



Potential Public Assistance Applicants:

On June 16, 2022, a Major Disaster Declaration was issued by President Biden for Carbon, Park, and Stillwater Counties, triggering the release of Federal funds to help communities recover from the flooding that occurred June 10, 2022, and is continuing. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program was authorized for this disaster and provides grants to state and local governments and certain nonprofit entities to assist them with the response to and recovery from disasters. Specifically, the program aids with debris removal, emergency protective measures, and permanent restoration of infrastructure.

To receive federal reimbursement, create an account and complete a Request for Public Assistance (RPA) in the **FEMA Grants Portal** (www.grantee.fema.gov) within 30 days of the declaration. FEMA may extend the deadline. Once the RPA is submitted, FEMA program delivery managers (PDMG) will work with personnel in your agency to develop specific projects for consideration of reimbursement. You will need to designate a primary and alternate point of contact for your agency in the Grants Portal.

To facilitate the processing of funding, FEMA separates emergency work, which addresses an immediate threat, into two categories (debris removal and emergency protective measures) and Permanent Work, for the restoration of eligible facilities, into five categories (roads/bridges, water control facilities, buildings/equipment, utilities, and parks, recreational, and other) based on general types of facilities.

Not all costs incurred as a result of the incident are eligible. To be eligible, costs must be:

- Directly tied to the performance of eligible work
- Adequately documented
- Reduced by all applicable credits, such as insurance proceeds and salvage values
- Authorized and not prohibited under Federal or SLTT government laws or regulations
- Consistent with the Applicant's internal policies, regulations, and procedures that apply uniformly to both Federal awards and other activities of the Applicant
- Necessary and reasonable to accomplish the work properly and efficiently

Applicants are responsible for providing documentation demonstrating the claimed costs are reasonable. Following the approved request, FEMA and the applicants will conduct additional meetings to discuss disaster damages and project formulation. Applicants must identify and report damage to FEMA within the 60-day regulatory timeframe. FEMA may extend the deadline with a written request from the State.

Informational documents are available for your convenience. The **Grants Portal Account and Request for Public Assistance, Public Assistance Applicant Quick Guide** can assist with completing the RPA in the Grants Portal and the **PA Public Assistance 101** brochure provides an overview of the PA grant program.

Thank you for your response and recovery efforts in ensuring the safety of Montana citizens during this event. Your dedication throughout this situation is truly commendable. If you have further questions, please contact:

- Jake Ganieany, at (406) 417-9234 or Jake.Ganieany@mt.gov
- Sara Hartley, at (406) 417-9238 or Sara.Hartley@mt.gov
- Montana Disaster & Emergency Services, at MTDES@mt.gov