

Florida Hurricane Recovery

Nov. 15, 2024

Key Messages

- Join the team that helps people before, during and after disasters. FEMA is hiring more than 600 local hire positions in Gainesville, Melbourne Beach, Sarasota and Tallahassee. Visit USAJobs.gov, type “FEMA” and “Local Hire” in the keywords section and “Florida” for location.
- Florida residents affected by Hurricane Helene or Milton do not need to wait for a visit from FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance teams before applying for assistance.
- The quickest way to apply is online at DisasterAssistance.gov or downloading the FEMA App. You can also apply by calling **800-621-3362**.
- Disaster Recovery Centers are open in **29 counties** to help survivors apply for assistance, answer questions and provide access to resources from other agencies. To find center locations go to fema.gov/drc or text “DRC” and a Zip Code to 43362.



By the Numbers

- To date, FEMA has approved a total of more than **\$988.3 million** to help Floridians with losses from Milton, Helene and Debby, including:
 - **\$435.2 million** approved for Hurricane Milton
 - **\$504.3 million** approved for Hurricane Helene
 - **\$48.8 million** approved for Hurricane Debby
- **17,747** Households for a total of more than **43,261** people are checked in to Transitional Sheltering Assistance hotels and motels.
- **7,563** Blue roofs have been installed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



FEMA

FEMA Seeks Property Owners for Hurricane Survivors in Florida Communities

- FEMA is seeking vendors for its [Direct Lease](#) and [Multifamily Lease and Repair](#) programs for temporary housing for individuals and families in Florida displaced by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. FEMA will host a virtual informational session starting at 1:00 p.m. EST on Thursday, Nov. 21 via Zoom. Vendors attending the event will learn of requirements for leasing directly through FEMA to house disaster survivors. Pre-registration is required. To register go to: fema.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_e6LvdiZxQ3ulbM2f9fsXHQ#/registration

Transitional Sheltering Assistance

- Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) is available for Floridians displaced by Hurricane Helene or Hurricane Milton in 52 counties and for tribal members of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians. Residents in these counties who have applied for disaster assistance may be eligible to stay temporarily in a hotel or motel paid for by FEMA. Applicants do not need to request TSA. FEMA will notify them of their eligibility through an automated phone call, text message, and/or email. Survivors who have been approved for TSA can find hotel options here: [Transitional Sheltering Assistance \(TSA\)](#)

Disaster Recovery Centers

- Disaster Recovery Centers are open in Brevard, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Columbia, Dixie, Glades, Hamilton, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Indian River, Jefferson, Lafayette, Manatee, Martin, Okeechobee, Orange, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, Suwannee, St. Lucie, Taylor and Volusia counties. All centers are accessible to people with disabilities or access and functional needs and are equipped with assistive technology. Survivors do **not** need to visit a center to apply for assistance. Survivors are encouraged to apply online at DisasterAssistance.gov or by downloading the [FEMA App](#). FEMA does not distribute cash at Disaster Recovery Centers.

U.S. Small Business Administration

- The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)** offers low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters, businesses and nonprofit organizations to cover losses not fully compensated by insurance and other sources. Apply online at SBA.gov/disaster. Disaster loan information and application forms can also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.

How to Apply for FEMA Assistance

- If you sustained damage or loss from Hurricanes Milton, Helene or Debby, [FEMA may be able to help](#). You may be eligible for financial assistance for displacement, serious needs, temporary lodging, basic home repairs, personal property losses and other uninsured disaster-related expenses.
 - ✓ Quickest way to apply is online at DisasterAssistance.gov.
 - ✓ Or use the [FEMA App](#) for mobile devices.
 - ✓ You can also call the FEMA helpline at **800-621-3362**.
- 2024 Application deadlines: **Hurricane Helene Nov. 27; Hurricane Milton Dec. 11**

Additional Resources

- **Activate Hope:** Displaced survivors can apply for State Non-Congregate Sheltering by visiting the Activate Hope website at hopeflorida.com and filling out the Assistance Request Form or by calling the Hope Florida support line at 833-GET-HOPE (833-438-4673).
- **FDEM Statewide Debris Dashboard:** [Debris Survey Results \(Milton\)](#).
- **Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA):** If you lost your job or had a break in employment, self-employment, or business as a direct result of the recent hurricanes, visit [Disaster Unemployment Assistance - FloridaJobs.org](https://DisasterUnemploymentAssistance-FloridaJobs.org) to learn about benefit money from Disaster Unemployment Assistance.
- **Clean & Sanitize:** FEMA may be able to provide up to \$300 in one-time financial assistance to help with cleanup. [Clean and Sanitize Assistance | FEMA.gov](#).
- **Multi-Agency Resource Centers:** Florida Division of Emergency Management and local communities are operating these centers to assist residents with storm recovery. FEMA specialists are available at most centers.
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture/Farm Services Agency:** [emergency disaster designation declaration process-factsheet.pdf](#)
- **FEMA & Citizenship:** You or a member of your household [must be U.S. citizen, non-U.S. citizen national or qualified non-citizen](#) to apply for FEMA assistance.
- **Be Alert to Fraud:** Con artists and criminals may try to obtain money or steal personal information through fraud or identity theft after disasters. [Be Alert to Fraud After Florida Hurricanes | FEMA.gov](#)
- **FEMA Rumor Response:** Know what's true and what isn't. [Hurricane Rumor Response | FEMA.gov](#)
- **National Flood Insurance Program** [Installment Plan FAQs | FEMA.gov](#)
- [Small Business Hurricane Recovery Grant Program FAQs | U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation](#)
- [Mental health resources for Floridians](#)
- **For help with cleanup:** Call 833-GET HOPE
- [Tips for Mold Cleanup](#)
- **Florida Division of Emergency Management Updates:** floridadisaster.org/disaster-updates/storm-updates/
- **Disaster Legal Hotline:** 833-514-2940