

Topic	Sub-Topic v2	Questions	Answer for SharePoint	Date Posted
CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	Is extra sanitizing / disinfecting / cleaning of City facilities because of COVID-19 by our custodial vendor would be eligible work under Category B.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19. </li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/25/2020
EM CAP	EM CAP	1. \$5M cap for EM. States are asking is that going to be waived	The \$5 million amount can be exceeded. It requires congressional notification, which is being handled at FEMA Headquarters. Will not impact State or locals ability to respond.	3/18/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Time Extension	2. RPAs extension states are foreseeing needing more with the number of applicant they are expecting	Updated answer on March 21, 2020: The deadline to submit the Request for Public Assistance (RPA) for the COVID-19 the RPA deadline is nationally extended and will remain open for the duration of the Public Health Emergency, as declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, unless an earlier deadline is deemed appropriate by the Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate. Reference Memorandum from the Assistant Administrator of the Recovery Directorate, dated March 20, 2020 ( <a href="https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx">https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx</a> )	3/18/2020
Grants Manager	Training	3. Grants portal training for new applicants states are asking how that will happen	Independent Study Course available to Applicants on Grants Portal (GP) at: <a href="https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-1002">https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-1002</a> Scheduling training for Regional GP Managers to increase capacity. We have User Manuals and Mini-Guides which are step-by-step instructions which will be distributed for training materials. Developing virtual 'how-to' training, with the initial focus on GP access and RPA submission. Developing Train-the-Trainer curriculum to increase capacity. Anticipate all virtual delivery. Anticipate new GP training for Recipient & Subrecipient delivery week of March 23	3/18/2020
Cost Share	Cost Share	4. 90/10 cost share states are asking whether or not that is being considered	Under Emergency Declarations, 44 CFR § 206.65, Federal share for assistance provided shall not be less than 75 percent of the eligible costs. At this time, FEMA assistance is approved at a 75/25 percent cost share.	3/18/2020
General Information	HHS/CDC DOB	5. Clear Cat B eligibility: states are asking for FEMA ramp up and giving them clear guidelines on what is covered by FEMA and not by HHS and what is funding runs out from activities also covered by FEMA	FEMA is working with HHS and CDC to determine which Agency potentially can provide federal assistance; however, with no specific line items of what is covered, PA should use the general Cat B eligibility guidelines and then PA will work out who can pay for what. If HHS is paying for it and PA finds that out later, it will likely be in the applicant's best interest to go with HHS since it's 100%. HQ is in the process of developing a PA Policy Fact Sheet on Category B - Emergency Protective Eligibility.	3/18/2020
IA Related		7. IA IHP DUA states are asking again since no PDA what is the requirement to show burden beyond their capabilities.	DUA declarations consideration guidance is being drafted and will be provided NLT 3/20	3/18/2020
Management Cost	Management Cost	How are we determining initial management cost award obligations for recipients? Existing guidance states initial obligations should use the state per capita indicator. Is this still valid for Ems? Thanks in advance!	Yes, the Public Assistance Management Costs (Interim) FEMA Recovery Policy FP 104-11-2, is applicable to Emergency Declarations under Stafford Act's Section 502. ( <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/174133">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/174133</a> )	3/18/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	The state is wondering if Day Care costs would be reimbursable. The scenario is the state or other government agencies setting up or establishing Day Care facilities for State Agency works and first responders.	Child care costs for health care workers, first responders, and essential employees is the not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and therefore is not eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	2. Are cleaning supplies (disinfecting agents, sanitizer supplies, PPE for cleaning staff) and additional increased costs (staff overtime, contract cleaning, etc.) for schools who <b>have a positive</b> or presumptive positive eligible under CAT B?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19. </li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/25/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	2a. Are the cleaning supplies and additional costs for schools who take precautionary measures, where <b>no positive or presumptive positive</b> COVID-19 has occurred eligible under CAT B?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19. </li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/25/2020
Request for Public Assistance	General Eligibility	4. Who are the eligible applicants and eligible activities under the FEMA PA program?	See Fact Sheet: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Eligible Emergency Protective Measures, dated March 19, 2020. ( <a href="https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx?InitialTabId=Ribbon%2EDocument&amp;VisibilityContext=WSSTabPersistence">https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx?InitialTabId=Ribbon%2EDocument&amp;VisibilityContext=WSSTabPersistence</a> )	4/2/2020

Procurement	Emergency Exigent	6. Procurement procedures under emergency exigent circumstances. Is there a way for procurement regs to be waived or suspended (from 2 CFR §300) for any purchase or acquisition that falls under the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT) during this event. The current SAT is \$500,000.	<p>Please see the Procurement Under EE Circumstances Memo (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350</a>). Per the Memo, for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, which began on January 27, 2020, “local governments, tribal governments, nonprofits, and other non-state entities may proceed with new and existing noncompetitively procured contracts in order to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threats created by emergency situations for 1) Emergency Protective measures under FEMA’s Public Assistance Program and 2) Use of FEMA non-disaster grant funds by non-state recipients and sub-recipients to respond to or address COVID-19.” It has been determined that emergency and exigent circumstances exist based on the President’s Nationwide Emergency Declaration and the Secretary of the Health and Human Services’ (HHS) declaration of a Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 and therefore, non-state entities are permitted to non-competitively procure contracts (sole source) pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.320(f)(2) for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency as determined by HHS.</p> <p>Please note that the federal procurement under grant regulations are found in 2 CFR § 200.317-326. Additionally the current SAT is \$250,000, and not \$500,000.</p> <p>Also, please see the Procurement During EE Circumstances Fact Sheet (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350</a>) for specifics on sole sourcing to ensure compliance with the remainder of the applicable federal procurement under grant regulations.</p>	3/18/2020
Procurement	Emergency Exigent	7. What is the criteria and timeline for exigent procurement?	<p>Please see the Procurement Under EE Circumstances Memo and Fact Sheet (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350</a>). Per the Memo, for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, which began on January 27, 2020, “local governments, tribal governments, nonprofits, and other non-state entities may proceed with new and existing noncompetitively procured contracts in order to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threats created by emergency situations for 1) Emergency Protective measures under FEMA’s Public Assistance Program and 2) Use of FEMA non-disaster grant funds by non-state recipients and sub-recipients to respond to or address COVID-19.” It has been determined that emergency and exigent circumstances exist based on the President’s Nationwide Emergency Declaration and the Secretary of the Health and Human Services’ (HHS) declaration of a Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 and therefore, non-state entities are permitted to non-competitively procure contracts (sole source) pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.320(f)(2) for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency as determined by HHS.</p>	3/18/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance	What is the RPA process for this declaration?	Use normal RPA process. A package of documents to assist applicants with RPAs will be available in Grants Portal in the next several days (answer posted March 18, 2020).	3/18/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance	What is the RPA deadline for this declaration? Are there any other critical deadlines?	<p>Updated answer on March 21, 2020: The deadline to submit the Request for Public Assistance (RPA) for the COVID-19 the RPA deadline is nationally extended and will remain open for the duration of the Public Health Emergency, as declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, unless an earlier deadline is deemed appropriate by the Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate. Reference Memorandum from the Assistant Administrator of the Recovery Directorate, dated March 20, 2020 (<a href="https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx">https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx</a>)</p>	3/18/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Incident Period	What is the start date for cost tracking?	Although the declaration occurred on March 13. The incident period started January 20th. Follow regular policy guidance from PAPPG on charging and tracking costs.	3/18/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	Is extra sanitation of schools/facilities an "increased operational cost" or will it be considered. Similar/related to exigent circumstances.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19. </li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/25/2020
Grants Manager	Funding	2. How quickly will reimbursement be expedited for these costs? (Note: State Legislature in recess)	Expedited projects can be processed in less than a week and have been processed as fast as two days when they state quickly provides information and responds to requests.	3/18/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	Actual Questions (MS) School Districts - Whether we are out for a week or out for eight weeks, each district will be required to deep clean classrooms, restrooms, cafeterias, auditoriums, playground equipment, buses, and many other areas/things in order to do our due diligence to keep our students and staff as safe as possible. That said, there will be thousands and thousands of extra dollars spend due to the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. Request specific guidance for school districts specifically related to cleaning supplies, use of contractors, and the many things that the CDC and MSDH are advising in regards to cleaning facilities and the things that will be required to return to school. There are many things that will be required of us as school districts before we can return to any type normalcy. There is also the thought that the schools being closed addresses the immediate threat but if the CDC cannot confirm how long the virus lives on surfaces is it safe to assume that costs for cleaning should be eligible regardless of facilities being closed for an extended period of time?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19. </li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/25/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance	Question regarding a recommendation on process Have we looked at the potential to have the state be the sole RPA submitted similar to a host state process to cut down on the amount of RPAs that may come in and allow the state to be the only applicant and have the state work directly with entities?	Some states have police powers designated to the lowest level government so we cannot do this across the board. For Regions that have states for which this could work it would be could to have regions coordinate directly with their states on whether there are entities that could be rolled up to the county or state level and the county or state would take legal authority for the activities in those jurisdictions and set up their own written agreements for paying for items directly or via Mutual Aid agreements, etc.	3/18/2020
General Information	PDMG	With the latest technology involving Skype, Microsoft Team, access to systems from remote locations, increase in PDMG Skill level will any consideration be given to PDMGs transitioning from hotels and working remote from home to reduce the risk of coronavirus and support initiative for businesses to transition employees to work from home?	FOD is developing guidance for JFOs/currently deployed staff.	3/18/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	Pastors are asking if they can get be reimbursed for the deep cleaning and sanitizing of their buildings when a confirmed case is reported, as their insurance does not cover that. They think that would be considered Category B: Emergency Protective Measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19.</li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	<p>We have a HOT Congressional Inquiry in regards to large scale industrial cleaning for public buildings and are in need of your assistance.</p> <p>A couple of mayors are trying to figure out if large scale industrial cleaning for public buildings would be considered Class B reimbursements for emergency protective measures. They spoke to FDEM who suggested that it would be, but needed guidance from FEMA to know for certain.</p> <p>Can you provide guidance on this?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19.</li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/25/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>Question - If a community is using Volunteer Fire Department personnel to backfill a person(s) out from COVID-19, AND they are paying the VFD person, isn't the VFD salary and benefits eligible while backfilling?</p> <p>Is the answer: No. Backfill Employees - The Applicant may need to temporarily replace an employee who is responding to the incident. Overtime costs for the backfill employee are eligible even if the backfill employee is not performing eligible work as long as the employee that he/she is replacing is performing eligible Emergency Work.</p>	<p>Overtime for the backfill employee is eligible as long as the employee the backfill employee is replacing is performing eligible emergency work. Straight time would also be eligible if the backfill employee is a contracted or temporary employee. In this case, it hinges on whether the VFD person functioning as the backfill employee is otherwise employed by the Applicant or is only employed while the employee he/she is replacing is unavailable due to the performance of eligible disaster-related emergency work. See PAPPG (V3.1), Chapter 2:V.A.2 on pages 24-25.</p>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>Employees with COVID-19 who run out of sick time, can they still be compensated for time they have no sick leave for, as well as can the community get reimbursed for this?</p> <p>Is the answer: no eligible work being performed.</p>	<p>No, FEMA cannot provide PA funding to reimburse costs associated with the salary and benefits of an employee on leave, regardless of the nature of the leave (in this case, sick leave due to testing positive for COVID-19). FEMA cannot provide PA funding for an employee out sick that has run out of leave or does not otherwise have any leave. Administrative leave or similar labor costs incurred for employees sent home or told not to report due to emergency conditions are not eligible. See PAPPG (V3.1), Chapter 2:V.A.2 on page 25.</p>	3/29/2020
TAC	Remote Work	Is there official guidance on whether the TAC can work from home?	<p>PA's Contracts and Financial Management Branch is providing guidance to the Task Monitors. That guidance is posted under Coronavirus PA - it is under Program Delivery's folder.</p> <p>(<a href="https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Program%20Delivery/TAC%20Scenario%20Decision%20COAs%20for%20COVID-19%20(03.18.20_v2).pdf">https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Program%20Delivery/TAC%20Scenario%20Decision%20COAs%20for%20COVID-19%20(03.18.20_v2).pdf</a>)</p>	3/18/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Charter Flights to Transport Residents	State has posed the following:  Scenario A state want reimbursement under Category B of the Stafford Act for chartering flights to return residents of the state from other state. The residents will be:  A. Residents who have been exposed to COVID-19 and will be quarantined upon their return to their home state; and or B. Residents who have been quarantined in other states and found non-symptomatic; and or C. Residents who have tested positive for COVID-19 and will be treated in their home state.	These costs may be eligible for short-term DFA for emergency public transportation. This request should be submitted via a Resource Request form through the applicable State for submission to the RRCC and NRCC for evaluation of a mission assignment. The request should identify the immediate threat to lives, public health, or safety that these measures eliminate or lessen.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	EOC	Are EOC operations for the COVID-19 eligible for reimbursement by FEMA under the Stafford Act?	COVID-19 EPM Fact Sheet issued 3/19/2020 states that EOC operations are eligible.	3/29/2020
Grants Manager	Documentation	For those who are anticipating tracking medical waste, should anything specific be done?	Applicants should be prepared to provide information about the activities undertaken and associated costs of COVID-19 response. Applicants should be prepared to provide information about the activities conducted, the resources used to complete those activities, and the associated costs. Examples of resources used could be existing or temporary employees (often called Force Account Labor), existing supply or stock (often called Force Account Material), Contracts, or Mutual Aid.  Unfortunately, at this time we do not currently have specific guidance on medical waste.	3/20/2020
Grants Manager	Equipment Rate	What schedule of equipment rates should be used?	The equipment rate will vary based on the disaster. Please reach out to your contact at CRC Central to best determine the specific equipment rate for the particular disaster you are referencing. Specifically, for the COVID 19 Declarations, please use FEMA Schedule of Equipment Rates dated August 27, 2019, ( <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/136901">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/136901</a> ).	3/20/2020
Emergency Declaration	Tribal	The following question was forwarded to is from our PA Tribal Team Lead, as a follow up from tribes in our Region who are asking for clarification on the requirement to activate their emergency plan, when the COVID dec was issued at the direction of the President and not at their request. The attached states that a tribal government must confirm activation of its emergency plan to receive assistance as a Recipient.  However, this regulation relied upon for this requirement appears to apply to the State or tribe's request for a declaration:  44 CFR 206.35 (C) (1) Confirmation that the Governor has taken appropriate action under State law and directed the execution of the State emergency plan;  Since the declaration is already in place, is activation of an emergency plan still a requirement? Section 501 (b) nor 502 of Stafford specify that in this type of declaration the State emergency plan be activated. Can clarification be issued as to the basis for this requirement?	The FEMA-Tribe Agreement (FTA) includes a certification that the Tribal Chief Executive directed execution of the plan. Signing the FTA will be sufficient. If the circumstances aren't such that the tribe has needed to execute its plan, then it is unlikely that they require supplemental federal assistance.	3/20/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	Would establishing/contracting childcare services for critical/essential employees be considered eligible under CAT B?	Child care costs for health care workers, first responders, and essential employees is the not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and therefore is not eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Grant Manager	We are starting to get RPAs submitted in Grants Manager/Portal in Region V. Is there any reason we should be holding off on approving these RPAs in GM – meaning should we be waiting for the new COVID-19 PA processing guidance to come out from HQ, or do we need to wait for any functionality in GM/GP to be updated to allow for direct applications, before we can approve RPAs?	Please move forward with evaluating the RPAs in GM. PNP RPAs should be evaluated like they would be in any other incident. Regions may want to consider managing expectations based on the limited work that PNPs can be reimbursed for but RPAs can and should be approved if the PNP is an eligible applicant.	3/20/2020
TAC	Training	1. PA TAC Training: With maximized telework, mini micro training courses are being offered to all staff on connectivity, conferencing abilities and options, and even a Grants Manager adobe connect training. These are all beneficial for TACs given the scenario we are in. How are we to go about making training mandatory to ensure the consistency for telework?	We can recommend to the contractors that additional training is available, but we cannot make it mandatory.	3/22/2020
TAC	Remote Work	2. PA TAC Remote Work ROR: Should Remote ROR initiates, may TACs currently on rotations remain at ROR, if return date is near the initiation of instituting remote ROR?	If it is known that the operation is instituting remote work, then the individuals currently on rotations can remain at their ROR. They can either remain on rotation or, as other operations have implemented, ship the equipment to the individuals (at FEMA's expense) so that they can support remotely.	3/22/2020
TAC	Travel	3. PA TAC Travel: TACs with previously approved rotations (airline tickets already purchased...can we utilize those tickets for them to return to ROR, should it initiate?	The contractors can utilize already purchased tickets to return to their ROR. The Government will cover the change fees.	3/22/2020

