equipment, and emergency operation costs.

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 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, local government entities and certain private non-profit (PNP) organizations are eligible to apply for Public Assistance. States, Tribal and Territorial governments do not need to request separate emergency declarations to receive FEMA assistance under this nationwide declaration. The emergency declaration will reimburse for eligible emergency protective measures taken to respond to the COVID-19 emergency at the direction or guidance of public health officials under Category B of FEMA’s Public Assistance program. I’m attaching a fact sheet for you to share with your group with additional guidance on the types of emergency protective measures that may be eligible under FEMA’s Public Assistance program. *FEMA will not duplicate assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), to include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or other federal agencies.*

On March 17th, the Administration submitted a request to Congressional Appropriators for additional fiscal year (FY) 2020 funding in the amount of \$45.8 billion and the necessary authorities to address ongoing preparedness and response efforts. Included in this request is \$2 billion in the Disaster Relief Fund Base Account to ensure there are resources available to support continued disaster operations.

We will continue to work with our state, local, tribal and territory partners to provide updates and additional information.”

So, to be clear at this point, counties and other local governments are covered by the President’s actions on March 13 as outlined above. Therefore, we do not need to wait for individual Governors to request a federal disaster declaration.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding as we all navigate this crisis.

Matt Chase, CEO/Executive Director
National Association of Counties
