

Date:8/14/2020

Ms. Gracia B. Szczech
Region IV Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30341

RE: Reimbursement for Non-Congregate Sheltering
Disaster: DR-4486-FL, Florida Covid-19 Pandemic
Subrecipient: Franklin County
FIPS: 59-6000612

Subsequent to President Trump's March 13, 2020, Nationwide Emergency Declaration for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)/President Trump's approval of Major Disaster DR-4486-FL and the recognition that the extension of non-congregate sheltering may be necessary to save lives and protect health and safety during this Public Health Emergency, Franklin County requests approval for reimbursement of costs associated with non-congregate sheltering for DR-4486-FL, Florida Covid-19 Pandemic.

requests an extension of FEMA's approval letter of June 15, 2020 for non-congregate sheltering. Since FEMA's approval, we have housed 0 of individuals in non-congregate sheltering at an estimate costs of \$0, and are seeking additional time for reimbursement under Public Assistance category B – Emergency Protective Measures to continue taking measures to protect public health and safety. This request is being made to ensure public health and safety for both the individuals who are in non-congregate sheltering and to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Background:

When we were first approved for non-congregate sheltering, we had 2 people infected with COVID-19 and 0 number of fatalities as a result. The need for individuals who were in need at that time was 50 number. As of today, we have 446 number of people infected with COVID-19 and 3 number of fatalities as a result.

As provided in our original request we explored options such as college dorms, rental properties and hotels and found that our most effective and cost-effective option was hotels. We have reassessed and continue to utilize the current plan in place but for additional time.

The State of Florida Executive Order Number 20-83 is still in place as of March 24, 2020. We continue to work with our local Health Official to provide non-congregate sheltering to the individuals approved as a life saving measure and to stop the spread of COVID-19. Attached are the pertinent letters and Executive Orders.

As approved in FEMA's approval of June 15, 2020, we request continued approval of the following individuals:

Test positive for COVID-19 who do not require hospitalization but need isolation (including those exiting from hospitals).
o Have been exposed to COVID-19 who do not require hospitalization but whom warrant quarantine.
o Persons needing social distancing as a precautionary measure, as determined by public health officials, particularly for high-risk groups such as people over 65 or with certain underlying health conditions (respiratory, compromised immunities, chronic disease), this may include those whose living situation makes them unable to adhere to social distancing guidance.

Cost Analysis:

Pursuant to the Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG), Chapter 2: VI.B.10.b *Sheltering*, the Franklin County finds that non-congregate sheltering is the best available option for meeting the urgent public health needs of Covid-19 and to protect health and safety in the community.

Therefore, the costs associated with the use of non-congregate shelter option selected, i.e. hotel rooms for emergency sheltering from next 30day, rate at\$ 96.00 person.

Conclusion:

Because Franklin County has no shelter's for Hurricane evacuations and it's a mandatory Cat 2 evacuation county, we depend on other counties to host our residents. Our number of positives are on a steady climb in our county please see letter from our local Department of Health.

Franklin County actively chose non-congregate sheltering to address the immediate public health and safety needs of individuals that their situation will cause displacement separate from the normal sheltering plan. Franklin County conducted assessments to review best alternative possibilities. But due to Franklin County having no shelter's for Hurricane evacuations and it's a mandatory Cat 2 evacuation county, we depend on other counties to host our residents. Our number of positives are on a steady climb in our county please see letter from our local Department of Health, hoteling for the affected population is ultimately the best way forward to preserve the health and safety of the community and our host shelters.

We confirm our review of the Regional Administrator's Memo re: Non-Congregate Sheltering Delegation of Authority and accept all criteria. Specifically, Franklin County confirms that funding to support non-congregate sheltering has not been received by any other federal agency. Franklin County will follow FEMA's Procurement Under Grants Conducted Under Exigent or Emergency Circumstances guidance and include a termination for convenience clause in contracts. All applicable Environmental and Historic Preservation laws, regulations, and executive orders apply and will be adhered to as a condition of assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of this request under Public Assistance Emergency Protective Measures.

If you have any questions, please contact Pamela Brownell at 850-653-6748 or em3frank@fairpoint.net

Sincerely,

Noah Lockley Jr.
Chairman of the BOCC

Attachments:

1. State of Florida Office of the Governor Executive Order #20-83

2. State of Florida Department of Health Public Health Advisory
3. State of Florida Department of Health Declaration of Public Health Emergency

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To protect, promote & improve the health
of all people in Florida through integrated
state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

In Re:

EXTENSION OF SUSPENSION
OF STATUTES, RULES AND
ORDERS, MADE NECESSARY BY
COVID-19.

