

Sheltering

FEMA provides Public Assistance funding to State, Territorial, Tribal, and local government Applicants for costs related to emergency sheltering for survivors. Typically, such sheltering occurs in facilities with large open spaces, such as schools, churches, community centers, armories, or other similar facilities. FEMA refers to these shelters as congregate shelters. As with any activity, lack of full documentation may result in FEMA determining that some or all of the costs are ineligible.

Eligible costs related to sheltering include, but are not limited to, the items listed below, as necessary based on the type of shelter and the specific needs of the shelterees. If any of the items listed are donated, including labor, the Applicant may offset the non-Federal share of its eligible Emergency Work projects in accordance with [Chapter 2:V.L](#). Sheltering and caring for household pets is only eligible while the pet owner is in an emergency shelter.

Shelter Facility Costs

- Facility lease or rent, including space for food preparation
- Utilities such as power, water, and telephone
- Minor facility modifications if necessary to make the facility habitable, compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), functional as a child care facility, or functional as an animal shelter
- Restoration to return the facility to its condition prior to use
- Generator costs
- Secure storage space for medical supplies

If an eligible State, Territorial, Tribal, or local government Applicant owns or leases the shelter facility, and a volunteer agency operates the shelter, the facility costs described above are eligible. However, the labor costs for the volunteer agency's workers are not eligible (except as a donated resource in accordance with the criteria [in Chapter 2:V.L](#)).

Shelter Staff Costs

- Medical staff
- Personal assistance service staff
- Veterinary staff
- Public Information Officer
- Social workers
- Food service workers
- Custodial and facilities staff
- National Guard personnel (See [Chapter 2:V.J](#))

Shelter Supplies and Commodities

- Hot and cold meals, snacks, beverages, and related supplies for survivors
- Cooking and serving supplies
- Food, water, and bowls for household pets and service and assistance animals
- Durable medical equipment

- Consumable medical supplies
- Medication for animal decontamination and parasite control
- Infant formula, baby food, and diapers
- Refrigerators, microwaves, and crock pots
- Cots, cribs, linens, blankets, pillows, tables, and chairs
- Crates, cages, leashes, and animal transport carriers
- Personal hygiene kits with items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, a toothbrush, towels, and washcloths
- Animal cleaning tables and supplies
- Televisions or radios – one per 50 shelterees
- Basic cable service
- Computers – one per 25 shelterees
- Internet service
- Washers and dryers – one of each per 50 shelterees
- Toys and books

Shelter Services

Shelter services are eligible for the time the facility is actively used to shelter survivors.

- Shelter management
- Supervision of paid and volunteer staff
- Cleaning the shelter, linens, and animal crates
- Shelter safety and security
- Use of equipment, such as ambulances, buses, trucks, or other vehicles, to provide sheltering support
- Phone banks for survivors
- Care for survivors with disabilities or access and functional needs, including the provision of the following personal assistance services:
 - Grooming, eating, walking, bathing, toileting, dressing, and undressing
 - Movement between a cot and wheelchair (transferring)
 - Maintaining health and safety
 - Taking medications
 - Communicating or accessing programs and services
- Emergency medical and veterinary services for sheltered survivors, household pets, and service and assistance animals, including:
 - Emergency and immediate life stabilizing care, including necessary prescriptions (not to exceed 30-day supply)
 - Triage, medically necessary tests, diagnosis, treatment, stabilization, and monitoring
 - First-aid assessment
 - Provision of first aid and health information
 - Care for evacuees with chronic conditions
 - Administering vaccinations to shelterees and workers for transmissible or contagious diseases, including, but not limited to, tetanus and hepatitis

- Administering vaccinations to household pets, and service and assistance animals, for transmissible or contagious diseases, including, but not limited to, bordetella (kennel cough)
- Medical waste disposal
- Mental-health care
- Outpatient costs for sheltered survivors requiring emergency life-sustaining treatment not available at the shelter for the period of time that a survivor is housed in a congregate shelter. Eligible outpatient services are limited to:
 - Physician services in a hospital outpatient department, urgent care center, or physician's office;
 - Related outpatient hospital services and supplies, including X-rays, laboratory and pathology services, and machine diagnostic tests; and
 - Local professional transport services to and from the nearest hospital equipped to adequately treat the emergency.
- Sheltering self-evacuees (self-evacuee transportation costs are not eligible)
- Costs paid to the American Red Cross (ARC) or other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) to operate shelters under a written agreement [costs that ARC or other NGOs incur under their own authorities (i.e., independent of any Federal, State, Tribal, or local request) are not eligible for reimbursement]

(b) Child Care Services

FEMA reimburses State, Territorial, Tribal, and local governments for the cost of providing licensed child care services to support sheltered populations. This includes the cost of the labor, facility, supplies, and commodities. Additionally, FEMA may provide PA funding for the cost of child care services that the eligible Applicant provides to other survivors, and beyond the period of emergency sheltering, with certification that temporary child care is necessary to meet immediate threats to life, public health and safety, or property.

Child care includes services such as:

- Day care for children
- Before- and after-school care

The Applicant may provide these services within a shelter facility or in a separate facility, as appropriate. FEMA PA staff will coordinate with IA staff to ensure there is no duplication with IHP assistance.