

# Evacuation & Sheltering Assistance under an Emergency Declaration in a COVID-19 Environment

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Due to the added complexities of conducting evacuations and sheltering during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, in limited circumstances grant assistance for evacuation and sheltering may be authorized to states, tribes, and territories under an emergency declaration for an imminent or pre-landfall incident. The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to describe eligible evacuation and sheltering costs for those emergency declarations under which grant reimbursement is authorized.

## Eligible Evacuation and Sheltering Costs

Eligible costs are outlined in the [Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide \(version 4\)](#) and the approval of these costs is limited to that which is reasonable and necessary to address the needs of the incident and may include:

- **Congregate Sheltering** – Facility costs, staff costs, supplies and commodities, and shelter services.
- **Non-congregate Sheltering** – [FEMA's Interim Policy Emergency Non-Congregate Sheltering during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency \(104-009-18\)](#) provides eligibility criteria for the use of non-congregate sheltering during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Evacuation** – Transportation to evacuate and return survivors, household pets, service animals, assistance animals, luggage, and durable medical equipment, as well as emergency medical transportation.
- **Pre-positioning of resources** – Costs for the pre-positioning of resources to execute an evacuation or the delivery of emergency medical care during the evacuation.
- **Emergency Supplies and Commodities** – Costs for purchasing supplies or using stock to conduct sheltering and evacuation activities.
- **Emergency Operations Centers (EOC)** – Costs associated with operating an EOC are eligible when necessary to conduct sheltering and evacuation activities, including increased utility costs, costs to lease a facility, supply costs and meals.
- **Security** – Eligible emergency protective measures and costs include security necessary to conduct sheltering activities.
- **Law Enforcement** – Overtime costs related to evacuation activities may be eligible.
- **Emergency Communications** – Dissemination of information to the public to provide warnings and guidance on sheltering and evacuation activities.

### Additional Information

For more information, visit the following websites:



**FEMA**

1. [Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide](#)

See PAPPG V4, Chapter 7: Emergency Work Eligibility

2. [FEMA Policy 104-009-18: FEMA Emergency Non-Congregate Sheltering during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency \(Interim\)](#)