DOH No. 20-011

2020 JUN 30 PM 3:33
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

EMERGENCY ORDER

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, I declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order number 20-51; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida as a result of COVID-19, and allowing for the waiver of certain statutes and rules that prevent, hinder, or delay any necessary action in coping with the state of emergency caused by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued DOH Emergency Order 20-001 suspending certain rules and statutes; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, I issued DOH Emergency Order 20-002 suspending certain rules and statutes; and

Florida Department of Health
Office of the State Surgeon General
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-00 • Tallahassee, FL 32399-1701
PHONE: 850/245-4210 • FAX: 850/922-9453
FloridaHealth.gov

 Accredited Health Department
Public Health Accreditation Board

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-114, renewing Executive Order 20-52; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to waive certain statutes and rules of the Florida Department of Health in order to effectively respond to the emergency caused by COVID-19, including certain statutes or preventing the safe and efficient provision of health care services to patients in the state of Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SCOTT A. RIVKEES, M.D., pursuant to the authority granted by Executive Order No. 20-52, as extended by Executive Order No. 20-114, find that strict compliance with the provisions of certain regulatory statutes and rules prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business by the Florida Department of Health will prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency caused by COVID-19. In order to effectively respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 it is necessary to promulgate the following:

Section 1:

For purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of COVID-19, the provisions of DOH Emergency Order 20-001 are extended until the expiration of Executive Order No. 20-52, including any extensions thereof.

Section 2:

For purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of COVID-19, the provisions of DOH Emergency Order 20-002 are extended until the expiration of Executive Order No. 20-52, including any extensions thereof.

Section 3:

For purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of COVID-19, the provisions of sections 456.023(1)(c) and (2), Florida Statutes, are suspended to

the extent these provisions limit the rendition of services to: members, coaches, and staff of any sports teams or sports entities visiting Florida; any non-visiting sports teams or entities; or a specified team or entity rather than a league. For the purposes of the suspensions in this section, a sporting event may be of any duration. This suspension operates until the expiration of Executive Order No. 20-52, including any extensions thereof.

Because section 252.36(5)(a), Florida Statutes, allows the Governor to suspend the provisions of "any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for [the] conduct of state business," and because Section 4. B. of Executive Order No. 20-52 provides the State Surgeon General with the authority to issue this Emergency Order, the requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, do not apply to this Order. This order shall remain in effect as specified in each section above, unless otherwise modified by order of the State Surgeon General.

Executed this 30th day of June 2020, in Department of Health Offices,
Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.



Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE STATE SURGEON GENERAL
2020 APR 30 PM 3:05

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
RENEWAL OF DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, I issued a Declaration of Public Health Emergency in Florida, determining that COVID-19, is a threat to public health in Florida; and

WHEREAS, as of April 29, 2020, there have been 33,193 reported cases of COVID-19 in Florida, resulting in 5,419 hospitalizations and 1,218 deaths; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose a threat to public health in the State of Florida and requires that ongoing measures be taken to protect the public health.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott A. Rivkees, M.D., State Surgeon General, by virtue of the authority vested in me by section 381.00315, Florida Statutes, and with the concurrence of the Governor, re-declare that a public health emergency exists in the State of Florida. The Declaration of Public Health Emergency issued on March 1, 2020, incorporated herein by reference, is hereby renewed and all sections therein are reaffirmed.

Executed and issued this 30th day of April, 2020, at Department of Health offices, Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General

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Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

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**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that appears to occur through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, as of February 29, 2020, COVID-19 has spread throughout China and to 67 other countries and territories, including 62 cases within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that all states and territories implement aggressive measures to slow and contain transmission of COVID-19 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a public health emergency of international concern related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared that a public health emergency exists nationwide as a result of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, one Hillsborough County resident and one Manatee County resident have tested presumptively positive for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-51, declaring that appropriate measures to control the spread of COVID-19 in the State of Florida are necessary, and therefore directed that a Public Health Emergency be declared in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, implementation of basic precautions of infection control and prevention, including staying at home when ill and practicing respiratory and hand hygiene are necessary to slow or prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a communicable disease with significant morbidity and mortality, and presents a severe danger to public health; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a threat to public health in Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott A. Rivkees, M.D., State Surgeon General and State Health Officer, by virtue of Executive Order Number 20-51 issued by Governor Ron DeSantis, the authority vested in me by section 381.00315, Florida Statutes, and after consultation with

Governor Ron DeSantis and public health officials within the Department of Health, do hereby declare that a public health emergency exists in the State of Florida. In order to respond to this emergency, the following shall commence:

Section 1. In order to protect public health, I find it is necessary for the Florida Department of Health to request assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to address this public health emergency.

