

# EMERGENCY PROGRAMS IN LOUISIANA TO HELP HURRICANE VICTIMS WITH NO OR LOW INCOME

The following public benefits are available to disaster victims. You should also apply with FEMA for their benefits. You can get benefits both from FEMA and the programs listed below. **The money you get from FEMA or the Red Cross should NOT count as income or resources for any of these programs.**

**For more information about any of the programs on this flyer, call (888) 524-3578**

## **PROGRAMS TO GET MONEY**

### **Money For Families With Children:**

**The Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP)** gives cash to families with children. The money you get depends on the size of your family (\$122/month for one person, up to \$512/ month for a bigger family). For more information on eligibility and how to apply, call (888) 524-3578.

**The Kinship Care Subsidy Program (KCSP)** gives cash benefits to children who are being taken care of by relatives who are not their parents (up to \$222/month for each eligible child). Call (888) 524-3578 for more information.

For more information about these programs and other programs that can help, call (800) 706-8263.

### **Money For People Out Of Work:**

You can get **regular unemployment benefits** for 21 weeks. You should also apply for Disaster Unemployment Assistance. You can apply at a One-Stop Career Center or by phone at (888) LAHELPU or at (866) 783-5537. More information is available online at [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net).

You may be able to get **Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)** for up to 26 weeks if you cannot get regular unemployment benefits. If you need your earnings records from the IRS for your application, call (866) 562-5227.

**APPLY FOR DUA BY OCTOBER 7, 2005 at a One-Stop Career Center or call (888) LAHELPU, or (866) 783-5569.** More information is available online at [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net).

## **For People Who Get Social Security:**

**Paper checks:** You may not have gotten your check because of problems with mail service. The Postal Service is holding some mail. You can go to a post office listed at [www.socialsecurity.gov/emergency/usps.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/emergency/usps.html) and pick up your mail if you have a photo I.D. You can also go to any open Social Security office and ask for an "Immediate Payment". To find an open office, call (800) 772-1213. Some of the shelters are also setting up postal service for evacuees.

**Direct Deposit:** If you get your Social Security payment by direct deposit, it should be deposited to your account as usual. If you have any problems getting your money, you can go to any open Social Security office and ask for an "Immediate Payment". To find an open office, call (800) 772-1213.

## **Money For People With Family Members Who Have Died:**

The **Social Security Survivor's Benefits** program gives money to some family members of a worker who has died. The worker must have had at least 40 quarters (10 years) of work to be eligible for benefits.

You may be able to get survivor's benefits if you are:

- A widow/widower
- An unmarried child of the deceased
- A parent, if you are 62 or older and were dependent on the worker.

The money you get depends on the wages of the deceased worker. To apply or for more information, call (800) 772-1213.

Social Security can give a **Death Benefit** of \$225 to the widow/widower of a worker. If there is no spouse, the worker's child may be able to get the benefit. Call (800) 772-1213 for more information

**EMERGENCY PROGRAMS IN LOUISIANA  
TO HELP HURRICANE VICTIMS WITH NO OR LOW INCOME**

**Money for Disabled, Blind, and Aged People:**

The **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** program gives monthly cash grants to people who are 65 or older or are blind and disabled. You must have limited income and financial resources to get this benefit. If you are approved, you can get up to \$579 for an individual and up to \$869 for a couple.

To apply for these benefits, call (800) 772-1213.

**PROGRAMS TO GET FOOD**

**Food For Everyone Affected by Katrina:**

If you lost food or money in the disaster, you may be able to get up to one month of Food Stamps. If you already get food stamps, an extra month of benefits will be added to your EBT card. Even if you do not already get food stamps, you may be able to get disaster food stamps if your home was damaged, you lost income or wages, or have no access to your bank accounts.

To apply, go to a local welfare office. You will not need a picture I.D. You can use a friend, relative, minister, or old papers to prove your identity. If you cannot do that, the welfare office will take your word about your identity. You can tell the welfare office that you lived in an area affected by Katrina and were hurt by it. You will not have to provide proof of that.

For more information, call (888) 524-3578 or (888) 524-3578.

**Fast Track ("Expedited") Food Stamps:**

If you do not already get food stamps now, you might need them because you lost your job, home, or income, food stamps. You can apply and get them within 7 days. Call (888) 524-3578.

**Food For Pregnant Women, Mothers, and Infants:**

The **Women, Infant and Children (WIC)** program gives money and food to pregnant women, new and breastfeeding mothers, and kids up to age 5. This money and food is **in addition to** Food Stamps, so you can get help from both WIC and Food Stamps. WIC can also give you special medical infant formulas if your newborn or infant needs them.

To apply, call (888) 524-3578. You will not need a picture I.D. or proof of income to apply.

If you already get WIC benefits and need to know how to get food where you are now, call (800) 251-2229 or (888) 524-3578.

**Lost EBT Cards:**

If you do not have your Electronic Benefits (EBT) card, go to any Louisiana Department of Social Services office and ask for a new card. You will not need a picture I.D. Call (866) 334-8304 for more information. If you have your EBT card but have problems using it or getting your benefits, call (888) 997-1117 or (866) 334-8304.

**Free or Low Cost Medical Care:**

Medicaid gives free and low-cost health care to individuals and families. Call (888) 342-6207 for more information.

If you are elderly or disabled and need help getting Medicaid, call (800) 711-1696 for help.

**NEED HELP WITH THESE PROGRAMS? CALL:**

**1-800-310-7029 or  
Your Local Legal Aid Office**