

# COVID-19: FEMA

## Reimbursement of Costs for Emergency Medical Services



State, local, tribal and territorial government entities, and certain private nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for reimbursement of emergency protective measures taken to respond to the COVID-19 emergency. 911 and emergency medical services (EMS) agencies (including fire service, third government service, and certain private nonprofit services) may be reimbursed for certain costs related to the COVID-19 response.

The following is a list of 911 and EMS costs that may be reimbursed by FEMA under the Public Assistance Program. General eligibility considerations for emergency protective measures apply to all claimed work and associated costs. FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75% federal cost share and may not duplicate assistance provided by other federal agencies.

### Emergency medical care of COVID-19 patients

- Emergency medical transport (including to alternative destinations).
- Specialized emergency medical care.

### Emergency operations centers (EOCs)

- Increased utility costs.
- Lease costs.
- Supply costs.

### Facilities

- Cleaning/disinfection of stations, apparatus and equipment.
- Purchase of disinfection products, supplies and services.
- Relocation to a temporary facility.
- Enhancements to existing facilities.

### Meals

- Meals and meal supplies for emergency workers (restrictions apply).



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For more information, visit  
[www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov).

## Medical supplies

- Purchase of durable medical supplies.
- Purchase of disposable medical supplies.
- Disposal of medical waste.

## Medical testing and vaccination

- Testing for emergency workers and the public.
- Vaccinations for emergency workers and the public.

## Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- Purchase of PPE.
- Cleaning of PPE.

## Responder housing

- Noncongregate sheltering for first responders who test positive for COVID-19, have been exposed to the virus, or require isolation as a precautionary measure.

## Staffing

- Backfill employees.
- Temporary employees.
- Overtime costs.

## Training

- Training specific to the COVID-19 response.

## How to apply for reimbursement

Government entities and private nonprofit organizations may apply for public assistance through the Grants Portal at <https://grantee.fema.gov/>. A Quick Guide for account setup and submission of requests for public assistance is available [here](#). Step-by-step videos are available [here](#).

Government entities can create a Grants Portal account directly. Private non-profit organizations must first engage their state or local emergency management office to request an account. Once an account is created, applicants may submit requests for public assistance in the Grants Portal to begin the application process.

## How to document costs

Requests for reimbursement must include complete and accurate documentation of expenses. The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has developed simple Excel worksheets to assist with tracking costs related to COVID-19 response and recovery. These worksheets capture common reimbursable costs and can be customized. They can also help with inventory control and supply reordering. The worksheets are available on the USFA website at [https://www.usfa.fema.gov/coronavirus/public\\_assistance\\_grants.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/coronavirus/public_assistance_grants.html).

## Additional information on cost recovery

Additional information on COVID-19 cost recovery for fire and EMS departments under the FEMA Public Assistance Program is available on the USFA website at [https://www.usfa.fema.gov/coronavirus/public\\_assistance\\_grants.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/coronavirus/public_assistance_grants.html).

General information on how government entities and certain private nonprofit organizations can apply for public assistance reimbursements for emergency medical care and other emergency protective measures taken during the COVID-19 pandemic is available at <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus/governments>.

## FEMA guidance on reimbursement of emergency protective measures

- ▶ FEMA Fact Sheet — Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Eligible Emergency Protective Measures (available at <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures>)
- ▶ FEMA Fact Sheet — Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Emergency Medical Care (available at <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-emergency-medical-care>)
- ▶ FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (Chapter 2, Section VI.B Emergency Protective Measures) (available at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/111781>)

## FEMA guidance on eligibility of tribal governments and private nonprofit organizations

- ▶ FEMA Fact Sheet — Coronavirus (COVID-19): FEMA Assistance for Tribal Governments (available at <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/26/coronavirus-covid-19-fema-assistance-tribal-governments>)
- ▶ FEMA Fact Sheet — Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Private Nonprofit Organizations (available at <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/02/coronavirus-covid19-pandemic-private-nonprofit-organizations>)



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