Section 2. In order to protect public health, I find it is necessary to advise individuals in the State of Florida that have traveled to an area that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued a Warning Level 3 or Alert Level 2 Travel Health Notice, or have been in close contact with an individual that has traveled to such an area, that develop symptoms of fever, cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing within 14 days of such travel or close contact should immediately contact the Florida Department of Health in their current county and self-isolate until cleared by the Florida Department of Health.

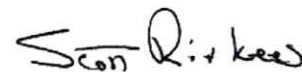
Section 3. In order to protect public health, I find it is necessary to advise any individuals who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 to contact their local county health department **prior to** travelling to any physician's office, emergency department, hospital, or urgent care center, to ensure proper protective measures are taken to prevent further risk of spread to others.

Section 4. In order to protect public health, I find it is necessary to remind health care providers, hospitals, and labs that they are required to immediately report all suspected cases of COVID-19 to the local county health department to ensure a prompt public health response to prevent disease among close contacts.

Section 5. In order to protect public health, the Florida Department of Health will maintain an Incident Management Team to coordinate the public health response for the State of Florida.

Section 6. In order to protect public health, the Florida Department of Health, at such time when necessary, may take actions to protect the public health, pursuant to the authority of section 381.00315, Florida Statutes, including quarantine, isolation and other interventions.

Issued this 1st day of March 2020, in Department of Health offices, Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.



Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General

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Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
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Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY**

In Re:

**PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR VULNERABLE
POPULATIONS, GATHERINGS OF PRIVATE
CITIZENS AND DENSITY OF THE WORKFORCE**

Pursuant to the authority granted in Section 381.00315(1), Florida Statutes, and Executive Order 20-83, I, Scott A. Rivkees, M.D., as State Surgeon General and State Health Officer, determine that a public health advisory is necessary as a result of COVID-19 to protect the public health and safety, and hereby issue the following Public Health Advisory.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

All individuals over the age of 65 and all individuals of any age with high-risk conditions should remain in their residence and take all measures to limit the risk of exposure to COVID-19. These measures include, but are not limited to: limiting contact with all persons outside of the home and distancing any unavoidable contact by a minimum of six feet; washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol; avoiding unnecessary touching of eyes, nose, and mouth, and washing hands prior to doing so; and cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces, including entryway door handles.

High-risk conditions include, but are not limited to: chronic lung disease; moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; immunocompromised status (as a result of cancer treatment, bone marrow or organ transplant, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, or prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications); cancer; severe obesity (body mass index [BMI]>40); diabetes; renal failure; and liver disease.


GATHERINGS OF PRIVATE CITIZENS

All individuals should cease participation in social or recreational gatherings of more than 10 people. For all gatherings of fewer than 10 people, individuals should practice social distancing by maintaining a distance of at least six feet from each other.

DENSITY OF THE WORKFORCE

All business owners, supervisors, managers and others in charge of conducting business in the state of Florida should allow telework of employees to the extent that can be accomplished without significantly disrupting the ability to conduct business. Employers should make every effort to reduce the onsite workforce to 50% capacity, where possible, to the extent that reduction can be accomplished without significantly disrupting the ability to conduct business.

Issued this 25th day of March 2020, in Department of Health offices,
Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.



Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 20-83

(Emergency Management - COVID-19 –Protective Measures for Vulnerable Populations,
Gatherings of Private Citizens and Density of the Workforce)

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, I issued Executive Order number 20-51 directing the Florida Department of Health to issue a Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, I issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), older adults and people of any age with serious underlying medical conditions are particularly at risk for severe illness or death due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Donald J. Trump and the CDC issued “15 Days to Slow the Spread” guidance advising individuals to avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people and advising older persons and persons with serious underlying health conditions to stay home and away from others; and

WHEREAS, as Governor, I am responsible for meeting the dangers presented to this state and its people by this emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section (1)(a) of the Florida Constitution, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order to take immediate effect:

Section 1.