TAC	Travel	3. PA TAC Travel: Can we have TACs change the dates to accommodate the need to return ROR (should it initiates) even if shy of a few days? Would this option be available as it may serve as a cost savings to the contract.?	The contractors can change their dates to accommodate the need to return to their ROR.	3/22/2020
General Information		Can Regional Q & A's be uploaded to the SharePoint site?	Regional Q & A's can be provided to the COVID19PAOperations@fema.dhs.gov mailbox for posting on the ESW site	3/20/2020
TAC	Remote Work	Can TAC's perform their duties remotely?	Yes, TACs who can perform their duties remotely are authorized to work at an alternate work site (e.g. Residence of Record or hotel). We request the region/disasters identify positions that cannot be performed remotely ASAP. If a TAC's duties can be performed remotely, please consider that they do so from their ROR instead of a hotel. Lastly, all contractor employees need to be logged into Skype at all times while they are working, no exceptions. We will be using Skype to the maximum extent for meetings and communications Please see the COVID-19 PA-TAC CONTRACTOR SCENARIO and COAs document for additional information ( <a href="https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx">https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx</a> )	3/20/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Non-Congregate Sheltering	Does non-congregate sheltering delegation to Regional Administrator's require pre-approval?	The requirement for pre-approval still applies. The memo delegated the approval authority to the Region, but did not alter the requirement that FEMA has to pre-approve non-congregate sheltering before the work actually takes place. If work has already started, the authority to approve a waiver is delegated to the Region. Please reference the Non-Congregate Sheltering Delegation of Authority Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide Waiver ( <a href="https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx">https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx</a> )	3/20/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Laptop/Software	Is the acquisition of laptops for our county employees to equip them to work from home in order to maintain county government business continuity, due to COVID-19 a Disaster Category B purchase?	The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	1. As the State focuses more and more on teleworking and shutting down facilities, would the costs associated with equipment purchases (printers, monitors, laptops, etc.) as well as costs for VPN services to increase cyber security be eligible under this current EM declaration?	The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	2. As schools move to online for the considerable future, are the purchase of computers, laptops, internet service and other related expenses associated with online teaching and learning eligible under Category B Public Assistance?	The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	We are looking at providing child care services to essential employees for our city through our Parks Department. Would you be able to point me in the direction for tracking these costs? The fact sheet talked about non-congregate and pet, but what about child care?	Child care costs for health care workers, first responders, and essential employees is the not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and would not be eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020
Grants Manager	Documentation	Is this the correct PA RFA Form to use? It was shared in this week's FEMA Bulletin but appears to have expired December 2019 ("Request for Public Assistance" (FF 90-49) exp. Dec 2019, <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/10145?id=2658">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/10145?id=2658</a> )	That's the correct form. All PA forms have expired, but OMB has given us approval to continue using them. OMB is currently reviewing them to give us an official 3-year extension.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	Would establishing/contracting childcare services for critical/essential employees under be eligible? Further more, is the use of non-standard force account labor be eligible? And if so, how should the applicant track these costs?	Child care costs for health care workers, first responders, and essential employees is the not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and would not be eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	Could an applicant purchase equipment/services in order to initiate continuity of government?	The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	Could a jurisdiction purchase cleaning/sanitation supplies for their citizens if local businesses run out.	This is not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and therefore would not be eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Utility Bill for Residents	Could a jurisdiction pay/waive the utility bills for residents directly and indirectly affected by COVID-19 under CAT B measures?	Payment of residents' utility bills is not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and therefore would not be eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures. Additionally, it is not an emergency protective measure that is required as a direct result of a Public Health Emergency in communities.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	DOB	In the factsheet released by FEMA regarding eligible emergency protective measures, it states that FEMA will not duplicate any assistance provided by HHS/CDC. Could funding sources other than those from HHS and CDC be used?	Section 312 Duplication of Benefits, under the Stafford Act applies when an Applicant receives funding from another source for the same work that FEMA funded, FEMA reduces the eligible cost or de-obligates funding to prevent a duplication of benefits. See PAPPG V3.1, page 39-41 for additional information ( <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/111781">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/111781</a> )	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate sheltering	<p>1. Is the treatment of non-congregate sheltering different for this disaster than for your typical disaster?</p> <p>2. Can states/tribes/territories request reimbursement for non-congregate sheltering in any declared disaster?</p> <p>3. Is this time different as regards reimbursement for non-congregate sheltering?</p>	<p>A1. FEMA is expediting decision making on non-congregate sheltering in the context of this national health emergency. This incident has unprecedented challenges and FEMA is applying our authorities to meet the needs of those affected and to help States and localities protect public health and safety in this pandemic.</p> <p>A2. When this type of assistance is authorized in an emergency or major declarations, FEMA has established policy and processes for State, localities, tribes and territories to request non-congregate sheltering.</p> <p>A3. This incident is presenting some unique challenges in particular with regard to health and medical concerns. FEMA will provide all of the assistance we can under our authorities and is coordinating with HHS and CDC to help make sure needs are being met.</p>	3/22/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	Question is whether childcare costs incurred by the city on behalf of first responders (IFD, IMPD, EMS), which may be necessary in order to keep them working, will be reimbursable by disaster relief funds. Please advise on draft response below / other guidance.	Child care costs for health care workers, first responders, and essential employees is the not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and would not be eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	Received question from State. Is child care services eligible for first responder children	Child care costs for health care workers, first responders, and essential employees is the not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and would not be eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	Could you please see if the FEMA could allow some flexibility with the COVID PA funds so that they could be used to staff water/waste water facilities in the case that the operator(s) becomes ill and outside folks need to be brought in to staff the facilities. This would insure continuity of operations similar to getting the physical structure up and running after a natural disaster. If there is the need for the match requirement the "revolved" part of the SRF could be used per our MOU. This would be a great help for our state and localities.	Increased operating costs are generally ineligible for public entities except in limited circumstances such as those relating specifically to an eligible emergency action to save lives or protect public health and safety. Increased operating costs for PNPs are also generally ineligible unless the PNP is performing an emergency service at the request of the responsible government entity. The work of operating the facility is not directly related to the incident therefore, bringing on new/contracted staff to backfill existing employees that become ill would not be eligible for reimbursement as a Public Assistance Category B Emergency Protective Measure.	3/29/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance	Q: How do you apply for FEMA Public Assistance?	<p>A: Interested eligible applicants should submit a Request for Public Assistance, FEMA Form 009-0-49, (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/10145">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/10145</a>) through their State Office of Emergency Management. In addition, eligible applicants that already have an account can apply through the online FEMA Grants Portal (<a href="https://grantee.fema.gov/">https://grantee.fema.gov/</a>). If you don't have an account, eligible applicants can reach out to your State Emergency Management representative.</p> <p>Additionally, FEMA will be issuing a PNP Fact Sheet early next week.</p> <p>If you're interested in a comprehensive breakdown of Public Assistance policy, check out FEMA's PA Program and Policy Guide, (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-policy-and-guidance#">https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-policy-and-guidance#</a>). Pages 9 – 13 can be referenced for applicant eligibility requirements.</p>	3/22/2020



Procurement	Emergency Exigent	<p>4. Can you please clarify what is meant by the last sentence of the "Procurement Under EE Circumstances Memo" where it states that non-disaster grant funds can be used for Cat B work? Our current understanding is that if the States needs to access currently obligated funds from non-disaster grants to respond to this emergency, we can do so, regardless of the reason for their obligation. Would the funds then be replenished through PA?</p> <p><i>"For the duration of the Public Health Emergency, which began January 27, 2020 as determined by HHS, local governments, tribal governments, nonprofits, and other non-state entities may proceed with new and existing noncompetitively procured contracts in order to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threats created by emergency situations for 1) Emergency protective measures under FEMA's Public Assistance Program and 2) Use of FEMA non-disaster grant funds by non-state recipients and sub-recipients to respond to or address COVID-19."</i></p>	<p>The memo does not speak to using non-disaster grants for Cat B work. Rather, the memo clarifies that non-state entities may execute non-competitive contracts under Public Assistance grants and non-disaster grants if the acquisition under the non-disaster grant is for the purpose of responding or addressing COVID-19.</p> <p>Cat B emergency protective measures is a distinct concept from the emergency/exigent circumstances exception to the federal procurement regulations. The federal procurement regulations at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317 – 200.326 apply to all of FEMA's grant programs, both disaster and non-disaster, whereas Cat B emergency protective measures is specific to the Public Assistance program regarding eligibility of work under that program. The recent FEMA memo was stating that for purposes of all of FEMA's grant programs, FEMA has determined that an exigency/emergency exists for the duration of the public health emergency, meaning non-state entities may utilize the exigency/emergency exception to the competition requirements of the federal procurement regulations. It is not stating that non-disaster funds can be used for Cat B emergency protective measures under the Public Assistance Program.</p> <p>All grant funds must be used in accordance with the terms and conditions of their awards, including any statutory, regulatory, or policy requirements – the reason for the obligation matters. It may be that non-disaster funds can be used to address COVID-19 matters, but it will largely depend on the individual grant program. If you have questions about using funds from a particular FEMA non-disaster program for COVID-19 matters, please reach out to the applicable program analyst/program office for that grant program. Additionally, funds provided through an emergency declaration or major disaster declaration for Public Assistance cannot be used to "replenish" non-disaster funds provided under a different grant program. As a reminder, under 2 C.F.R. § 200.302(a), all non-federal entities must maintain documentation and financial systems to be able to trace funding and expenditures adequate to establish that those funds have been used in accordance with the statutes, regulations, and terms and conditions of the award applicable to those funds.</p>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Laptop/Software	<p>Actual Scenario County does not have the software that will allow the employees to work from home. If County Buys the software that allows the employees to work from home will this be covered/reimbursed under category B of the agency's Public Assistance program. If so, will this cover laptops, and also if County has to hire temporary employees to cover some of the full-time employees' job will this be reimbursed covered</p>	<p>The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.</p>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Laptop/Software	<p>Actual Scenario We are upgrading our Internet and data lines to Admin and Courthouse to support video arraignment and allow workers to telework. Do you think this would fall under control of immediate threat to public? Also to change the software to a hosted application to allow more self-service and online functions, thus reducing foot traffic.</p>	<p>The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.</p>	3/29/2020
Grants Manager	General Eligibility	<p>The 50 State Mass Care Coordinators received the PA Guidance along with the fact sheets. What they would really like to know is the step by step process on how to apply for the grant and the reporting requirements. I'm sure we have many other questions but any assistance would be greatly appreciated. I have copied Alynda Ponder who asked this on behalf of the States.</p>	<p>Chapter 3 of the PAPPG (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a038bbef9081cd7dfe7538e7751aa9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a038bbef9081cd7dfe7538e7751aa9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf</a>) provides step by step instructions for applying for Public Assistance. FEMA is working to simplify the application procedures (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/23/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-public-assistance-simplified-application">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/23/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-public-assistance-simplified-application</a>) for COVID-19. Potential Applicants looking to apply for Public Assistance should visit the PA Grants Portal (<a href="https://grantee.fema.gov/">https://grantee.fema.gov/</a>) to set up account. Once an account is created, Applicants may submit Requests for Public Assistance (<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIJP91Ds2laVIR1t8uXcEKg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIJP91Ds2laVIR1t8uXcEKg</a>) to begin the application process. Application support and tutorials are available on the resource tab in PA Grants Portal (<a href="https://grantee.fema.gov/">https://grantee.fema.gov/</a>).</p>	3/25/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Laptop/Software	<p>Given many applicants have transitioned to a telework status for staff where possible, applicants are asking if the purchase of laptops and other communication devices are eligible for reimbursement as emergency equipment purchases/leases (depending on leas cost alternative) to carry out essential governmental services or to maintain continuity of government.</p>	<p>The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.</p>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	<p>County EM Coordinator: Could day care for children of essential employees be considered an eligible Cat. B expense?</p>	<p>Child care costs for health care workers, first responders, and essential employees is the not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and therefore is not eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.</p>	3/29/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	Would the cost of a decontamination machine purchased by an Applicant to deep clean Applicant owned facilities after a virus be considered an eligible reimbursable expense?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19. </li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Temporary Relocation	If an Applicant located in a rural part of the State, allows school students the use of a Rec Center to complete on-line school assignments, would this be an eligible PA reimbursable expense?	The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Utility Bill for Residents	<p>Question: The State Utilities wants to turn on water, sewer and power that was shut off prior to the declaration. Would that be a covered expense? Is the costs of connection and potential loss of revenue eligible in this atypical event under cat B sheltering costs?</p> <p>Background: Prior to Corona Virus pandemic, many cities had terminated water to houses that were delinquent in payment. State Public Service (State Agency) is considering turning the water back to these residencies in an effort to bring some protective measures (hand washing, etc.) to these citizens knowing that during the pandemic period, they will probably not be able to collect connection or water usage fees from these residents.</p>	The connection of water for residents that do not have a water connection is not an emergency protective measure that is required as a direct result of a Public Health Emergency in communities where 1) water is easily accessible for purchase and 2) there is no contamination of the water supply due to the disaster. Secondly, it is also not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and therefore would not be eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020
Management Cost	Management Cost	Will Cat Z Management Cost be obligated for recipients based on their per capita indicators in accordance with FP 104-11-2? Is there any restrictions on the obligations of Management Costs (Category Z) funds for Emergency Decs?	Yes, Cat Z Management Costs Projects under the Emergency Declarations can be obligated for Recipients based on the Recipients' per capita indicators; the per capita indicators are used in evaluating Major Disaster Declarations. Emergency Declaration Cat Zs will be obligated similar to the Cat Zs in a Major Declaration.	3/29/2020
Procurement	Piggyback	Clarify piggyback language - fact sheet uses the word "may" too ambiguous - they recommend changing to "shall" or clarifying	A non-state applicant is allowed to utilize a piggyback contract, if allowable under applicable local or state laws, under exigent/emergency circumstances, provided that they comply with the sole sourcing requirements under emergency/exigency circumstances. The term "may" is used because the federal procurement rules permit applicants to piggyback if they so choose. If the contract the applicant seeks to use is not in compliance with the sole sourcing requirements for exigent/emergency circumstances, then piggybacking would be problematic.	3/25/2020
Grants Manager	Documentation	What documentation is necessary to document reasonable costs (we explained to them but they wanted an answer from FEMA HQ)	Guidance on how FEMA determines reasonable cost is located at ( <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1539879525279-d00ae1c43f9765c5a4b415e1a31202c5/PA_Reasonable_Cost_Evaluation_Job_Aid_508_FINAL_10-16-2018.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1539879525279-d00ae1c43f9765c5a4b415e1a31202c5/PA_Reasonable_Cost_Evaluation_Job_Aid_508_FINAL_10-16-2018.pdf</a> ). Documentation requirements are provided in Chapter 3 of the PAPPG ( <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a038bbef9081cd7dfe7538e7751aa9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1525468328389-4a038bbef9081cd7dfe7538e7751aa9c/PAPPG_3.1_508_FINAL_5-4-2018.pdf</a> ). FEMA is developing a templated Project Worksheet that define documentation requirements for COVID-19. As soon as it is available FEMA will update this FAQ.	3/25/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	Please work with HQ to provide clear guidance to applicants on straight time cost - many states are re-assigned staff to provide health and safety support to alleviate shortages due to susceptible and sick workers.	In most cases, straight time for a reassigned employee performing emergency work is not eligible. It may be eligible if the employee is funded from an external source. A reassigned employee implies a budgeted employee (as opposed to temporary or contract labor). A budgeted employee is employed by the Applicant and his/her salary is paid out of the Applicant's normal operating budget. Straight time is not eligible for emergency work for budgeted employees even if they are performing work outside of their normal duties. Straight time may be eligible if the reassigned employee is funded by an external source and the eligible emergency work is not covered by the same or another external source (FEMA cannot duplicate funding). The work being performed by the reassigned staff must also be eligible emergency work under the declared event. "Health and safety support" is too vague to determine if the work is eligible emergency work. An employee reassigned to cover normal duties for an employee that cannot work due to illness would not be eligible for PA funds. Standard PA policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed). See PAPPG (V3.1), Chapter 2:V.A.2 on page 24.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Equipment Rate	The State of NC has asked for a costing (FEMA Equipment Rate) of Rapid Deployment Sheltering Systems (Deployed Logix tents, Western Shelter tents complete with heating and air). I'm guessing we will need to do a cost comparison between rental and purchase due to the potential long term need?	If the applicant is purchasing or renting items, then yes, they need to do a cost comparison to ensure the least costly option between rental vs. purchase.	3/25/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate sheltering	The State EOC is seeking FEMA's operational definition of "medical sheltering." In particular, in our worse case scenario, we're anticipating over 5,000 people without a place to live will become infected with the novel coronavirus. While a portion of them will likely be hospitalized with severe COVID-19 illness, many would just need to be isolated yet can't be given that they are either staying somewhere not meant for habitation (building doorways, bus shelters, etc.) or are in a congregate shelter setting that cannot isolate them. In addition, if the State adopts a shelter in place order, people who are unsheltered or staying in an emergency shelter that closes during the day would not be able to comply.  Would providing shelter arrangements for these scenarios fit with FEMA's definition of medical sheltering?	See FEMA FACT SHEET Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Emergency Medical Care, dated March 30, 2020 Updated information: Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020.	4/2/2020 Updated and reposted on: 05/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	Question to EA on Child Care: We need a determination quickly whether childcare costs incurred by the city on behalf of first responders (IFD, IMPD, EMS), which may be necessary in order to keep them working, will be reimbursable by disaster relief funds.	Child care costs for health care workers, first responders, and essential employees is the not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and therefore is not eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	Applicants want to know if eligible school districts/applicants that purchase supplies/equipment (or rent) to permit students to complete <i>remote schooling/education</i> during school closures, would that be potentially eligible? ( <i>remote schooling from home, or another communal facility</i> )	No, it is not directly required to save lives, protect public health and safety. Purchase of supplies/equipment (or rent) to permit students to complete remote schooling/education during school closures is not an eligible Cat B expense.	3/25/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	<p>Test kits are popping up from various vendors. The President said they would be free. If jurisdictions buy them, a) will they be reimbursable through their Cat B PW and b) competition for pricing is the “Wild West” will federal procurement rules be waived and finally c) is or will there be a federally approved source and price structure?</p>	<p>Please reference the Procurement Under EE Circumstances Memo (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350</a>). Per the Memo, for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, which began on January 27, 2020, “local governments, tribal governments, nonprofits, and other non-state entities may proceed with new and existing noncompetitively procured contracts in order to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threats created by emergency situations for 1) Emergency Protective measures under FEMA’s Public Assistance Program and 2) Use of FEMA non-disaster grant funds by non-state recipients and sub-recipients to respond to or address COVID-19.” It has been determined that emergency and exigent circumstances exist based on the President’s Nationwide Emergency Declaration and the Secretary of the Health and Human Services’ (HHS) declaration of a Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 and therefore, non-state entities are permitted to non-competitively procure contracts (sole source) pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.320(f)(2) for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency as determined by HHS.</p> <p>The Memo and Fact Sheet (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/186350</a>) provide information for applicants purchasing under exigent or emergency circumstances. State entities must follow their own rules pursuant to 2 CFR 200.317 and non-state entities (which include any other eligible applicant) must follow the rules for purchasing under emergency/exigent circumstances outlined in the attached fact sheet.</p> <p>Also see the PA Reasonable Cost Job Aid, dated October 13, 2018 (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/90743">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/90743</a>) that provides guidance on how PA determines reasonable costs. Applicants should note that pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.404, “a cost is reasonable if, in its nature and amount, it does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time the decision was made to incur the cost.” Additionally, the attached Pricing Guide for Recipients and Subrecipients Under the Uniform Rules, dated May 1, 2016, (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1466006124785-1d7e3cd92e51e4863f307633e5f077fa/2016-06-101310_clean_FEMAPricingGuideforRecipientsandSubrecipients.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1466006124785-1d7e3cd92e51e4863f307633e5f077fa/2016-06-101310_clean_FEMAPricingGuideforRecipientsandSubrecipients.pdf</a>) assists applicants in conducting a price or cost analysis. This will hopefully help ensure that applicants have properly conducted/documentated their cost or price analysis; the proper cost or price analysis will certainly aid in the determination of reasonable cost.</p>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	DOB	<p>As a result of COVID-19, will the Department of Education provide grants or resources to schools that purchase supplies/equipment (or rent) to permit students to complete <i>remote schooling/education</i> during school closures? (remote schooling from home, or another communal facility) Would these costs be eligible under the PA Program?</p>	<p>The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.</p>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Temporary Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can an Applicant lease or purchase a vacant hotel or medical facility (i.e. for-profit medical center performing elective surgeries and vacant due to COVID-19) for the purpose of opening a temporary medical facility?</li> <li>• If the temporary medical facility is never utilized during the COVID-19 response, would those expenses still be eligible?</li> <li>• Can an Applicant lease, lease with an option to purchase, or purchase a hotel as a means of medical housing for isolating people? Would any option be better than the other?</li> </ul>	<p>Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) “Warm Sites” issued 5/12/2020. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a></p>	5/15/2020

CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	<p>We received the following question from one of our States regarding Cat B eligibility for PNP's that do not perform critical services.</p> <p>A PNP that does not perform a critical service (i.e., homeless shelter or assisted living), but incurs extra operating costs due to COVID-19, such as requiring PPE for staff or additional cleaning/disinfecting of facilities. Would these costs be eligible for PA under Cat B?</p> <p>PAPPG at p. 61 states: "For PNPs, operating costs are generally not eligible even if the services are emergency services, unless the PNP performs an emergency service at the request of and certified by the legally responsible government entity. In such case, FEMA provides PA funding through that government entity as the eligible Applicant."</p> <p>Also, PAPPG at p. 63 carves out exception or medical care: "When the emergency medical delivery system within a declared area is destroyed, severely compromised or overwhelmed, FEMA may fund extraordinary costs associated with operating emergency rooms and with providing temporary facilities for emergency medical care of survivors."</p> <p>However, for other PNPs (non-critical services or non-medical care), would operating costs or cleaning/disinfecting of facilities be eligible?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li>o <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>o The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>o The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> <p>Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19.</p> </li> <li>• Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	<p>A question regarding the eligibility of purchasing equipment by County 911 Center as a contingency to be used to enable remote operations if necessary. We have an eligible applicant purchasing equipment that they believe is necessary to ensure continuity of the essential 911 functions by providing the capability to work remotely. We believe County has a legal responsibility to provide 911 services, and the disaster (COVID19) has the very real potential to disrupt the services – so this is something that could be considered an emergency protective measure required to address the immediate threat caused by the disaster. However, we have concerns about the contingency aspects of their purchase and whether it will actually be needed and used.</p> <p><b>Situation:</b> County is requesting a determination on the eligibility of virtualizing their 9-1-1 center as a contingency in the event of sickness and absenteeism due to covid19. This would require the purchase of approximately \$250,000 in equipment to allow the 911 center to perform its essential call processing and dispatch responsibilities remotely. It will take a number of weeks for the equipment to be fully operational. County would like to purchase the equipment in advance of the potential need.</p> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the purchase of equipment, supplies, or services to allow the performance essential government services (lifesaving or life sustaining) in a remote or virtual environment an eligible emergency protective measure in response to covid19?</li> <li>2. Is the purchase of this equipment eligible if the need hasn't been realized at the time of purchase?</li> <li>3. Is the purchase of this equipment eligible as an emergency protective measure if the equipment is not ultimately used during the covid19 public health emergency?</li> <li>4. If the essential government service being performed is not involved or only partly involved in response to Covid19 is the purchase of the equipment an eligible emergency protective measure?</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Answer: The DHS Cybersecurity &amp; Infrastructure Security Agency advisory, dated March 28, 2020, specifically lists "911 call center employees" as essential critical infrastructure workers during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Unless the 911 call center is ordered to close its facility at the direction of public health officials, costs associated with transitioning to a virtual/remote operational environment are not eligible under PA.</li> <li>2. Answer: If a need does not exist or has not been identified, the costs are not eligible.</li> <li>3. Answer: Purchases of equipment and supplies that are not used to perform eligible work are not eligible.</li> <li>4. Answer: The service provided is necessary to save lives and protect public health and safety. The need to transition to a virtual/remote operational environment has to be required as a result of the emergency or major disaster event. If the need is identified and the associated costs are determined eligible for PA funding, it would not matter if the emergency calls were related to the declared event or not. However, at this time 911 call centers are deemed essential critical infrastructure during the COVID-19 public health emergency and must remain operational.</li> </ol>	4/9/2020
Grants Manager	General Information	2. What are the guidelines/formatting for grant requests?	The draft COVID-19 Category B Project Worksheet Template is currently under review. This template includes the information and documentation that FEMA will request from Applicants claiming costs under COVID-19 declarations for both small and large projects. Once reviewed and finalized, this document will be posted for distribution. Until then you can refer to the "PA Simplified Application for COVID-19 Fact Sheet" at <a href="https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx">https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Forms/AllItems.aspx</a>	3/29/2020

Request for Public Assistance	Time Extension	10. Any information on grant application deadline extensions?	<p><u>Submitting Request for Public Assistance:</u> On March 21, 2020, Keith Turi, Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate, issued a memorandum with the subject line, COVID-19 Requests for Public Assistance Deadline. The Request for Public Assistance deadline is nationally extended and will remain open for the duration of the Public Health Emergency, as declared by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, unless an earlier deadline is deemed appropriate by the Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate. At that time, the Regional Administrator, pursuant to 44 CFR 206.202(f)(2), may extend the time limitations in 44 CFR 206.202(c). FEMA will accept RPAs for 30 days after the end of the declaration of the Public Health Emergency and provide 30-day advance notification if an earlier deadline is established or further extended by a Regional Administrator.</p> <p><u>Identification and Reporting Damages:</u> On May 14, 2020, Keith Turi, Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate, issued a memorandum with the subject line, COVID-19 Damage Identification Deadline. The the deadline to identify and report damage is extended for the national emergency declaration and all subsequent major disaster declarations for the COVID-19 pandemic, and will remain open for the duration of the Public Health Emergency, as declared by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, unless an earlier deadline is deemed appropriate by the Assistant Administrator of the Recovery Directorate. As such, Applicants must identify and report damage by either: 60-days from the end of the Public Health Emergency or 60-days from the approval of their Request for Public Assistance, whichever is later. At that time, the Regional Administrator, pursuant to 44 CFR 206.202(f)(2), may extend the time limitations in 44 CFR 206.202(d)(1)(ii).</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Equipment-Medical	In the Fact Sheet you all put out, you included "use of specialized medical equipment." Were you referring to anything specific? We were asked about it and I am clueless. What costs would be associated with using equipment other than electricity? What type of equipment are we talking about?	Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Emergency Medical Care issued 3/31/2020. FEMA cannot duplicate assistance provided by HHS, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or other federal agencies. This includes funding provided by the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Program; the Public Health Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement; the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases; and grants available from the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.	4/9/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Day Care / Child Care	9. Is there a state-by-state list of which state agencies receive and administer PA and category B child care?	All States or Tribes administer, as Recipients, the Public Assistance grant in Stafford Act Declared areas. There is not a nation list of the States and Tribes contacts. With regard to COVID-19 and child care, FEMA is not providing reimbursements for child care through Category B work.	3/29/2020
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	<p>PA is starting to be presented with quite a few questions regarding Category B Policy and the continuation of essential community services i.e. schools that were forced to send staff and students home due to health officials and Governors mandating they close in order to protect life and health and prevent the spread of the COVID 19 virus. We researched the Q and A spreadsheet and it seems we (through that spreadsheet) are being told that some parts of Category B are not going to be eligible (continuation of some critical or essential community services). Regions will need a directive clearly articulating that this is the case as States, Applicants, and Consultants will be reading eligible Cat B policy and not understand exactly why FEMA is saying no. I am not sure if the Fact Sheet for Emergency Protective Measures for COVID 19 will stand up in appeals. Below is a scenario that our Region is trying to get ahead of and expecting to come full force.</p> <p>Scenario: School District A sends staff and students home as mandated by Governor with the direction of health official. School District A purchases equipment for students in order to continue the rest of the school semester and education in order to provide an essential community service. School District A presents case to FEMA under the guidelines as set forth in the section of Category B: Emergency protective measures. Questions may also arise regarding the temporary purchase of wi-fi.</p>	These costs are still considered increased operating costs. Temporary relocation of essential services is tied to setting up a temporary facility to provide the service. In this case, there is no temporary facility. The requested costs are for equipment and supplies which, for some schools/school districts, is an increased operating cost. As the school is not providing a service that is necessary to save lives or protect public health and safety, the increased costs are not eligible under PA. There is a possibility that funding for this purpose becomes available through the Department of Education.	4/9/2020
General Information	PNP Fact Sheet	I noticed that you have been the primary person uploading documents to the COVID-19 HQ document site, and I was wondering if we will be receiving a PNP Factsheet any time soon? Any guidance would be greatly appreciated.	Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Private Nonprofit Organizations Fact Sheet issued 4/1/2020.	4/9/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	<p>We have a couple new policy questions:</p> <p>1. <del>Is</del> there any possible waiver available for the requirement that applicants register at www.SAM.gov ? There is a concern from one of our Recipients, that this requirement will be a roadblock to some applicants.</p> <p>2. <del>We</del> We received the following question from one of our Recipients related to increased operating costs:</p> <p>“Our Dept. Of Innovation and Technology has had to scale up our State IT and web services in order for websites to remain up during this crush of information that is going out regarding COVID-19. They’ve also had provide extraordinary services to keep state employees working remotely and services available to the public. They have incurred additional expenses primarily for adding system capacity (licenses, equipment, contract labor), so that important state messaging and functions continue. Their work are helping Emergency Management Agency to remotely collaborate and coordinate with other state agencies, and they are critical in keeping information flowing from our Department of Public Health and Governor’s Office.”</p> <p>• <del>Are</del> Are these operating costs eligible under Cat B? Also, would they only be eligible costs for the specific agencies who are performing emergency activities? For instance, Emergency Management Agency and Dept. of Public Health could claim the increased IT costs since they are related to providing critical information to citizens and carrying out emergency response activities, but Streets and Sanitation or Department of Employment would not be able to link them to an eligible emergency activity?</p>	<p>#1 per Memo from Bridget E. Bean, Short Term Administrative Relief for Recipients and Subrecipients of FEMA Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Due to Loss of Operations, dated March 27, 2020. "Flexibility with SAM registration. (2 C.F.R. § 200.205): SAM registrations expiring before May 16, 2020 will be afforded a one-time 60-day extension. In conjunction with this exception, GSA has initiated 60-day extensions to SAM.gov registrations that have expiration dates ranging between March 19, 2020 and May 17, 2020. It will take GSA until March 28, 2020 to complete all extensions. This effort is intended as relief for those otherwise required to renew their SAM registrations during that time frame. At the time of award, the requirements of 2 C.F.R. § 200.205 Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants continue to apply. Applicants who are not already registered in SAM.gov will still need to register in SAM before the applicable grant application deadlines in order to apply for grant funding."</p> <p>#2 The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property. For PNP Applicants, increased operating costs are generally ineligible even if the facility is providing an emergency service, unless doing so on behalf of and at the direction of the legally responsible government entity. In such cases, PA funding is provided through that government entity as the eligible Applicant.</p>	4/2/2020
General Information	Non-Congregate	"If Illinois experienced flooding or other severe weather this weekend which forced an evacuation of persons from their primary residence (both persons who are self-quarantined and persons who are subjected to a "Stay at Home Order", could those persons be placed in non-congregate lodging approved by FEMA for the COVID incident to maintain appropriate social distancing? If so would the lodging costs be covered by the 75 percent federal cost share?"	Sheltering in subsequent events will be implemented to meet the needs of that incident and in accordance with guidelines on how to appropriately provide sheltering in a pandemic environment. This may include non-congregate sheltering, however that would need to be implemented in accordance with PA policy in the PAPPG. (Mark Tinsman referenced some draft sheltering guidance a couple of weeks ago; if that's been finalized may reference it as an example of guidance for shelters).	4/2/2020
General Information	DFA	<p>1. What is Direct Federal Assistance?"</p> <p>2. Does a tribe have to be a Recipient under the nationwide emergency declaration for COVID-19 to request Direct Federal Assistance (e.g., equipment, supplies, personnel, evacuation assistance) directly from FEMA?</p> <p>3. Does the Public Assistance 75 percent Federal/25 percent Non-Federal cost share under the nationwide emergency declaration for COVID-19 apply to direct federal assistance?</p>	<p>Answer. #1: When a tribe (or state) government lacks the capability to perform or to contract for eligible emergency work [e.g. supplies (to include personal protective equipment and hazardous material suits), equipment, personnel, and evacuation assistance] a Recipient may request that the work be accomplished by a Federal agency. FEMA may task another Federal agency to perform or contract the work provided it is an eligible activity (for a list of eligible activities, see Fact Sheet: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Eligible Emergency Protective Measures). FEMA issues a "Mission Assignment" to task the work and refers to it as Direct Federal Assistance (DFA). FEMA cannot task work that another Federal agency has its own authority to perform. DFA has the same cost-share provisions applicable to the declaration. (44 CFR 206.208(a). 44 CFR § 206.208(c)(1). 44 CFR § 206.208(c)(2).)</p> <p>Answer. #2: Only Recipients can request Direct Federal Assistance. If the tribe is a Recipient, it can submit a request directly to the applicable Regional Office. If the tribe is not a Recipient, it can coordinate with the State, as the Recipient. The State may be able to assist the tribe or the State may submit the request to FEMA. 44 CFR 206.208(a) and (b).</p> <p>Answer. #3: Yes, Direct Federal Assistance is subject to the Public Assistance cost share requirement. 44 CFR 206.208(a).</p>	4/2/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate	Can FEMA house sick or non-sick (for prevention) homeless through any program, what are the parameters of assistance?	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. Non-congregate sheltering under Category B emergency protective measures may be approved for vulnerable at-risk populations. Sheltering specific populations in non-congregate shelters should be determined by a public health official's direction or in accordance with the direction or guidance of health officials by the appropriate state or local entities and when assistance is not duplicated by another federal agency. Alternate care sites and temporary hospitals are not considered non-congregate sheltering and such requests should be routed through the proper channels. Please refer to the Emergency Medical Care for COVID-19 Fact Sheet.	4/2/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Casualty Management	I am working on a Fatality Management Crisis Action Planning Team and wanted to ensure I include correct guidance regarding State and Tribal reimbursement. In the PAPPG it states the following: p. 58 – Eligible Expenses (Storage and interment of UNIDENTIFIED human remains and Mass Mortuary Services). The assumption is that the remains are Identifiable/Identified. Would that change the ability for states and tribes to receive reimbursement? Is there any additional information you could provide? Have you received any inquires from states or tribes?	Yes, under the Stafford Act declarations for COVID-19, casualty management is eligible as an Emergency Protective Measure.	4/9/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Applicant Eligibility	We received an inquiry from Congressman Welch who represents Vermont. Vermont doesn't have a Major Declaration. They are inquiring about the following: • Vermont is seeing restaurants and other food business come together on their own to provide emergency food distribution to their local communities. Will these businesses be eligible for FEMA reimbursement under this disaster declaration?	Private businesses are not eligible to receive Public Assistance.	4/2/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate sheltering vs Medical Temporary facilities	States want to know if you all are reviewing them at HQ: • The disconnect related to what's covered under a MA for temporary medical facility vs what's covered under Cat B a. States can get Mas that include wrap-around services and healthcare providers b. Cat B funding is only available to set up the facility and to provide emergency medical care (not medical care for admitted patients) State is also very concerned about how reasonable costs will be determined if sole source contracting is used. We have told them that we have to look at reasonableness of costs when there is no competition and we use the Reasonable Cost Job Aid to guide the analysis but there is no additional guidance and we do not expect additional guidance to come out. We have told them that we totally understand that costs are going up due to the demand, but State asked us to bring this to HQ's attention and to tell HQ that the Job Aid is insufficient to address the issue for this event.	Refer to Federal Healthcare Resilience Task Force Alternate Care Site (ACS) Toolkit and Talking Points issued 4/1/2020	4/9/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Temporary Relocation	<b>1. This question is related to the HQ decision that the "Purchase of supplies/equipment (or rent) to permit students to complete remote schooling/education during school closures is not an eligible Cat B expense (COVID Q and A – 03.24.20)."</b> Understanding that these costs will likely be reimbursed by DOE, can you please clarify why the eligibility of purchases for remote schooling are not being considered under PAPPG "Temporary Relocation of Essential Services" policy? HQ's 03.24 response focuses on the action of purchasing supplies as an ineligible EPM; however, we were initially considering the act of closing the schools as the EPM which subsequently triggered the need for temporary relocation of services. Understanding why the temporary relocation policy does not apply in this case will allow us to provide better guidance to our states.	These costs are still considered increased operating costs. Temporary relocation of essential services is tied to setting up a temporary facility to provide the service. In this case, there is no temporary facility. The requested costs are for equipment and supplies which, for some schools/school districts, is an increased operating cost. As the school is not providing a service that is necessary to save lives or protect public health and safety, the increased costs are not eligible under PA. There is a possibility that funding for this purpose becomes available through the Department of Education.	4/9/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	4. Would costs associated with backfilling a Public Works- Engineer (regular employee) who is now assigned to work on COVID -19 EOC response be eligible?	Since the engineer is unable to perform normal duties due to performing eligible emergency work (in this case, working the EOC for the declared event), certain costs associated with backfilling the engineer are eligible. If backfilling with a budgeted employee, only overtime related to the backfill employee's work would be eligible. If the backfill employee is not a budgeted employee (e.g., contract or temporary labor), then straight time and overtime are eligible.	4/9/2020
General Information	Declaration	Question from R9 – they have 9 tribal nations (listed below) that would like to serve as direct Recipients under the national Emergency Declaration for COVID-19. In other regions direct recipient tribes have been issued their own EM number. What procedures should the region follow to get these tribes issued EM numbers?	Tribes should work with the Regional Office to establish their application for Public Assistance. If the tribe wishes to apply as a direct Recipient, the Region will coordinate with FEMA Headquarters. The Tribe can contact the Region via an email to request to be a subrecipient or recipient under the nationwide emergency declaration. Additional information is available in the Fact Sheet called Coronavirus (COVID-19): FEMA Assistance for Tribal Governments ( <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/26/coronavirus-covid-19-fema-assistance-tribal-governments">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/26/coronavirus-covid-19-fema-assistance-tribal-governments</a> ).	4/2/2020



