

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ALL

Everyone has access to some immediate short-term benefits to help with basic needs:

- Soup kitchens for hot meals
- Food pantries for groceries
- Health centers
- Crisis counseling services
- Emergency overnight shelters (many of them ask you leave in the daytime)
- Domestic violence shelters

Check with the nearest One-Stop Center at www.careeronestop.org or ask your local health center about local emergency services that can help you.

Learn more about assistance after a disaster from the Farmworker Justice guides on Food and Income Assistance.



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Housing Assistance

AFTER A MAJOR DISASTER



Housing Assistance

FEDERAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE - WITH SOME RESTRICTIONS

Individuals and Households Program (IHP)

In the event of a federally-declared disaster, the Individuals and Households Program (IHP), a program run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), helps with home repairs and other necessary expenses.

To qualify, you must be a U.S. citizen, a non-citizen national, or a qualified alien, live in the federal-declared disaster area, and must not be able to live in your house or it must be badly damaged as a result of the disaster.

Housing needs assistance includes:

- Temporary housing (either government-provided housing or money to pay rent)
- Repairs – structural, heating, utilities, water system
- Replacement costs for parts of the home not covered by insurance
- Permanent housing construction (only if FEMA says that there is no other type of housing assistance available)

Other needs assistance includes:

- Disaster-related medical and dental costs
- Disaster-related funeral and burial costs
- Disaster-related moving and storage expenses
- Child care (children under 13 years old or children 14-18 years old with a disability)
- Miscellaneous items (eligible items purchased after a disaster to gain access to property or assist with cleaning efforts)

How to Apply

If you qualify, you can apply for yourself or for any eligible family member. You have to apply for FEMA benefits within 60 days of the disaster. Only one person in a household may apply and receive funds.

To apply for benefits, either go to www.FEMA.gov to apply online or call 1-800-621-3362.

You may also visit a Disaster Recovery Center, if there is one in your area.

IHP benefits are tax-free and do not need to be repaid. They will not be counted either as income or resources in determining eligibility for any income-tested federal benefit programs.

You are eligible for IHP if you are a:

- U.S. Citizen
- A person with valid work authorization
- Lawful Permanent Resident (green card)
- Refugee
- Asylee
- Cuban/Haitian Entrant
- Immigrant Survivor of trafficking or domestic violence (T- or U- visa holder)
- Parolee for at least one year
- A person who received a withholding of deportation

If your insurance covers these costs, you cannot get IHP assistance.



After a major disaster