A. I hereby direct the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory to all persons over 65 years of age urging them to stay home and to take such other measures as necessary to limit their risk of exposure to COVID-19.

B. I further direct the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory to persons that have a serious underlying medical condition that places them at a high risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Consistent with CDC guidance, such conditions include, but not limited to, chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; immunocompromised status, including those in cancer treatment; and severe obesity. The Surgeon General's advisory must urge these persons to stay home and to take such other measures as necessary to limit their risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Section 2. I hereby direct the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory against all social or recreational gatherings of 10 or more people.

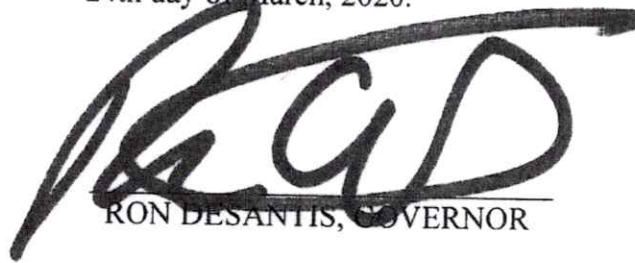
Section 3. I hereby direct the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory to those who can work remotely urging them to do so.

Section 4. Any action(s) taken or document(s) issued by the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer pursuant to this Executive Order shall not constitute a rule as defined in section 120.52(16), Florida Statutes, and are specifically exempted from any and all requirements or procedures outlined in chapter 120 and section 252.46, Florida Statutes.

Section 5. This Executive Order shall expire upon the expiration of Executive Order 20-52, including any extensions.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 24th day of March, 2020.


RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE

2020 MAR 24 PM 9:28



FEMA

March 18, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: Regional Administrator
Regions I – X

FROM: Keith Turi
Assistant Administrator
Recovery Directorate

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Turi".

SUBJECT: Non-Congregate Sheltering Delegation of Authority
Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide Waiver

Subsequent to President Trump's March 13, 2020, Nationwide Emergency Declaration for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recognizes that non-congregate sheltering may be necessary in this Public Health Emergency to save lives, to protect property and public health, and to ensure public safety, as well as to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe.

In accordance with section 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, eligible emergency protective measures taken to respond to the COVID-19 emergency at the direction or guidance of state, local, tribal, and territorial public health officials may be reimbursed under Category B of FEMA's Public Assistance program.

As FEMA's Assistant Administrator for Recovery, I have the authority to approve non-congregate sheltering under existing policy in FP 104-009-2, *Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide*.¹ Under the Nationwide Emergency Declaration, and for the duration of the Secretary of Health and Human Services' declaration of a Public Health Emergency for COVID-19, I delegate this authority to the Regional Administrators.

As part of this delegation, I am amending the criteria for approval of non-congregate sheltering, along with necessary support services to meet the needs of the public health emergency, to the following criteria:

- 1) The non-congregate sheltering must be at the direction of and documented through an official order signed by a state, local, tribal, or territorial public health official.
- 2) Any approval is limited to that which is reasonable and necessary to address the public health needs of the event and should not extend beyond the duration of the Public Health Emergency.
- 3) Applicants must follow FEMA's Procurement Under Grants Conducted Under Exigent or Emergency Circumstances guidance and include a termination for convenience clause in their contracts.²

¹ *Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide*, FP 104-009-2, at pg. 66 (April 2018).

² FEMA *Fact Sheet Procurement Under Grants Conducted Under Exigent or Emergency Circumstances*, March 16, 2020. Found at https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1584386517416-40bc24e5a2c4154c1ee44ed143e6491b/Procurement_During_EE_Circumstances_Fact_Sheet_508AB.pdf.

- 4) Prior to approval, the applicant must provide an analysis of the implementation options that were considered and a justification for the option selected.
- 5) The funding for non-congregate sheltering to meet the needs of the Public Health Emergency cannot be duplicated by another federal agency, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- 6) Applicable Environmental and Historic Preservation laws, regulations, and executive orders apply and must be adhered to as a condition of assistance.

If you have any questions about implementation, please contact Traci Brasher, Acting Public Assistance Division Director.

cc: Regional Recovery Division Directors, Regions I – X
Adrian Sevier, Chief Counsel
David Bibo, Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Response and Recovery
Jeffrey Dorko, Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Response and Recovery
Melissa Forbes, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate
Traci Brasher, Acting Division Director, Public Assistance
Tod Wells, Deputy Division Director, Public Assistance