CAT B Eligibility	Equipment-Medical	<p><b>Question:</b> Are oxygen concentrators eligible for PA funds? (Oxygen concentrators are medical devices that are generally used for delivering oxygen to individuals with breathing-related disorders)</p> <p><b>Proposed Courses of Action (suggest COA1):</b>  COA1: Fund project with stipulation that if oxygen concentrators are used for patient treatment and the patients or their insurance carrier are billed the costs will be ineligible.  COA2: Exclude the cost as generally not eligible under PA funding.  COA3: Obtain additional information from Applicant on the intended use of the machines prior to continuing to draft the project.</p> <p><b>Background:</b>  •Project 134802 ~\$285K: EOC costs that are specifically public health focused, to include: "Activities include public health department response, case management, contact tracing and outreach, community services outreach, Behavioral Health outreach, Information Technology support for community meetings in virtual setting and website support for communicating." <b>In addition to these public health activities, it also specifically includes \$30K for oxygen concentrators.</b>  •The Applicant has not provided details on anticipated use (i.e. patient treatment), nor have they if patients would be charged if treated with oxygen concentrators.</p> <p>Additional information (from Project):  <b>Materials/Commodities Request:</b>  "O2 Concentrators with Tubing, O2 Startup kits Qty, includes oxygen concentrators and boost oxygen canisters: 40, total cost is estimated at\$30,000 with each unit costing approximately \$750. Cost includes the tubing and oxygen canisters"</p>	<p>Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Emergency Medical Care issued 3/31/2020. FEMA cannot duplicate assistance provided by HHS, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or other federal agencies. This includes funding provided by the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Program; the Public Health Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement; the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases; and grants available from the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.</p>	4/9/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Laptop/Software	<p>Is there any circumstance where costs related to equipment and supplies for schools to engage in remote learning are eligible for PA funding?</p> <p>I know that the current Covid Q&amp;A spreadsheet somewhat addresses this issue (in line item #105), and stated:  "The purchase of computers, laptops, internet service, and other related expenses is not eligible as an emergency protective measure. These purchases would be considered increased operating costs which are not eligible for public entities unless the additional cost is specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property."</p> <p>However, couldn't these costs related to education be eligible under the provisions for "Temporary Relocation of Essential Services" PAPPG pp. 76-79.</p> <p>Education is listed as an essential community service provided by a State, Territorial, Tribal, or local government Applicant that is eligible to be relocated. In addition, the <u>rental or purchase of equipment necessary to continue services in the temp facility, is listed as an eligible work or cost associated with temporary facilities.</u> Increased operating costs (utilities, maintenance, etc) are still not eligible with temporary facilities, but wouldn't equipment (laptops, ipads, etc) or supplies for students for remote learning be eligible?</p>	<p>These costs are still considered increased operating costs. Temporary relocation of essential services is tied to setting up a temporary facility to provide the service. In this case, there is no temporary facility. The requested costs are for equipment and supplies which, for some schools/school districts, is an increased operating cost. As the school is not providing a service that is necessary to save lives or protect public health and safety, the increased costs are not eligible under PA. There is a possibility that funding for this purpose becomes available through the Department of Education.</p>	4/9/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance	<p>We have received multiple regional staff asking how RPAs from local governments that have no eligible work for COVID 19 should be handled. Example: A grader district or road district that only have roads as their facility, and do not have any legal responsibility for COVID-19 projects. There questions are below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should the State make their RPA ineligible?</li> <li>Should FEMA also mark their RPA ineligible (if the State does)?</li> <li>Should a DM be written?</li> </ol>	<p>A1. No, the State should follow the standard process for determining Applicant eligibility.  A2. In cases where a Recipient has flagged them as ineligible, FEMA must still evaluate the Applicant for eligibility. Although some Applicants may not have eligible work for COVID-19, FEMA and the Recipient should still follow the standard process for determining Applicant eligibility, including evaluation of whether a PNP has an eligible facility, which is one that provides an eligible service as defined in the PAPPG.  A3. Yes, if an applicant is determined to not be eligible, a DM should be written.</p>	4/2/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>I hope you can help us answer these questions. This inquiry is from Senator Wyden's office:</p> <p>1. If a hospital employee contracts COVID-19 as a result of working on COVID-19 patients, is their administrative leave pay an eligible reimbursement?</p> <p>2. If an administrative hospital employee is put on administrative leave due to COVID-19 activities at the hospital, is the paid leave an eligible reimbursement expense? I.e. a cafeteria employee at the hospital no longer required to work due to shortened hours.</p>	<p>No, FEMA cannot provide PA funding to reimburse costs associated with the salary and benefits of an employee on leave, regardless of the nature of the leave (e.g., sick leave due to testing positive for COVID-19). FEMA cannot provide PA funding for an employee out sick that has run out of leave or does not otherwise have any leave. Administrative leave or similar labor costs incurred for employees sent home or told not to report due to emergency conditions are not eligible. See PAPPG (V3.1), Chapter 2:V.A.2 on page 25.</p>	4/2/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance	<p>Biggest concern was the processing of PNPs due to the expected volume of these coming in (remembering Sandy)</p> <p>Reviewing RPA (recipient side) - These are coming in for Cat B work but part of the review process is to determine whether the App has an eligible facility or not. It's not relevant but the Recipient has to say "yes" in order to get the RPA though.</p> <p>We are not looking at facility damage for this event but Recipient has to answer the question....do they "own" the facility? Then system is then requiring to attach documentation to show ownership and facility damage. (facility is not damaged, but in order to push them through the answer has to be Yes. (then they are triggered to attach insurance and other supporting docs, etc).</p> <p>Will the same functionality of PNP processing continue in light of COVID? Or should they continue to fake the system? (it can be bypassed with blank documents but this isn't right) or should they be gathering all of these documents to support the facility.</p> <p>Currently, there are 13 hospitals on hold w/one Recipient, as they don't have the docs the system wants.</p>	<p>The PNP review process is still the same, the PNP still has to have an eligible facility. However, specific to COVID-19 we are updating the questions and documentation process. The "FEMA RPA Review Job Aid" and "Applicant Quick Guide for PNP's" will go into detail on what applicants need to provide. Once finalized (within the next 24/48 hrs) the Grants Manager/Grants Portal system will be modified to reflect those changes. We anticipate most of the cat B projects will be for reimbursement for supplies, testing, and temp facilities; in those cases we would not anticipate insurance coverage. Once they start cleaning and disinfecting buildings we need to take a look at the insurance. The insurance team has seen coverage for pandemic preparations and biological related coverage on previous events so a comment saying no insurance coverage available should be sufficient for most of these.</p>	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate	<p>Some fire departments are having to house quarantined firefighters at locations outside their homes like hotels. The firefighter exposed to the novel Coronavirus may not want to go home and expose their family. So the fire department gets a hotel, etc.</p> <p>Are these housing expenses eligible for reimbursement under the Disaster Relief Act?</p>	<p>Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Non-Congregate Sheltering FAQs issued 3/30/2020.</p>	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>Hello, we received the following question re: labor costs for State Police Officers who are covering normal shifts/patrols/duties for local police officers who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are unable to work. Here's the State's question:</p> <p><i>Many local police departments are now being covered by State Police (SP) because of the virus. ABC County and City Park were two examples of where SP are now handling law enforcement for those communities because their own law enforcement agency has tested positive or is under quarantine. Also, City PD is dropping quickly so that is probably going to be a big undertaking of the department. Are these labor and costs by SP eligible?</i></p> <p>Our initial thought on this that this may not be eligible because the troopers are just covering regular law enforcement activities, instead of activities specifically related to emergency measures for Covid19 (i.e., providing security to medical care facilities, enforcing stay at home orders, etc). From the question, it appears that the state troopers would just be filling in for sick local employees for continuity of govt reasons, but to be eligible, they would need to show specific emergency actions performed related to Covid19 instead of normal traffic duty, patrols, etc.</p> <p>However, I feel like this might be a bit of a grey area since law enforcement is a critical service, and the lack of staffing and resources at the local levels was directly caused by the Covid19 emergency. Plus, this feels like a mutual aid situation where State agrees to provide staffing and resources in these types of emergencies.</p> <p>Can you please provide some guidance on this issue?</p>	<p>These could be considered increased operating costs which are generally not eligible under PA except under certain conditions. The Applicant may incur additional costs related to providing a service as a result of the incident; in this case, due to local law enforcement officers unable to perform normal duties because of testing positive for COVID-19 or are otherwise under quarantine. These additional costs are only eligible if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The services are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>• The costs are for a limited period of time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>• The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> <p>In this case, it is likely that additional costs would be eligible since law enforcement is service that protects lives and public safety and the costs are for a limited period of time (i.e., the duration of the quarantine for officers recovering from COVID-19). The legally responsible entity has to incur an additional cost. In this case, the legally responsible entity is the local jurisdiction. The local jurisdiction would only be eligible for costs incurred for the State law enforcement officers (i.e., if the State billed the local jurisdiction for the work). This is also true if the State provided resources at the request of the local jurisdiction under a mutual aid agreement. The eligible applicant is the local law enforcement agency and reimbursement of costs paid to the State may be eligible, assuming all other PA program requirements are met. PA funds could not be provided directly to the State as the Providing Entity, but only to the local jurisdiction as the Requesting Entity.</p> <p>The applicant must avoid duplication of benefits; funding may be available from HHS, CDC, CARES Act, or another federal funding source.</p>	4/14/2020

CAT B Eligibility	DOB	Will insurance policies be requested from all Applicants for Cat B work?  PW template draft asks a lot of questions regarding whether or not actions were covered by insurance, if they received proceeds, etc and corresponding dollar amounts. Are the policies are being asked for up front?	The "FEMA RPA Review Job Aid" and "Applicant Quick Guide for PNPs" will go into detail on what applicants need to provide. Once finalized (within the next 24/48 hrs) the Grants Manager/Grants Portal system will be modified to reflect those changes.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	1. Our current permanent healthcare employees' salaries are usually covered by billing third parties. Since the alternate care site would not be certified by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service, we will not be able to collect third party reimbursements. This would be an additional expense to us quite similar to your scenario of the federally funded employee that was reassigned. Would the regular and overtime costs of these personnel be eligible?	Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	Budgeted employees placed on administrative leave or furloughed because they are non-essential brought back in a reassigned COVID-19 related emergency work. Is this eligible?	The budgeted employee must be performing COVID19 eligible work, for it to be eligible under PA.  Specific eligibility considerations depend on a few considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First, S&amp;B plus any extraordinary costs (e.g., call-back pay since the employee was on administrative leave/furlough) depends on the pre-existing labor policy provided the policy: 1) Does not include a contingency clause that payment is subject to Federal funding; 2) Is applied uniformly regardless of a Presidential declaration; and 3) Has set non-discretionary criteria for when the Applicant activates various pay types. If these requirements are not met, FEMA limits PA funding to the Applicant's non-discretionary, uniformly applied pay rates.</li> <li>• Second, as a non-essential reassigned budgeted employee, FEMA provides PA funding based on the reassigned employee's normal pay rate, not the pay level appropriate to the eligible work being performed, because the Applicant's incurred cost is the employee's normal pay rate. Also, only overtime would be eligible unless the reassigned employee is funded from an external source and that source does not fund the eligible emergency work being performed by the reassigned employee.</li> <li>• Lastly, the applicant must avoid duplication of benefits. If funding is available from HHS, CDC, CARES Act, or another federal funding source, or if staffing costs are factored into patient billing through private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, or a private payment agreement, those costs are not eligible under PA.</li> </ul>	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	1. Can we get further clarification on what constitutes "emergency medical treatment of COVID19 patients" that would be eligible emergency medical care activities? Does this mean only emergency measures taken to triage and stabilize COVID19 patients, or only emergency room care? If a local government or PNP sets up an Alternate Care Site or Temporary Medical Facility for treatment of COVID19 patients, would the medical care costs be considered long-term care and not eligible?	Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Temporary Facility	2. Can you confirm that once a COVID-19 patient is admitted to a medical facility (even an Alternate Care Site or Temporary Medical Facility established for treatment of COVID19 patients) on an inpatient basis, his/her medical care costs are no longer eligible.	Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Temporary Facility	3. Would the following costs at an Alternate Care Site or Temporary Medical Facility for COVID19 patients be considered eligible emergency medical care costs, or ineligible long-term medical care costs: a. Security b. Meals c. Laundry d. Staffing e. Medical supplies f. Waste disposal	Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Temporary Facility	4. Does the answer to # 3 change if the Temporary Medical Facility or Alternate Care Site is used for treating non-Covid19 patients and illnesses?	Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate	If a public or PNP medical facility is bringing in additional healthcare workers from out-of-town to help with the COVID19 patients and treatment, would costs for the additional healthcare worker's lodging and travel costs be eligible?	Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a>	5/15/2020

