

Help For Hurricane Katrina Victims

Register with FEMA by calling 1-800-621-3362 (TTY 1-800-462-7585) operating 24 hours everyday, by registering on-line at www.fema.gov, or by going to a FEMA application center.

Lost Basic Personal Property or Have Other Serious Needs ?

Expedited Assistance

FEMA is offering \$2,000 in Expedited Assistance to some Katrina victims who do not have documentation of their losses. This may come in the form of a check, electronic funds transfer or EBT/debit cards. Expedited assistance is for food, transportation, clothing, rental housing, or other housing. It will be deducted from the total benefits for which victims are eligible.

Personal property replacement

SBA low interest loan of up to \$40,000 to repair or replace personal property; or if you can't repay a loan.

Individual & Household Program (IHP)

Up to around \$26,200 to pay for serious needs such as:

- Repair or replace your car, pay for public transportation
- Replace clothes, including school uniforms
- Replace school supplies including computers
- Replace household belongings, furniture, large appliances
- Replace tools required for employment
- Repair or replace medical equipment including wheelchairs
- Moving and storage expenses
- Medical and dental expenses

Funeral expenses including burial or cremation

Worked at a Business Destroyed by Katrina?

Disaster Unemployment

Insurance (DUA) if you:

- were self-employed
- were about to begin work but now cannot
- had not worked long enough to establish a state unemployment claim
- cannot get to your job
- have become the head of household because of a disaster –related death

Apply for DUA by October 7, 2005: 1) by calling 1-800-818-7811, or 2) in person at any Dept. of Labor One Stop or Job Center Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., or 3) online with the Louisiana Department of Labor at: <http://www.laworks.net/>.

Not a Citizen?

All immigrants who suffered a disaster-related loss, regardless of status, are eligible for short term non-cash, in-kind, emergency disaster relief and similar sources. Receipt of disaster relief does not have public charge consequences .

Home or Apartment Inaccessible? Damaged? Destroyed?

Money for rent (IHP housing assistance)

- 1 to 3 months rent from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Up to 18 months continued rental assistance

Temporary Housing

FEMA provides temporary housing at some military bases, public housing projects, on cruise ships, and in mobile homes.

Other Assistance

As the recovery progress, expect to see other programs to help evacuees with housing costs such as Section 8 and other help with rent, utilities and security deposits.

Other Household Members

If you need to set up a housing arrangements separate from some or all of the people you were living with before Katrina, then you should ask FEMA to treat you as a separate household.

Money for homeowners to repair, replace or rebuild housing

- Up to around \$5,000 to make emergency repairs; or
- Up to \$10,000 to buy another home
- If you make enough money to repay a loan, the Small Business Administration (SBA) may give you a low-interest loan of up to \$200,000 to buy another home
- If you cannot afford to repay a loan, **Individual & Household Program (IHP)** may give you up to \$25,000 to repair your home
- Read your mortgage to see if you have HUD or other mortgage insurance.

Your Business Destroyed?

Small Business Admin. (SBA) Loans

- **Business Physical Disaster Loans** up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace disaster damage to property, including inventory and business equipment
- **Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)** up to \$1.5 million for small businesses that had property or inventory damaged or lost business
- The total loan to one business cannot exceed \$1.5 million.

Disaster Assistance Tips

If you don't get help from one disaster assistance program, you may still be able to get it from another. Call the numbers on the bottom of this page for more help. You have 60 days to appeal a FEMA decision. You must put your appeal in writing. It must be signed by you, or, by your representative.

1. Write down all your disaster related losses—home, personal property, car, job, and your needs such as medical care, money for rent, a place to live, help repairing or replacing your home.
2. Keep a hurricane notebook. List your FEMA application control number. List all your calls, the date you called, the number you called, the name of the person you spoke to and what they told you.
3. **Take time to tell the disaster worker about all of your hurricane related losses and needs.**
4. Save all papers and receipts such as rent receipts, leases, and all copies of letters to and from FEMA, SBA, IFGP and any other agency.
5. If you can, take pictures of the damage (get double prints).
6. **If the FEMA inspector comes to your home, try to show or explain to him or her all of your damage. Ask them to write everything down, since a good inspection is very important to support your need for help.**
7. Call legal aid to appeal if you don't get enough help or your application is delayed. If you believe you were denied because your inspection was bad, ask for a new inspection.

For Further Help Call:

1-800-310-7029 or

Your Local Legal Aid Office

Phone Numbers For Emergency Food, Housing, Clothing And Other Needs

**Louisiana State
Help Line**
1-888-LAHelpU
(888-524-3578)

FEMA
1-800-621-3362
(TTY 1-800- 462-
7585)

SBA
1 800-659-2955

Red Cross
1-800-229-8181