

Region 1 & 2 Applicant Briefing

March 23, 2020

Question: Is it possible to download the slide presentation?

Response: Applicant Briefing Slide deck will be provided to all attendees who have provided their email and will be posted later this week on our website,
https://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/disasters/public_assistance.html

Question: Would laptops for working from home eligible for reimbursement?

Response: The purchase of equipment and supplies allowing for the protection of public health and safety is eligible under the FEMA PA program. Equipment, as defined by FEMA, may be subject to an offset for salvage value. The Applicant needs to provide the details for the who/what/when/where/why.

Question: Is there more detail about which private nonprofits are actually eligible for this program?

Response: Please refer to pages 10-14 in the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide, https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a038bbef9081cd7dfe7538e7751aa9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf

Question: The email on 3.13 stated we should submit an RPA and apply under PA COVID-19EM. There was not a drop down for that?

Response: The event shows up in EMGrants Pro as, 3480 (PA) COVID-19 EM.

Question: We are sequestering critical employees and will be paying for 24 hours/day. They are working 12 on/12 off. Will all time above the typical 40 hour week be eligible under this declaration?

Response: The answer is dependent on your personnel policies. Please review pages 23-26 of the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide, https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a038bbef9081cd7dfe7538e7751aa9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf.

Question: Lost Revenue Eligible? – please review again

Response: Lost Revenue is not an eligible expense under the FEMA Public Assistance program.

The Assistant Administrator for the Disaster Assistance Directorate may make a Community Disaster Loan (CDL) to any local government which has suffered a substantial loss of tax and other revenues as a result of a major disaster and which demonstrates a need for Federal financial assistance in order to

perform its governmental functions. The state of Iowa has submitted a request to the President for a Major Disaster Declaration as a result of this incident, the request is currently pending. Until a Major Disaster Declaration is received, we are unable to request the CDL program be turned on.

Economic Injury Disaster Loans: If you have suffered substantial economic injury and are one of the following types of businesses located in a declared disaster area, you may be eligible for an SBA

Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL):

Small Business

Small agricultural cooperative

Most private nonprofit organizations

<https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Information/EIDLloans>

Question: IF we completed a Preliminary Disaster Assessment for previous (flood) events, that doesn't apply to this event, correct? The PDA was a question in the RPA, if I remember correctly. I wasn't sure if i should say yes or no.

Response: Preliminary Damage Assessments are not required for EM3480. Answer No. The PDA is not required for this event.

Question: If we are paying staff who report while schools are closed a premium of 1.5 times their regular rate, but they aren't working more than 40 hours, would we be able to claim the additional .5 times the regular rate for hours worked?

Response: The answer is dependent on the circumstances and your personnel policies. Please review pages 23-26 of the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide, https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a038bbef9081cd7dfe7538e7751aa9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf.

Question: can you explain the post saying The event shows up in EMGrants Pro as, 3480 (PA) COVID-19 EM. - is that a web site?

Response: EMGrants Pro is Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management's grant management system. Applicants can register for access to the system and submit their Request for Public Assistance (RPA).

Question: I did not clearly understand eligibility of labor costs- is regular time labor eligible while performing eligible activities such as disinfection of public facilities?

Response: The answer is dependent on the type of employee. Please review pages 23-26 of the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide, https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a038bbef9081cd7dfe7538e7751aa9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf.

Emergency Work Labor Eligibility		
Budgeted Employees	Overtime	Straight-Time
Permanent employee	☑	
Seasonal employee working during normal season of employment	☑	
Unbudgeted Employees	Overtime	Straight-Time
Essential employee called back from administrative leave	☑	☑
Permanent employee funded from external source	☑	☑
Temporary employee hired to perform eligible work	☑	☑
Seasonal employee working outside normal season of employment	☑	☑

Region 3 & 4 Applicant Briefing

March 24, 2020

Question: Many Businesses, County and City Governments are splitting staff and having staff work from home in an effort to create redundancy. Will salaries of employees forced to work from home be an eligible expense?

Response: The work activities of the employees will need to be directly related to the response to COVID-19 and protecting public health and safety to be eligible under the FEMA Public Assistance program.

Question: Also wondering if there are public sewer facilities that fail due to disposal of what is not allowed in the sewer if that cost could be considered?

Response: Only Emergency work is eligible for the COVID-19 event. Damage to sewer facilities and the need for repair is considered permanent work and is not an eligible activity under the emergency declaration.

Question: We have an ambulance service. Regarding Emergency medical transport, how will we substantiate that it's directly related to COVID19?

Response: To claim Emergency medical transport, the City will be required to track the use of the ambulance in direct relation to a call in response for COVID-19.

Question: What happens if we open a project but then do not make the minimum amount?

Response: You can either withdraw the project or FEMA will make the project ineligible.