General Information	Time Extension	Multiple states have asked if there is going to be an extension to the upcoming opt-in deadline of May 4th, 2020 in regard to DRRA 1235 (b) Consensus-Based Codes and Standards.	PA Senior leadership has not yet made a decision to extend the deadline to retroactively opt-in to the DRRA 1235(b), Consensus-Based Codes, Specifications and Standards for Public Assistance Interim Policy. PA Senior leadership is currently reviewing various courses of action and the accompanying pros and cons. We anticipate a decision to be made prior to the May 4th deadline and will inform you as soon as that decision is made.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate	During a sync call with other federal partners today, several questions came up regarding eligible FEMA-funded activities on Federally-owned property.  Would actions that occur on property that is owned or under the jurisdiction of another federal agency be eligible for FEMA funding? For example, if an Applicant (non-federal) were to place temporary facilities were to place parking lots owned by a federal facility, is that eligible for FEMA-funding? Or non-congregate sheltering in a National Park, etc.	This could be eligible assuming that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is an eligible applicant;</li> <li>• The work being performed is the legal responsibility of the applicant;</li> <li>• The work being performed is necessary to address the COVID19 pandemic;</li> <li>• The applicant is performing eligible work (i.e., temporary facilities, approved non-congregate sheltering);</li> <li>• The work is not being funded by another federal agency; and</li> <li>• The applicant has attained the proper written approval and/or documentation for the use of the federal facility or land</li> </ul>	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	Would PA be able to field a representative to provide answers to questions? If possible, The Salvation Army would like to request for a PA representative to join a Salvation Army COVID-19 Coordination call to field questions about the PA process, eligibility, etc.	The Salvation Army should direct its member chapters to contact their respective State Emergency Management Agencies to the FEMA Regional Office for general PA eligibility and process questions that aren't answered in these fact sheets: 1. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Eligible Emergency Protective Measures: <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures</a> 2. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Non-Congregate Sheltering: <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-non-congregate-sheltering">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-non-congregate-sheltering</a>	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	Are PNP medical facilities eligible for everything that public medical facilities are eligible for under the Covid19 declarations? The Fact Sheet states that emergency medical care is eligible for both public and PNP medical facilities. Are there any eligibility distinctions that depend on whether the activity is taken by a public facility (SLTT gov) or a PNP facility with respect to the COVID19?  For instance, additional costs incurred for operating a Facility as a result of the disaster because of increased demand for services may be eligible for SLTT governments if the services are specifically related to eligible emergency actions, costs are for a limited time, and costs are tracked by the Applicant. However, for PNPs, operating costs are generally not eligible even if the services are for emergency actions. (PAPPG 60-61). Is this still true for PNP medical facilities under the COVID19 events?	Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Loss of Income	The shelter -in- place orders also resulted in cancellations of events that would have been taking place in multipurpose rooms, auditoriums, gymnasiums etc. Cancellations of these spaces are affecting the applicants budgets. Applicants depend on the rental revenues to offset their annual operating budgets. Would the monetary values for loss of income for rental space be eligible under Cat B for the shelter in place time period?	Although applicants may experience a loss of revenue due to shelter- in- place orders as a result of the COVID19 pandemic, FEMA cannot provide PA funding for lost revenue as a result of the incident. (PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:V.R.1)	4/14/2020
Grants Manager	Forms	After April 10th, when Applicants will be able to complete the pdf version of the COVID19 PW Template (Project Application), and then upload directly to Grants Portal, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•After uploading the PW Template to the Portal, will Applicants submit the application directly to a CRC review queue, or will the FEMA field staff get a notification of the upload and have to go into the Applicant Profile and review the project application and then manually submit forward to CRC?</li> <li>•Will FEMA PAGS get a notification or email when an Applicant uploads a PW Template/Project Application or when it is submitted to CRC?</li> </ul> I am just looking for some more general information to be able to provide our States on the expected workflow after the April 10th date. Is the process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Applicant uploads completed PW Template and submits → Recipient Review Queue; and then Recipient submits → FEMA Field Review Queue; and then FEMA submits → CRC Project Development Queue?</li> </ul>	We will be issuing process overviews for the COVID-19 streamlined process, including direct application. It will include step-by-step information and flow on what applicants and recipients and FEMA must do.	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Sewer Systems	3.Many Sanitation districts are experiencing a great influx of waste water/toiletries/wipes etc. into their systems- Many systems are servicing their sewer lines more frequently than normal maintenance schedule because the public are actively using more products for disinfection (due to COVID-19 safety recommendations ) and flushing them in the sewer systems. Would the cost for additional servicing of sewer lines be eligible?	Increased operating costs are generally ineligible for public entities except in limited circumstances such as those relating specifically to an eligible emergency action to save lives or protect public health and safety. Increased operating costs for PNPs are also generally ineligible unless the PNP is performing an emergency service at the request of the responsible government entity. The cost of servicing and maintaining the sewer lines is not directly related to the incident, therefore, would not be eligible for reimbursement under the Public Assistance Category B Emergency protective measures.	4/9/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	4. Would costs associated with backfilling a Public Works- Engineer (regular employee) who is now assigned to work on COVID -19 EOC response be eligible?	Since the engineer is unable to perform normal duties due to performing eligible emergency work (in this case, working the EOC for the declared event), certain costs associated with backfilling the engineer are eligible. If backfilling with a budgeted employee, only overtime related to the backfill employee's work would be eligible. If the backfill employee is not a budgeted employee (e.g., contract or temporary labor), then straight time and overtime are eligible.	4/13/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	Whether using tribal police to enforce stay at home orders related to COVID-19 is eligible for (PA Cat B) reimbursement?  Unfortunately, we did not catch which tribe it was to guide them to the region. I thought this might be a good addition to PA's Q & A. Per below, Dorn Lawin of OCC is asking for validation that this is an eligible activity.  <b><i>I have confirmed that using tribal police to enforce stay at home orders related to COVID-19 are eligible for PA Cat B reimbursement. We do have an issue of duplication of benefits for this work since BIA and perhaps DOJ have funding for tribal law enforcement. I know we are supposed to be concerned about duplication of benefits, but err on the side of providing assistance. Can you let me know what position we will take on reimbursing these activities? Thanks</i></b>	Per Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Eligible Emergency Protective Measures, law enforcement work related to enforcing stay at home orders could be eligible as emergency protective measures taken to respond to the COVID-19 emergency at the direction or guidance of public health officials. Tribal governments should be referred to the COVID-19 fact sheets that PA has issued, found here: <a href="https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus">https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus</a> . If they have further specific questions that have not been addressed, then they should reach out, through their emergency operations center, to their state/tribal/territorial FEMA Regional Office to receive additional advice on potential eligibility and how to document costs incurred. Further information about PNP eligibility can be found in the Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide, FP 104-009-2, dated April 2018, <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/111781">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/111781</a> .	4/9/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	Medical ventilators are a critical need item for COVID-19 treatment. States were unable to obtain medical ventilators needed for COVID-19 treatment from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and purchased a proportion of their need commercially. Are these costs eligible for reimbursement under PA?	Yes, to the extent these costs are not covered by another source, the use (i.e., purchase) or lease of specialized medical equipment necessary to respond to COVID-19 cases such as medical ventilators is eligible for PA Category B reimbursement, subject to disposition requirements.	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	As the State continues to experience high levels of COVID 19 infection per capita, we are experiencing labor shortages for workers (medical, corrections) essential to life and safety. These shortages can be attributed due to concerns over their own health and the health of their families and the high risk environment created in their workplace. There has been some discussion of implementing hazard pay during the emergency period to ensure we don't lose essential services. In this example it wouldn't be something that currently exists within their pay polices.  I know traditionally how the PA program would view this request, but this is a unique circumstance resulting from a pandemic which is not normally something pay polices are written to address. I believe you could make the argument that it is more beneficial to incentivize a larger pool of essential personnel to come in by paying hazard pay as opposed to paying what we know is FEMA reimbursable OT for a smaller group trying to do the job of many. Let me know your thoughts or if this has come up in any of your discussions, as always we appreciate your support.	Eligible COVID-19 work must be directly related to emergency protective measures taken to save lives and protect public health and safety in response to the declared Public Health Emergency, and therefore, bringing in staff to backfill existing employees (such as corrections, water treatment, child-care, etc.) that become ill would not be eligible for reimbursement as a Public Assistance Category B Emergency Protective Measure. The FEMA COVID-19 Emergency Protective Measures Fact Sheet includes a list of eligible emergency activities and additionally, guidance for employees working in the medical care are outlined in the FEMA Fact Sheet Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Emergency Medical Care.  When eligible COVID-19 work is completed Only overtime is eligible for budgeted employees performing eligible emergency work. Extraordinary costs like hazardous duty pay are considered premium pay. FEMA determines the eligibility of overtime, premium pay, and compensatory time costs based on the Applicant's pre-disaster written labor policy, provided the policy: •Does not include a contingency clause that payment is subject to Federal funding; •Is applied uniformly regardless of a Presidential declaration; and •Has set non-discretionary criteria for when the Applicant activates various pay types.  If these requirements are not met, FEMA limits PA funding to the Applicant's non-discretionary, uniformly applied pay rates. See PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:V.A. Applicant (Force Account) Labor.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	We are getting questions regarding the National Guard and State Active Duty (SAD) and just want to make sure we are being consistent with other Regions if they are having the same issues.  Question: "Is there any Federal Guidance for reimbursement of costs associated with SAD? Some members may have already received SAD pay, many will have received meals and some will have been in hotels. TAG's COS asked for additional guidance.  It should also be noted that the State submitted through the RA to the White House for 100% reimbursement under Title 32 and trying to backdate to include SAD due to deploying 2% of their staff. Which may help resolve PA issue and tracking such costs.	In Public Assistance, the work being performed must be COVID19 eligible work in order for reimbursement. The key is the work be directly related to COVID 19 eligible activities, for instance helping support medical operations. Without knowing the full extent of the work that is being conducted under State Active Duty (SAD) I am unable to provide an exact yes or no. It should also be noted that anything funded by Department of Defense (DoD) under Title 32 and Title 10 activations are ineligible under the Public Assistance Program as they are funded through DoD. Below is the citation of the policy.  Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) p. 34 and 35 The Governor may activate National Guard personnel to State Active Duty in response to an incident. Labor costs and per diem, if applicable, are eligible for State Active Duty personnel performing eligible work. Both straight-time and overtime are eligible, including fringe benefits.  The U.S. Department of Defense funds National Guard personnel activated under Full-Time National Guard Duty (Title 32) or Active Duty (Title 10). Therefore, Title 32 and Title 10 personnel costs, and any other costs funded by the U.S. Department of Defense, such as training, are not eligible.  In summary eligible costs related to the performance of COVID19 eligible work for SAD personnel would be eligible under PA unless covered by another funding source. If the State receives funding from DOD, it would not be eligible under PA.	4/14/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate	Actual Scenario If the contracts with the hotels does not allow for the co-mingling of affected/non-affected in the same facility, and the entire facility is required to be shut-down to the general public, is the potential reimbursement eligible based on the entire facility? Or just the rooms that are utilized?	The approval for non-congregate sheltering does not guarantee that all costs will be reimbursed as eligible. The approval for non-congregate sheltering is limited to costs that are reasonable and necessary to address the public health needs resulting from FEMA-4486-DR-FL. The county needs to ensure that their analysis of various options to address the public health need of their targeted population to include assessing trends of what will be reasonable and necessary to carry out the requirement are submitted with their project application for consideration.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Meals	Question: An eligibility question was raised as to whether a Food Bank's costs associated with the rental of refrigerator food delivery trucks would be eligible for reimbursement. These trucks would be used for the delivery of refrigerated food products in bulk to eligible Alternate Care Sites and other Shelters.  Is it safe to assume that with the clarification that was sent out recently regarding the eligibility of foodbanks, as long as there is a formal agreement or contract to deliver food would the SLTT be responsible for paying the foodbank for these costs if it is written into the formal agreement or contract and therefore, reimbursable by FEMA?	Refer to the FEMA Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance Policy issued 4/11/2020.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	We have a few COVID projects in development that are claiming costs for disinfecting an Applicant owned building. I'd be interested to understand if this is eligible at all, and if so, are there requirements? Please reach out to me if you would like to discuss.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and</li> <li><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>The costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19. </li> <li>Policies on labor costs, purchase of supplies and equipment, and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed).</li> </ul>	4/9/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	Please see congressional inquiry asking about examples of when hazard pay was used in past disasters:  Pages 23-25 in PAPPG provides the conditions of overtime and hazard pay. 1. Can FEMA provide some recent instances when hazard pay was used during disasters? 2. Is hazard pay only available to those called back from admin leave or is it available to anyone performing eligible work regardless if they were on admin leave?	1. <input type="checkbox"/> Can FEMA provide some recent instances when hazard pay was used during disasters? No – we don't have a way to report on this. 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hazard pay only available to those called back from admin leave or is it available to anyone performing eligible work regardless if they were on admin leave? Only overtime is eligible for budgeted employees performing eligible emergency work. Extraordinary costs like hazardous duty pay are considered premium pay. FEMA determines the eligibility of overtime, premium pay, and compensatory time costs based on the Applicant's pre-disaster written labor policy, provided the policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Does not include a contingency clause that payment is subject to Federal funding;</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Is applied uniformly regardless of a Presidential declaration; and</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has set non-discretionary criteria for when the Applicant activates various pay types.</li> </ul> If these requirements are not met, FEMA limits PA funding to the Applicant's non-discretionary, uniformly applied pay rates. See PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:V.A. Applicant (Force Account) Labor.	4/9/2020
Request for Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance	Has the Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate issued a deadline for Public Assistant Applicants?	At this time there is no deadline. The deadline for public assistance applicants to submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA) (FEMA Form 90-49) is nationally extended and will remain open for the duration of the Public Health Emergency, as declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, unless an earlier deadline is deemed appropriate by the Assistant Administrator, Recovery	4/9/2020
Emergency Declaration	Request for Public Assistance	Has the Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate issued a deadline for tribal nations who wish to go through the direct recipient application process under the President's March 13, 2020, nationwide emergency declaration?	This deadline differs by FEMA Region and tribal nations should reach out to their FEMA Regional Tribal Liaison for more information.	4/9/2020

Emergency Declaration	Request for Public Assistance	Has FEMA Administrator Gaynor or other relevant FEMA leadership issued a deadline for tribal nations who wish to go through the direct recipient application process under the President's March 13, 2020, nationwide emergency declaration?	This deadline differs by FEMA Region and tribal nations should reach out to their FEMA Regional Tribal Liaison for more information.	4/9/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>• <b>Is mutual aid eligible for reimbursement if the services are not directly related to the COVID-19 medical response?</b></p> <p>Example: Rural Water District operators have tested positive for COVID-19 and are no longer able to operate facilities. The Districts are using mutual aid agreements to bring in staff from other areas. Although these expenses are not directly related to the medical response, the Rural Water Districts are considered to be critical infrastructure providing essential community services.</p>	The work of operating a water or wastewater treatment facility is not directly related to emergency protective measures taken to save lives and protect public health and safety in response to the declared Public Health Emergency, and therefore, bringing in staff to backfill existing employees that become ill would not be eligible for reimbursement as a Public Assistance Category B Emergency Protective Measure.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Temporary Facility	<p>• <b>Would insurance costs for temporary medical facilities be reimbursable?</b></p> <p>We originally answered this questions with the following response: <i>No, insurance costs related to temporary medical facilities are not reimbursable under the PA program. According to the PAPPG Page 79 (PDF Page 90), "FEMA does not provide PA funding for utility, maintenance, or operating costs in a temporary facility, even if these costs increase." Additionally, "FEMA does not require the Applicant to obtain and maintain insurance for temporary facilities." Insurance is considered an operating cost of the temporary facility and is not required under the PA program. As such, insurance is not eligible for reimbursement.</i> However, we want to make sure we are not misapplying the policy since those costs in the case of COVID-19 truly are extraordinary costs separate from the Applicant's normal operating budget since the original facility is still functional. Can you please clarify whether insurance and other operating costs for temporary medical facilities may be eligible?</p>	<p>FEMA-approved temporary medical facilities for COVID-19 declarations are subject to requirements as described in Chapter 2:VI.B.17 Temporary Relocation of Essential Services of the PAPPG (V3.1).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As stated, FEMA-approved temporary facilities are not subject to the obtain and maintain requirements; additionally, insurance costs for the temporary facility are not eligible. The cost of obtaining and maintaining insurance is not an eligible PA cost.</li> <li>Utility, maintenance, and operating costs are also not eligible for temporary facilities as stated in Chapter 2:VI.B.17(g). This is the same for COVID-19 declarations.</li> </ul> <p>For additional information reference the Coronavirus (COVID19) Pandemic: Emergency Medical Care Fact Sheet, <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-emergency-medical-care">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-emergency-medical-care</a></p>	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Testing	Will states be eligible for reimbursement for COVID-19 symptom screening services?	Pursuant to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Emergency Medical Care Fact Sheet, <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-emergency-medical-care">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-emergency-medical-care</a> , Triage and medically necessary tests and diagnosis related to COVID-19 cases is eligible for Public Assistance funding, as long as they are not covered by another source, including private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, or a pre-existing private payment agreement.	4/14/2020
Grants Manager	Funding	White House Governmental Affairs is requesting a breakdown of funds by state for one-pagers they are creating. Is there a document in existence or a source that can be accessed by White House staff that provides this information?	Please use this link which has similar information: <a href="https://www.fema.gov/data-visualization-public-assistance-program-summary-obligations">https://www.fema.gov/data-visualization-public-assistance-program-summary-obligations</a>	4/9/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Meals	Are the costs incurred by food banks for buying and distributing food for COVID-19 eligible for reimbursement from FEMA PA?	Not directly. The FEMA Public Assistance Program cannot reimburse food banks directly for the costs of buying and distributing food, because these activities are not PA eligible emergency protective measures for PNP food banks. However, SLTT governments may enter into formal agreements or contracts with food banks to provide necessary food commodities. FEMA PA may provide funding to a SLTT government for the cost of providing necessary food commodities through food banks, through a formal agreement or contract, when food security has been impacted and food distribution is necessary to protect public health and safety. Indicators of negative food security impacts include documented decreases of in-kind donations to food banks; reduced mobility of those in need due to government imposed restrictions; marked increase or atypical demand for feeding resources; or disruptions to the typical food supply chain within the relevant jurisdiction. In order to address immediate needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, FEMA may approve funding to the SLTT for an initial 30 days, notwithstanding that another federal agency may have funding for this activity. FEMA Regions will re-assess before the end of the 30 days and may grant another 30-day extension as warranted. FEMA cannot duplicate funding provided by another source, and will reconcile final funding based on any funding provided by another agency for the same costs. Foodbanks may not seek direct cost reimbursement from the FEMA Public Assistance program.	4/9/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>We received the following question from a Recipient re: backfilling public employees who are home sick with COVID19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The County Fire Department is going to double its staff to address the additional runs or to backfill sick employees and/or staff a station full time (rather than part time) to address the additional runs. What is eligible here? So, clearly the staffing increase is due to COVID but not every run is COVID related...</li> <li>•EMS departments may need backfill if their department gets exposed. That backfill resources will come from out of town. I recommended a mutual aid agreement that included reimbursement of per diem. Here again though, not every run is COVID related.....</li> </ul>	<p>Backfilling eligibility is tied to an employee unable to perform normal duties because they are performing eligible emergency work, not because they are unable to work (on leave, furloughed, etc.). A fire/EMS department's normal duties also do not constitute an eligible emergency protective measure taken in direct response to the COVID-19 emergency. Because the underlying action is not an eligible emergency protective measure, backfilling employees is also not an eligible activity. However, the costs may be eligible as increased operating costs as described below.</p> <p>These could be considered increased operating costs which are generally not eligible under PA except under certain conditions. The Applicant may incur additional costs related to providing a service as a result of the incident; in this case, due to fire/EMS personnel being unable to perform normal duties because of testing positive for COVID-19 or are otherwise under quarantine. These additional costs are only eligible if:</p> <p>The services are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</p> <p>The costs are for a limited period of time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and</p> <p>The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</p> <p>In this case, it is likely that additional costs would be eligible since fire and EMS are services that save lives and protect public health and safety and the costs are for a limited period of time (i.e., the duration of the quarantine for personnel recovering from COVID-19). Only costs related to increased operating costs that can be tied to the declared event are eligible. For example, costs associated with covering an employee on personal leave/vacation would not be eligible, but an employee unable to work due to a COVID-19 diagnosis likely would be. Whatever the case, the Applicant must demonstrate that the additional costs are directly tied to the declared event and must track and document the additional costs to distinguish them from normal operating costs.</p> <p>The applicant must avoid duplication of benefits; funding may be available from HHS, CDC, CARES Act, or another federal funding source.</p>	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	A county government is going to enter into an agreement with a few for-profit nursing homes to provide the nursing homes PPE to help protect workers. Would the county government be able to claim the costs for supplying the PPE to the for-profit nursing homes in its PA grant application?	Yes, the county can provide PPE to for-profit medical care facilities. The purchase of the PPE by the county would be reimbursable under PA and subject to the cost share for the declaration.	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	<p>We received the following question from one of our States:</p> <p>We are working closely with our United Way, our local foodbanks (Echo Food Shelf), Lutheran Social Services, MyPlace, and other partners to deliver essential services in order to meet current needs. One of the problems and opportunities that we've identified is the need to disinfect these facilities in which our staff and our key partners are actively working to deliver resources to the community. Without proper disinfection, we worry about the spread of the virus through these key community partners. These facilities are not publicly-owned – they are owned by the United Way, Food Shelf, etc. However, given the need to keep everything disinfected but the lack of budget from the individual providers, <b>if the city covered the cost to have these facilities disinfected over the coming weeks, would this likely be an eligible expenditure? We already have a contract with a company to disinfect city facilities and would use this same company but extend the disinfecting out to other key partner facilities.</b></p>	Disinfecting facilities is an eligible activity for facilities that are owned/operated by eligible PA applicants. If any of the organizations and their facilities are eligible for PA – i.e., eligible PNP organizations that own/operate a facility that provides an eligible service – then they can apply to PA directly and would likely be eligible for costs incurred to disinfect their eligible facilities. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The following CDC guidance for disinfection is available online at: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities. If the organizations and/or their facilities are not eligible under PA, costs incurred for disinfecting the facilities are likely not eligible. The public entity would have to demonstrate that it has the legal responsibility and authority to disinfect the facilities in question. In the absence of legal responsibility, the work would not be eligible.	1-May
Grants Manager	Grant Manager	Do we have a date for the finalization and release of the COVID PW template?	<p>Submitting a Public Assistance Funding Request for COVID-19 FEMA Public Assistance COVID-19 Streamlined Project Application was finalized on April 14th. It is located at:</p> <p><a href="https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Applicant%20Quick%20Guide%20Submitting%20a%20Funding%20Request%20for%20COVID-19%20(04.14.20).pdf">https://intranet.fema.net/org/orr/recovery/pad/Coronavirus%20PA/Applicant%20Quick%20Guide%20Submitting%20a%20Funding%20Request%20for%20COVID-19%20(04.14.20).pdf</a></p>	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Testing	Would a state/county lab potentially be eligible for analyzing COVID tests of the uninsured?	<p>Refer to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Pandemic Medical Care Policy issued 5/9/2020; Coronavirus (COVID-19): Medical Care Fact Sheet issued 3/31/2020; and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Alternate Care Site (ACS) "Warm Sites" issued 5/12/2020.</p> <p><a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a></p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Testing	Would testing employees to clear them of COVID before returning to work be an eligible expense?	<p>Pursuant to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Emergency Medical Care Fact Sheet, <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-emergency-medical-care">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-emergency-medical-care</a>, Triage and medically necessary tests and diagnosis related to COVID-19 cases is eligible for Public Assistance funding, as long as they are not covered by another source, including private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, or a pre-existing private payment agreement.</p>	22-Apr



CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	From my own research, I know that inmate labor is included within the PA program as an eligible cost, but I'm wondering how that would work under COVID19 and the national emergency declaration. When a Department of Corrections manufactures PPE, is that cost eligible for the PA program? And if so, under what circumstances?	This is not eligible work reimbursable under the PA program (i.e., Dept of Corrections labor producing PPE for FEMA). PA provides assistance to State, local, tribal, territorial governments and certain PNPs. An eligible SLTT could potentially purchase PPE produced by Dept of Corrections inmates and the SLTT could request reimbursement through PA.	4/13/2020
General Information	Meals - USDA	Does USDA have a program that allow commodities to be distributed house-by-house?	Yes, USDA has a "Disaster Household Distribution" (DHD) program, which is an existing federal program that allows for USDA food commodities to be distributed house by house. Under a Presidential Declaration of a National Emergency, USDA Food Nutrition Service may approve state requests for DHDs for targeted areas to meet specific needs when traditional channels of food are unavailable and not being replenished on a regular basis. DHD provides boxed foods to households using existing inventories of USDA-purchased foods. More information is on the USDA's website: <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/usda-foods/covid-19-disaster-household-distribution">https://www.fns.usda.gov/usda-foods/covid-19-disaster-household-distribution</a>	4/13/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	There is a PNP volunteer ambulance service that is unable to maintain their standard crew for the pandemic, because the normal volunteer staff are limited due to employer restrictions on outside work, quarantined, sick, unable to respond since they are in the high risk zone (age 65+/health problems), or unwilling to respond for family or personal reasons. If that service was to go to a paid, part-time or full-time temporary staffing model for the next few months until the pandemic was over, would those wages be eligible for federal reimbursement?	Hiring additional staff would be an increased operating cost. For PNPs, increased operating costs are generally not eligible even if the services are emergency services, unless the PNP performs an emergency service at the request of and certified by the legally responsible government entity. In such case, FEMA provides PA funding through that government entity as the eligible Applicant. See PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:V.R.4 and Chapter 2:VI.B.2.	1-May
IA Related	IA Related	Recipient is asking if counseling services from a private sector provider for Port employees (Port Authority of Guam) is an eligible reimbursable cost under the FEMA Public Assistance program.	Counseling is not eligible under Cat B Public Assistance.	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	Applicant would like to know if their IT purchasing information security software and other item due to COVID-19 telework policy. Will these items be eligible for PA grant from FEMA.	Purchase of IT equipment and software would be considered an increased operating cost. Increased operating costs are not eligible emergency protective measures and are therefore, ineligible for Category B Public Assistance funding.	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Security	School districts have been inquiring about accessing FEMA funding to be used for miscellaneous costs that they have incurred due to COVID-19. For example, one school district has experienced a major uptick in vandalism to school sites due to school closures and would like to access funding to install better security measures. Are you aware of any FEMA funding that could be used for these sorts of things? Under the eligible emergency protective measures fact sheet I believe that the school district believed that the "security and law enforcement" category would make school security an allowable use of FEMA funding. I know that this may refer to states and actual local law enforcement activities, but wanted to confirm.	Increased school security would be considered an increased operating cost. Increased operating costs are not eligible emergency protective measures and are therefore, ineligible for Category B Public Assistance funding.  Security and law enforcement activities as referenced in FEMA's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Eligible Emergency Protective Measures fact sheet applies to law enforcement activities of a state, local, territorial, or tribal government.	4/14/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Transportation	Is the transportation of inmates eligible for Public Assistance reimbursement?	The transportation of inmates for life-saving medical or evacuation purposes related to the COVID-19 pandemic may be considered an eligible emergency protective measure. If they are moving inmates per their normal operations it is an increased operating cost not eligible for Public Assistance funding.	4/13/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Testing	Can all Florida laboratories charge FEMA for analyzing the COVID-19 tests of uninsured persons?	The answer to your question would depend whether or not the lab is an eligible applicant under FEMA's Public Assistance Program. The Public Assistance (PA) program is designed to reimburse state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and certain types of private non-profits. A private lab would not be eligible for reimbursement under the PA program, though payment for contract services provided to an eligible applicant, as the list above defines, may be reimbursable to the applicant if otherwise eligible under FEMA policy.  PA eligibility of specific medical care costs is dependent on the facility, other sources of funding, and other considerations specific to the circumstances of the incurred costs. FEMA cannot provide PA funding for clinical care costs if they are covered by another source, including private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, or a pre-existing private payment agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Applicant must pursue funding from private insurance, Medicare, and/or Medicaid, as appropriate;</li> <li>• The Applicant must pursue funding through the CARES Act for uninsured patients; and</li> <li>• The Applicant must not receive funding from another federal agency or any other funding source for the same purpose. This includes, but is not limited to, funding provided by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Program;</li> <li>o The Public Health Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement;</li> <li>o The Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases;</li> <li>o Grants available from the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response; and</li> <li>o The Coronavirus Relief Fund (Title V of the CARES Act).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Under the PA program, the default cost share is 75 percent federal; the remaining 25 percent of costs come from non-federal sources	4/13/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Meals	<p>Policy FP 104-010-03 - COVID-19 Purchase &amp; Distribution of Food, dated 04.11.20, has time limitations that state that:</p> <p>Time Limitations.</p> <p>a. FEMA may provide funding for an initial 30-day time period.</p> <p>b. SLTT governments may request a 30-day time extension from the Regional Administrator (RA) with documentation showing continued need.</p> <p>c. Work may not extend beyond the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, as determined by HHS.</p> <p>Question: When does that 30 days start? Should the 30 days start at the time of when the assistance/PW was approved or at the date of the declaration?</p>	<p>The policy doesn't specify, but it is generally meant to be prospective and to meet immediate needs. Going back to the beginning of the incident period would mean that the 30 days is already done, and the need may not have emerged until later, so that may not be a very effective date. An effective date could be from the RA's approval of the states request for meal delivery which would start the 30 - day period.</p>	4/14/2020
General Information	Management Cost	<p>1. Is the Tribal per capita indicator is the same as the State's, when the Tribe is the Recipient?</p> <p>2. Does the following provision from the Interim Policy apply to the Tribes? "If a Recipient requests a Category Z PW prior to project obligations, the PA Group Supervisor (PAGS) or Infrastructure Branch Director (IBD) will initiate an obligation for 7 percent of the Recipient's minimum statewide PA per capita impact indicator. If a Recipient does not wish to receive advanced funding, the PAGS or IBD will initiate the Category Z PW obligation for 7 percent of the Total Award Amount of all obligated projects at the time the Recipient requests management cost funding."</p> <p>3. Does the Tribes only get 7% of the minimum Statewide (Tribal) PA per capita impact indicator?</p> <p>4. Is there a special adjustment for Tribes for this since all of their per capita's will be VERY low?</p>	<p>1. The Tribal per capita is based on Population (as reported by 2010 Census) or estimated population of Indian tribal government. Per the Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance, page 27, FEMA will use enrollment numbers from a tribal government to determine the appropriate population.</p> <p>2. Yes, The provision applies to Recipients, including Tribe when they are Recipients.</p> <p>3. Yes, they only get 7% of the minimum Statewide (Tribal) PA per capita impact indicator.</p> <p>4. No, Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 (DRRA) amends Section 324 of the Stafford Act to establish the following management cost rates: "A grantee [Recipient] under [Stafford Act] sections 403, 406, 407, and 502 may be reimbursed not more than 12 percent of the total award amount under such sections, of which not more than 7 percent may be used by the grantee and 5 percent by the subgrantee [Subrecipient] for such costs." - Public Assistance Management Costs (Interim) FEMA Recovery Policy FP 104-11-2. DRRA does not provide special adjustments.</p>	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>Would National Guard support to cyber security missions under the Title 32 MA for COVID-19 response be eligible as emergency protective measures necessary to save lives and protect public health and safety?</p>	<p>no, these are not eligible costs under the MA. The President's emergency declaration (and subsequent major declarations) for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic provided that eligible emergency protective measures taken to respond to the COVID-19 emergency at the direction or guidance of public health officials' may be reimbursed. Work to execute a cyber security program is not an eligible emergency protective measure taken in direct response to the COVID-19 emergency. Because the underlying action is not an eligible emergency protective measure, backfilling employees with National Guard resources is also not an eligible activity.</p> <p>This is the same guidance we have been providing state and local governments requesting funding to support backfilling staff operating other critical services sectors.</p>	22-Apr
Grants Manager	Process	<p>I was just reviewing the new FEMA policy that would provide SLTTs with public assistance for food distribution and had few questions.</p> <p>1. How do SLTTs apply for the additional PA?</p> <p>2. Are there any restrictions on eligibility other than demonstrating that there's a need as a result of COVID-19?</p> <p>3. Is there a limitation on the amount of funds provided to each SLTT?</p> <p>4. If a State is already applying, can a city or county within the State apply separately as well?</p> <p>5. Are there any restrictions on the types of organizations the SLTT can partner with?</p> <p>6. Also on the news release it states "Under the President's March 13, 2020, COVID-19 emergency declaration and subsequent major disaster declarations for COVID-19, state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) government entities and certain private non-profit (PNP) organizations are eligible to apply for assistance under the FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Program." Other guidance seems to suggest PNPs cannot apply directly, is that correct?</p>	<p>1. SLTTs can find the application to apply through the Grants Portal at the following website <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/23/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-public-assistance-simplified-application">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/23/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-public-assistance-simplified-application</a></p> <p>2. Must be the legal responsibility of the SLTT entities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must demonstrate that the purchase and distribution of food is in response to the COVID19 Pandemic.</li> <li>• Must comply with the cost eligibility outlined in the policy.</li> <li>• Must insure that there is no duplication of funding available from another program, insurance, or any other source for the same costs.</li> <li>• Work must be completed within the time limitations as outlined in the policy.</li> </ul> <p>3. The reimbursement is based off the amount of funds documented to perform eligible work associated with the COVID19 Pandemic. There is not a per applicant limitation as long as the work is determined to be properly documented eligible work.</p> <p>4. The State is considered the recipient of the Public Assistance Grant. A City or County must apply as a subrecipient of the State.</p> <p>5. They may enter into formal agreements or contracts with private organizations, including private nonprofit (PNP) organizations such as food banks, to purchase and distribute food when necessary as an emergency protective measure in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. In these cases, PA funding is provided to the legally responsible government entity, which would then reimburse the private organization for the cost of providing those services under the agreement or contract. Any contracts must be in compliance with the procurement guidance: <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/20/procurement-under-grants-under-exigent-or-emergency-circumstances">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/20/procurement-under-grants-under-exigent-or-emergency-circumstances</a></p> <p>6. The State is considered the recipient of the Public Assistance Grant. A PNP can apply as a subrecipient of the State. However providing and distributing food is the legal responsibility of the SLTT governments to protect life, public health, and safety; therefore, the PNP is not eligible as a Public Assistance Applicant for reimbursement for providing and distributing food. As noted in the policy SLTTs can enter into agreements or contracts with PNPs.</p>	22-Apr

Request for Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance	<p>Question?? About the "Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance" memo we received. The City of falls into qualifying for this Public Assistance program. I wanted to know what should the City do to apply? Or am I overthinking this and this just falls into the RPA that we already filed with FEMA?</p> <p>If not and we need to apply and fill out an application (if so where do I find that) and in doing that is there any underlying obligations the City would be responsible for? I'm seeing this as wonderful gesture by FEMA to reimburse a City's expense for providing food. We have the receipts for the pallets of food we purchased etc.</p>	The City can submit its food related claims under the RPA if the RPA was filed for the COVID19 Pandemic.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Meals	I'm reaching out for guidance on whether PA could consider reimbursing Tribal Nations who have been utilizing their own livestock (buffalo, cattle, elk) to feed their communities due to a lack of available meat and other food commodities.	<p>If a tribe can articulate the need to distribute food in response to the COVID-19 pandemic based on the following criteria, regardless of the source, it would be eligible (inclusive of livestock sources) including cost of the animal and it's processing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Reduced mobility of people in need due to government-imposed restrictions, including "stay-at-home" orders, which prevent certain populations from accessing food;</li> <li>ii. Marked increase or atypical demand for feeding resources; or</li> <li>iii. Disruptions to the typical food supply chain within a given jurisdiction.</li> </ul> <p>Also, information from USDA is that they do provide tribes with some of the meats you mentioned, through their Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) program. <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/fdpir-fact-sheet">https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/fdpir-fact-sheet</a></p> <p>USDA doesn't cover the costs mentioned through any of their programs. Department of the Interior may be exploring an expansion in the hunting permits and dates to allow tribes to do more hunting to provide food for themselves.</p>	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Meals	Tribal nations are utilizing their buffalo, elk, and other livestock herds to provide meat to tribal members. Is the cost of animal (historical purchase cost) and the processing of meat eligible for reimbursement?	<p>If a tribe can articulate the need to distribute food in response to the COVID-19 pandemic based on the following criteria, regardless of the source, it would be eligible (inclusive of livestock sources) including cost of the animal and it's processing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Reduced mobility of people in need due to government-imposed restrictions, including "stay-at-home" orders, which prevent certain populations from accessing food;</li> <li>ii. Marked increase or atypical demand for feeding resources; or</li> <li>iii. Disruptions to the typical food supply chain within a given jurisdiction.</li> </ul> <p>Also, information from USDA is that they do provide tribes with some of the meats you mentioned, through their Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) program. <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/fdpir-fact-sheet">https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/fdpir-fact-sheet</a></p> <p>USDA doesn't cover the costs mentioned through any of their programs. Department of the Interior may be exploring an expansion in the hunting permits and dates to allow tribes to do more hunting to provide food for themselves.</p>	22-Apr
General Information	Admin Plan	Can expedited funding for be obligated to tribal nations without an approved PA Admin Plan?	No, in accordance with 44 CFR § 206.207(b), State Administrative Plan, before FEMA provides PA funding for any project, a Recipient must have a FEMA-approved Administrative Plan that describes how it intends to administer the PA Program.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Meals	<p>BLUF: Food bank said they have a 8-12 week lag on receiving food they order, so there is no way they could provide assistance in a 30 day window.</p> <p>Summary: Decreased donations and increased demand has caused a critical shortage for the food bank. The City is drafting a contract with the food bank, where the city will provide funding to replenish the food banks supplies. We had a call to discuss the contract and documentation requirements. Food Bank stated that at the current rate of distribution, they will be out of food in 2-3 weeks. The discussion ran into a difficulty when the food bank stated "for orders submitted today, we will not receive products for at least 8 weeks, but more likely 12 weeks."</p>	1. No it won't. 2. One of the current challenges is delays in fulfillment of food purchase orders. The cost estimate for the food purchase should be for no more than a single-30-day period. SLTTs should take reasonable actions ensure that food is distributed in a timely manner to address an eligible food security threat, including structuring purchases to avoid delays. SLTTs requesting Public Assistance funding will be required to demonstrate that: the food distribution is a result of COVID-19; addresses an immediate threat to life, public health, or safety; the purchase and distribution of food was necessary due to negative food security impacts; and the costs were reasonable. These eligibility criteria are evaluated on a case-by-case basis by FEMA regional and recipient staff. That evaluation will take into account the current circumstances facing the applicant but significant time delays in purchase and distribution may undermine eligibility justification.	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	Are there any PA resources that would come into play for Grief and Bereavement?	PA does not provide funding for Grief and Bereavement. This includes crisis counseling for workers at hospitals are not eligible in PA.	22-Apr
CAT B Eligibility	Meals	Are food purchasing, staffing, and equipment for food distribution all eligible expenses under the FEMA Public Assistance program?	FEMA Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance Policy issued 4/11/2020.	22-Apr

CAT B Eligibility	Meals	Is food/meals for staff at a COVID19 Alternate Care Facility an eligible expense?	<p>The short answer is that it is eligible under certain circumstances as described below. Eligibility of meals provided to staff responding to COVID-19 in Alternate Care Sites or other temporary medical facilities is the same as any other declaration. Meals for staff performing eligible emergency work is covered in Chapter 2:VI.B.8 of the PAPPG (V3.1):</p> <p>“Provision of meals, including beverages and meal supplies, for employees and volunteers engaged in eligible Emergency Work ... is eligible provided the individuals are not receiving per diem and one of the following circumstances apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Meals are required based on a labor policy or written agreement that meets the requirements of Chapter 2:V.A.1 (of the PAPPG);</li> <li>o Conditions constitute a level of severity that requires employees to work abnormal, extended work hours without a reasonable amount of time to provide for their own meals; or</li> <li>o Food or water is not reasonably available for employees to purchase.</li> </ul> <p>FEMA only reimburses the cost of meals that are brought to the work location and purchased in a cost-effective and reasonable manner, such as bulk meals. FEMA does not reimburse costs related to group outings at restaurants or individual meals.”</p>	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	<p>The County Sheriff contacted me due to an issue at the County Jail Medical Unit. The medical unit has four (4) isolation units that are being used to isolate inmates that show symptoms that may be related to the current COVID-19 pandemic. The negative pressure system for the jail’s medical unit had an inspection conducted today and was found to be in need of replacement. With nine (9) positive cases in our county the Sheriff is greatly concerned about having proper isolation protection in the jails medical unit.</p> <p>The Sheriff and County Jail have instituted preventative measures to reduce inmate population, taken protection measures for inmates and staff, but are greatly concerned due to the negative pressure system needing to be replaced during this pandemic. With the negative pressure unit replacement cost of around \$70,000.00, would this cost be allowable under the COVID-19 PA declaration? Is there any other emergency funding that could address this need?</p>	<p>It sounds like the “negative pressure system” amounts to facility restoration. Since the replacement need was not caused by the declared event, it would not be eligible under PA. If the Applicant was able to demonstrate that the system could be considered “equipment” and it is needed to effectively respond to the declared event in accordance with Public Health guidance, it may be eligible as an equipment purchase; however, it would also then be subject to equipment disposition requirements which would result in FEMA deobligating PA funds in the amount of the fair market value of the system once the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency has ended, as determined by HHS. See Chapter 2:V.B and E of the PAPPG (V3.1). It may meet the definition of “Special Purpose Equipment” at 2 CFR 200.89, but it is unclear whether a “negative pressure system” is a piece of equipment or part of the facility’s HVAC system. If it is the latter, then it likely falls under facility restoration which is permanent work under Category E and was not caused by the declared event, neither of which is eligible under COVID-19 declarations</p>	1-May
IA Related	IA Related	As an individual, I need cash assistance and I’m not sure where to start	<p>Please send Individual Assistance questions to: AskIA &lt;askia@fema.dhs.gov&gt;</p> <p>FEMA received your email request for assistance for COVID-19. When the President declares a disaster based on a request from the Governor of your state, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates the area eligible for assistance and the types of assistance available. The types of assistance include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual Assistance (help and assistance for survivors/individuals after a declared event)</li> <li>• Public Assistance (grants for State, Local, Tribal &amp; Territorial Governments and certain Private NonProfit Organizations)</li> </ul> <p>FEMA is not able to accept Individual Assistance registrations for COVID-19, also known as the Coronavirus. Your state or county has not received an Individual Assistance declaration; therefore, FEMA cannot provide assistance for losses covered by the Individuals and Households Program, including rental assistance, personal property, medical, and home repair or lodging/temporary housing.</p> <p>If you are unemployed due to the Coronavirus, please contact your local unemployment office. If you represent a small business or nonprofit, visit the U.S. Small Business Administration’s COVID-19: Small Business Guidance (<a href="https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources">https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources</a>) page for more information.</p> <p>If you have immediate needs, you may want to contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or the United Way by dialing 2-1-1 from a landline phone.</p> <p>You can find more information on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) (<a href="https://www.coronavirus.gov/">https://www.coronavirus.gov/</a>) page and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/">https://www.cdc.gov/</a>). Additional links and information have been included below for your convenience.</p>	5/15/2020
IA Related	IA related Meals	Hello I am a food distributor in my local community and I wanted to know how I would apply for the food distribution grant thank you.	<p>Thank you for your interest in supporting your community during this national time of need. You can reach out to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service at <a href="mailto:USDAFoodBoxDistributionProgram@usda.gov">USDAFoodBoxDistributionProgram@usda.gov</a>. You may also find information at <a href="https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food-to-usda/farmers-to-families-food-box">USDA Farmers to Families Food Box ( https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food-to-usda/farmers-to-families-food-box )</a>. You may also subscribe to receive updates from USDA on food purchases at Agricultural Marketing Service (<a href="https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAMS/subscriber/new?category_id=USDAAMS_C28">https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAMS/subscriber/new?category_id=USDAAMS_C28</a>).</p>	5/15/2020

IA Related	General Information	<p>Can you explain what the specifics are to apply to FEMA for assistance . I have severe asthma and has been taking out of work going on three weeks now by my doctor due to my severe asthma and I would be liable to covid-19.</p>	<p>We have received your email request for assistance for COVID-19. When the President declares a disaster based on a request from the Governor of your state, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates the area eligible for assistance and the types of assistance available. The types of assistance include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual Assistance (help and assistance for survivors/individuals after a declared event)</li> <li>• Public Assistance (grants for State, Local, Tribal &amp; Territorial Governments and certain Private Non-Profit Organizations)</li> </ul> <p>FEMA is not able to accept Individual Assistance registrations for COVID-19, also known as the Coronavirus. Your state or county has not received an Individual Assistance declaration; therefore, FEMA cannot provide assistance for losses covered by the Individuals and Households Program, including rental assistance, personal property, medical, and home repair or lodging/temporary housing.</p> <p>If you are unemployed due to the Coronavirus, please contact your local unemployment office. If you represent a small business or nonprofit, visit the U.S. Small Business Administration’s COVID-19: Small Business Guidance (<a href="https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources">https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources</a> ) page for more information.</p> <p>If you have immediate needs, you may want to contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or the United Way by dialing 2-1-1 from a landline phone.</p> <p>You can find more information on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) (<a href="https://www.coronavirus.gov/">https://www.coronavirus.gov/</a>) page and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/">https://www.cdc.gov/</a>) . Additional links and information have been included below for your convenience.</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Equipment-Medical	<p>Questions from the State.</p> <p>Purchasing masks in bulk (vulnerable populations and/or business employees) to slow the spread of the disease when restrictions are lifted. Can you assist with this question, this is very broad and includes masks for Businesses, if an eligible applicant like a county purchases PPE and distributes throughout the County , is this eligible or is it limited for PPE for health care and other governmental services to include PNP long-term care facilities? Are PNPs essential applicant eligible for purchase of their own PPEs?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SLTT Applicants can purchase PPE and distribute it to public and private medical care facilities, and be reimbursed by PA at the prevailing cost share. However, an eligible Applicant could not procure PPE on behalf a private business and be reimbursed by PA. See also the agency’s guidance on purchase of PPE. FEMA and HHS are working together to distribute cloth facial coverings as part of a multi-prong approach to re-open American economic activity while continuing to limit spread of COVID-19 through direct federal assistance.</li> <li>2. Only eligible PNP medical care facilities treating COVID-19 patients would be eligible for PPE. Purchase of PPE is only eligible as an emergency protective measure. For PNPs, emergency protective measures are generally limited to activities to prevent damage to its eligible facility. This is because emergency services are usually the legal responsibility of SLTT governments. In limited circumstances, FEMA may reimburse a PNP directly when essential components of a facility are urgently needed to save lives or protect health and safety, such as an emergency room of a PNP hospital. See PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:VI.B. For COVID-19 declarations, eligible PNP medical care facilities providing treatment to COVID-19 patients would be eligible to request reimbursement for medical care services including the purchase of PPE. Any other PNP facility would not be eligible under PA for PPE.</li> </ol>	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If individuals are reassigned due to COVID (e.g. nurses that normally work elective surgery and were moved to providing the drive thru swabs) is regular and overtime eligible?</li> <li>• Can the PNP hospitals apply direct to FEMA for NCS for their own staff or does there need to be a local government sponsor?</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No. Only overtime is eligible for budgeted employees performing COVID-19 emergency work. FEMA provides PA funding based on the reassigned employee’s normal pay rate, not the pay level appropriate to the work, because the Applicant’s incurred cost is the employee’s normal pay rate. Straight time would only be eligible if the employee is funded from an external source and the external source does not cover the eligible emergency work being performed by the reassigned employee. See PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:V.A.2.</li> <li>2. Emergency sheltering, including non-congregate sheltering, is not eligible for PNP Applicants. An SLTT government with legal responsibility for providing sheltering must request and receive approval from FEMA for non-congregate sheltering. For COVID-19 declarations, FEMA Regional Administrators have the authority to approve non-congregate sheltering in their respective regions. The non-congregate sheltering must be at the direction of and documented through an official order signed by an SLTT public health official or be done in accordance with the direction or guidance of health officials by the appropriate state or local entities, in accordance with applicable state and local laws. More information on non-congregate sheltering for COVID-19 declarations is available at <a href="http://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-non-congregate-sheltering">www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-non-congregate-sheltering</a>.</li> </ol>	1-May

CAT B Eligibility	Equipment-Medical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Is it required to submit an amount if an Applicant only submits costs that would not typically be covered by Healthcare insurance?</b> Example, supplies/equipment for a drive-through testing site. Likely the PNP would not collect insurance info and therefore payment. Another example, would be costs of nurse labor and IT support to cover a new Covid-19 call center. Hospitals do not get healthcare insurance payments for calls/outreach made via call centers.</li> <li>• <b>Reimbursement for medical care is made globally for care of the patient, and is not made related to specific services rendered, supplies used (ex: PPE, medications, oxygen), staff, etc.</b> As such, if FEMA's requirement to report reimbursements received which reflect the global care rendered to a patient, it would become necessary for us to report all costs associated with care of the patient (ex: nursing, vitals monitoring, fluids, room&amp; board, etc.), not just those incremental costs due to COVID (e.g. PPE, certain medications, etc.). Could FEMA please clarify how they want Applicants to address medical payments if medical supplies (e.g. extra beds, ventilators, PPE, medications, IV contrast, etc.) are eligible costs.</li> </ul>	<p>1. PA can only provide funding for eligible costs not covered by another funding source. This includes other federal agencies as well as insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid. Note that the CARES Act provides funding for uninsured COVID-19 patients. The Applicant must certify that it has pursued these sources of funding prior to seeking reimbursement under PA. PA funding is supplemental and not intended as the first source of funding Applicants should seek. Community-Based Testing Sites (CBTS) and associated costs are eligible under PA, but PA still must avoid duplication of benefits. The nature and purpose of a COVID-19 call center is unclear. Eligibility is not determined based on whether or not a cost is covered by another funding source, but whether the cost itself is eligible under PA. Duplication of benefits is one of many other factors in determining eligibility.</p> <p>2. Eligible medical care facilities should not seek reimbursement from PA as a primary or first source of funding. PA provides supplemental assistance for eligible costs not covered by another funding source. This includes other federal agencies as well as insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid. Note that the CARES Act provides funding for uninsured COVID-19 patients. Applicants must certify that funding has been pursued from other sources prior to seeking reimbursement under PA. An Applicant should be able to track and document its costs and demonstrate which costs are not covered by another funding source.</p>	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	Sheltering	<b>Would supplying electricity to homes and businesses during the public health emergency that would otherwise be disconnected for non-payment be considered as a protective measure and eligible under PA?</b>	Supplying electricity to homes and businesses during the public health emergency that would otherwise be disconnected for non-payment connection of electricity for residents whose electricity is not an emergency protective measure that is required as a direct result of a Public Health Emergency. Additionally, it is also not the legal responsibility of the SLTT and therefore would not be eligible for reimbursement under Public Assistance, Category B Emergency Protective Measures.	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	Meals - USDA	<p>Please see questions below from Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee: Suspense requested 4/28 COB</p> <p>1) <b>Are school lunches reimbursable under PA grants in a declared area?</b></p> <p>A) <b>If so, are there any limiting criteria to determine whether or not a state/locality is eligible?</b></p> <p>B) <b>If so, could other USDA funds that help share the costs of these meals be used towards a potential cost share? (I didn't think so, but HUD CDBG-DR funds can be used towards FEMA cost shares)</b></p> <p>2) <b>Does FEMA have any guidance on best practices for food distribution from previously-declared events that the advocacy group could share with their membership?</b></p>	<p>A school would normally provide lunch to a child, or make lunch available, during a school day. If the child is not in school and the school is providing a lunch to them, or making one available, it is not an emergency protective measure. If the school incurs additional costs to provide a lunch to a child (e.g., in delivering the meal to a child's home), or to make one available, it is an increased operating cost. Also note that the USDA provides assistance to schools that are providing and delivering meals to students: <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/covid-19/covid-19-meal-delivery">https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/covid-19/covid-19-meal-delivery</a>. See also: <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/covid-19">https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/covid-19</a> and <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids">https://www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids</a>.</p> <p>If a child needs food as a lifesaving and life-sustaining commodity, it would fall under FEMA Policy FP 104-010-03. The policy defines the framework, policy details, and requirements for determining eligible work and costs for the purchase and distribution of food in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.</p>	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The PA COVID-19 Purchase &amp; Distribution of Food Policy states "SLTT governments may request a 30-day time extension from the Regional Administrator (RA) with documentation showing continued need." Additionally, the HQ FAQ posted a response to a question regarding the 30-day time stating: "An effective date could be from the RA's approval of the states request for meal delivery..." Both of these statements imply that Applicant must request Regional approval prior to beginning the work. What is the process for requesting funding for the initial 30-day period and what information is required to legitimize the need for the distribution of food?</b></li> </ul>	<p>Applicants may submit requests by taking two actions: (1) submitting a Request for Public Assistance, which generally enters the applicant into the program and (2) submitting a streamlined project application, which requests funding for specific activities and costs. These actions may be taken by SLTT organizations at <a href="https://www.fema.gov">grantee.fema.gov</a>.</p> <p>The cost estimate for the food purchase should be for no more than a single-30-day period. SLTTs requesting Public Assistance funding will be required to demonstrate that: the food distribution is a result of COVID-19; addresses an immediate threat to life, public health, or safety; the purchase and distribution of food was necessary due to negative food security impacts; and the costs were reasonable. Regardless, applicants will be required to: ensure contracts to undertake food activities comply with the guidance in 2 CFR 200 and FEMA Fact Sheet: Procurement Under Grants Conducted Under Exigent or Emergency Circumstances to include clauses that allow for termination for cause and for convenience; include all required contract provisions; and ensure excess supplies are disposed of in accordance with the program's requirements found at pages 29-30 of the Public Assistance Policy and Program Guide.</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>In regards to FEMA's Donated Resources policy, PAPPG Page 35 (PDF Page 46) includes the following statement: "FEMA considers unpaid individuals who volunteer their labor to an Applicant to be third party even if they are officially members or employees of the Applicant organization (e.g. volunteer fire fighters at a PNP volunteer fire department)." If an Applicant's exempt employees "volunteer" their time (hours in excess of 8 hours/day and 40 hours/week), can those "volunteer" hours be used as donated labor to offset the Applicant's non-Federal share?</b></li> </ul> <p>We advised the Applicant that this has not been allowed in the past based on our own personal experiences as the intent was for employees truly classified as volunteers not exempt employees accomplishing a job regardless of the hours worked. However, we could not find second appeal setting precedent and are not familiar enough with FLSA to properly document our assumptions.</p>	<p>No, a paid employee who performs unpaid work is not eligible as a donated resource. The same section in PAPPG V3.1 (see Chapter 2:V.L. Donated Resources) specifically states that paid employees of the Applicant are not considered "third party," and would, therefore, not be eligible as a donated resource. The provision mentioned in the question comes later in the section and is specific to all-volunteer staff, meaning the individual volunteering time is an unpaid member of the Applicant's organization. It is an exception to the aforementioned requirement that the volunteer labor does not count as a donated resource if the individual is otherwise a paid employee.</p>	1-May

CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>Per PAPPG Page 23 (PDF Page 34), “FEMA determines the eligibility of overtime, premium pay, and compensatory time costs based on the Applicant’s pre-disaster written labor policy...” <b>Can you please clarify “pre-disaster” in the context of labor policies? Prior to the start date of the incident period, prior to the granting of an EM or DR declaration, or prior to the granting of a major declaration (if EM transitioned to Major), etc.?</b> This question is being asked because an Applicant’s labor policy was modified after the incident period start date, just after the EM declaration, but prior to the major declaration</p>	<p>Labor cost eligibility is tied to the labor policy in effect prior to the start date of the incident period. “Pre-disaster” means “prior to the incident” in the context of all PA program authorities and guidance, not just labor policies. The “disaster” in pre-disaster refers to the incident which preceded and is the reason for an emergency or major disaster declaration. Unfortunately, the Stafford Act, CFR, and PAPPG do not specifically define “pre-disaster;” however, the context of the word as it is used in all three clearly indicates pre-disaster as synonymous with pre-incident. Among other things, this provision prevents an Applicant from catering its labor policies to the availability of federal funding, similar to the provision that the labor policy is only applicable if it “does not include a contingency clause that payment is subject to Federal funding” (see PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:V.A.1).</p>	1-May
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	<p>Inquiry: I heard from one of the state leagues that PPE is 75% reimbursable by FEMA. All expenses should be run through FEMA first, then the residual (that was unbudgeted as of March 1) goes through CARES. Which means that cities and states should first get expenses through FEMA before they need to use other funds available. Is that your understanding?</p>	<p>Answer on May 1, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As stated in the President’s nationwide emergency declaration for COVID-19, FEMA Public Assistance will be provided at a 75 percent Federal/25 percent non-Federal cost share.</li> <li>Every state in the country has since received a major disaster declaration for FEMA Public Assistance at the same 75 percent Federal/25 percent non-Federal cost share.</li> <li>Typically, the 25% non-federal cost share may not use other federal funds, however, FEMA is working with other federal agencies to determine whether any of the CARES Act funding may be used.</li> <li>FEMA signed a MOU with HHS and received a reimbursable agreement that HHS will pay for PPE and other associated costs through Direct Federal Assistance (DFA) from April 15 – June 15, 2020.</li> <li>FEMA is working with HHS on an IAA from April 5 – April 14. We are also working with HHS on a MOU with HHS on costs that were incurred from March 15 - April 4 for PPE and other associated costs through Direct Federal Assistance. However, there is no MOU or IAA in place for this time period.</li> <li>Essentially, if a SLTT purchased PPE and is seeking reimbursement from FEMA; it is cost shared under the declaration</li> </ul> <p>Update: Additional Information as of May 13, 2020</p> <p>On April 5, FEMA and HHS signed an MOU to support the purchase and distribution of medical items to SLTTs that include PPE, hygiene and infection control, ventilators and testing supplies. Subsequently, on April 15, FEMA and HHS completed an obligating document (an IAA), to cover the costs of provision of these items from April 15 – June 15, 2020. Under the MOU and IAA these materials are being funded by HHS as such they are provided with no cost share. While there is not yet an IAA in place covering materials provided from April 5 – April 15, HHS did agree to fund materials provided during that time as part of the MOU. State and local partners looking to seek reimbursement should work with their respective regional FEMA and HHS/CDC offices for assistance in identifying the appropriate avenue for reimbursement and the correct process for submitting those requests.</p>	<p>5/1/2020 Updated Posting: add date 05/15/2020</p>
CAT B Eligibility	Equipment-Medical	<p>We are working with a State Department of Health to determine long-term funding for the mobile telemedicine clinic. Currently, they are acquiring 55 machines as part of the surge plan and distributing them throughout the state. This is an integral part of our COVID response. The cost to purchase the machines is \$1,980,000 and to operate these machines is \$495,000 per month. They are part of our lease agreement. What is the eligibility under Public Assistance?</p>	<p>There is insufficient information to determine if the machines and operating licenses are eligible medical care or other eligible emergency protective measures under COVID-19 declarations. Assuming that the purpose is for and the machines are actually used to effectively respond to COVID-19, and the users of the machines have the legal responsibility or are acting on behalf of an Applicant with legal responsibility, and the costs are reasonable and cost effective, then it is likely eligible. If so, the monthly licensing fee would also be eligible for as long as the machines are used during the duration of the Public Health Emergency. Also, the equipment purchase will be subject to disposition requirements under 2 CFR, meaning that the fair market value of the machines will be deobligated once the machines are no longer needed for COVID-19 response; additionally the cost of the monthly licensing fees will no longer be eligible.</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	PPE	<p>Can fire departments be reimbursed for PPE used on suspected/presumptive COVID-19 medical calls? Or is PPE only reimbursable when used on confirmed positive COVID-19 cases?</p>	<p>SLTT Applicants can purchase PPE and distribute it to public and private medical care facilities and emergency service providers (ambulance, fire and police) and be reimbursed by PA at the prevailing cost share. However, an eligible Applicant could not procure PPE on behalf of a private business and be reimbursed by PA.</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	<p>Are transportation costs for non-covid patients eligible if the hospital is transporting those individuals to other facilities to make additional room for COVID patients. Or does that fall under the non-covid patients individual insurance?</p>	<p>Any costs that are billed to patients or covered by insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, or through CARES Act funding for uninsured patients, or otherwise covered by another source of funding, are not eligible under PA. Otherwise, medical transport related to COVID-19 is eligible. This would include non-COVID patients being transported to a temporary medical facility (including an Alternate Care Site) as necessary to effectively respond to COVID-19.</p>	5/15/2020

CAT B Eligibility	Request for Public Assistance	<p>We have Regional Disability Integration Specialists that are working with the States to help them address accessibility gaps during this time of response. We have a daily coordination call and they have a lot of questions about PA and Cat B. Some of the common questions are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How can States use Cat B funding to support them when arranging sign language interpreters and captions for emergency broadcasts?</li> <li>2. How can a PNP apply for Cat B funding? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For costs related to COVID-19 such as needing to order PPE to serve individuals with disabilities in group homes.</li> <li>- For other COVID-19 related costs such as additional staff, overtime hours, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>For Question #1 please see FACT SHEET Accessible Public Service Announcements Category B: Emergency Protective Measures (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1587382847878-f9def17e6317d54da7db7f1fd3081559/COVID-19EPMforAccessiblePublicServiceAnnouncementsFactSheet(03.21.20).pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1587382847878-f9def17e6317d54da7db7f1fd3081559/COVID-19EPMforAccessiblePublicServiceAnnouncementsFactSheet(03.21.20).pdf</a>)</p> <p>For Question #2: The PNP must apply as an applicant by submitting its Request for Public Assistance through FEMA's Grants Portal at: <a href="https://grantee.fema.gov/">https://grantee.fema.gov/</a></p> <p>Once approved as an eligible Applicant, please see Public Assistance Simplified Application (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/23/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-public-assistance-simplified-application">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/23/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-public-assistance-simplified-application</a>)</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Purchases	<p>I am writing on behalf of a non profit that supports people with disabilities. These people with disabilities must check in with their doctor in order to receive disability insurance. COVID has made it so they can only check in online. The non profit wants to provide internet accessing devices to people with disabilities in their network who don't have access to an internet device, so they don't miss these check ins and don't lose their disability support.</p> <p>Does this cost qualify under PAP? Can only healthcare providers have the cost of telemedicine technology given to patients be covered under PAP?</p>	<p>Providing internet accessible devices to individuals is not an eligible cost under PA for COVID-19 declarations. The Applicant is claiming costs associated with provision of these devices for individuals who are required to check in online due to various restrictions stemming from COVID-19. PA considers this an increased operating cost. Increased costs of operating a facility or providing a service are generally not eligible, even when directly related to the incident. However, short-term increased costs that are directly related to accomplishing specific emergency health and safety tasks as part of emergency protective measures may be eligible (See PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:V.R.4). In this case, the increased operating cost is not an eligible emergency protective measure as it is not necessary to protect lives or public health and safety; it is related to ensuring internet access for the purpose of meeting requirements to maintain insurance coverage. Unfortunately, PA does not have the authority to cover such costs. Additionally, operating costs for PNP's are generally not eligible even if the services are emergency services, unless the PNP performs an emergency service at the request of and certified by the legally responsible government entity. In such case, FEMA provides PA funding through that government entity as the eligible Applicant (See PAPPG V3.1, Chapter 2:VI.B.2). To clarify, costs associated with the provision of such devices to patients by healthcare providers would not be an eligible emergency protective measure under PA either. Such technologies may be eligible for healthcare providers to conduct telemedicine activities if it can be directly tied to the declared event and meets other PA eligibility requirements, but costs to provide devices to patients would not be eligible.</p>	
General Information	General Information	<p>We have a news inquiry about two fact sheets that were coordinated and published by PA and the Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation. What are the links to access? One is regarding environmental and historic preservation and the other is related to floodplain considerations for temporary facilities.</p>	<p>These are available on FEMA.gov. Links are below.</p> <p>Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Environmental and Historic Preservation and Emergency Protective Measures (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/13/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-environmental-and-historic-preservation-and">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/13/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-environmental-and-historic-preservation-and</a>)</p> <p>Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Floodplain Considerations for Temporary Critical Facilities (<a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/13/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-floodplain-considerations-temporary-critical">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/13/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-floodplain-considerations-temporary-critical</a>)</p>	5/15/2020



CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	<p>Questions about Public Facilities</p> <p>1. We are looking to change our air handling system to isolate Covid-19 inmates. Would this qualify for FEMA PA?</p> <p>2. Can you expand upon funding for the disinfection and sanitation of public facilities? What types of documentation do we need to provide?</p> <p>3. Can an eligible county utilize this program to seek reimbursements for upgrades in their emergency operations center to prevent future spread of COVID, such as automatic, touchless doors, self sanitizing surfaces and indoor air quality measures that help eliminate threat of COVID spread?</p> <p>4. We are looking to change our air handling system to isolate Covid-19 inmates. Would this qualify for FEMA PA?</p>	<p>1. At this time we would not consider this an eligible emergency protective measure for COVID-19 declarations (see <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures</a>). However, FEMA PA is reviewing a range of activities relevant to Opening America efforts, including facility retrofitting, and additional guidance is pending.</p> <p>2. For eligible public and PNP facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible. The work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. CDC disinfection guidance is available online: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</a> for community facilities; and <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html</a> for healthcare facilities. In cases where disinfection may appear to be an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), funding may be eligible if: the facility provides services that are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property; the costs are for a limited time based on the exigency of the circumstances; and the Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs. Examples may include increased cleaning and disinfection costs in emergency, medical, and custodial care facilities treating patients infected with COVID-19. What types of documentation do we need to provide? Guidance on documentation is found on page 139 of the PAPPG.</p> <p>3. At this time we would not consider this an eligible emergency protective measure for COVID-19 declarations (see <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures</a>). However, FEMA PA is reviewing a range of activities relevant to Opening America efforts, including facility retrofitting, and additional guidance is pending.</p> <p>4. FEMA PA is reviewing a range of activities relevant to Opening America efforts, including facility retrofitting, and additional guidance is pending.</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Non-congregate sheltering	<p>Questions about Non Congregate Shelter Costs</p> <p>5. Is there any scenario in which FEMA would fund congregant housing on a short term basis, or is that expected to be funded through other sources?</p> <p>6. It was our understanding that non-congregate care funding is only approved through May 10th. Will this be extended?</p> <p>7. When sheltering homeless for health issues, do you have guidelines when this sheltering should end? Once stay at home orders end?</p>	<p>5. PA does not provide assistance for housing. Information on COVID-19 related non-congregate sheltering is found here: <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/public-assistance-non-congregate-sheltering-delegation-authority">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/public-assistance-non-congregate-sheltering-delegation-authority</a> and <a href="https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-non-congregate-sheltering">https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-non-congregate-sheltering</a> for more information.</p> <p>6. Regional Administrators have the authority to approve non-congregate sheltering in 30-day increments. States, tribes, and territories should submit a funding extension request to their respective regional administrators with a re-assessment of the continuing need for emergency non-congregate sheltering from a state public health official.</p> <p>7. FEMA does not have specific guidelines on the appropriate length of time an individual should be non-congregate sheltering. Instead, determination about specific individuals should be in accordance with the guidance and direction from appropriate health officials.</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Medical Testing	<p>Questions about Testing/Contact Tracing</p> <p>8. What is the guidance from FEMA on Testing costs?</p> <p>9. Would tracing be considered eligible under Cat B as Medical/Testing? What if it is for local government staff?</p>	<p>8. See Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Medical Care Costs Eligible for Public Assistance, FEMA Policy FP 104-010-04, <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1589208038530-19c77b9558076c303b4ebec5f0631697/PA_Medical_Care_Policy_for_COVID-19_508.pdf</a></p> <p>9. CDC indicates that they have funding for contract tracing through their Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC) Program. Also, the Treasury Coronavirus Relief Fund also has provided funding and their guidance indicates testing is an eligible cost for that funding. FEMA PA is reviewing a range of activities relevant to Opening America efforts, including</p>	5/15/2020
CAT B Eligibility	Equipment-Medical	<p>1. Can PA funds be used for facilities, trucks, supplies, etc. for handling mass fatalities and human remains?</p>	<p>Yes, use of PA funds for the storage and internment of human remains, including mass mortuary services are eligible under Category B as a public health and safety measure. For more information, refer to page 58 of the PA Program and Policy Guide.</p>	
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>2. What labor costs associated with COVID-19 are eligible for Public Assistance? Is worker retraining eligible?</p>	<p>Policies on labor costs and contracted services apply as with any other incident (e.g., costs must be reasonable and procurement requirements must be followed). For the COVID-19 public health emergency, refer to COVID-19 fact sheets and policies to determine what is considered eligible emergency work. (For example, see Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Eligible Emergency Protective Measures.) See pages 23-26 of the PA Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) for PA labor policies.</p>	
CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	<p>3. Can the FEMA Public Assistance Grant funds cover salaries that are already budgeted if staff have been reassigned to respond to the emergency and are contributing the county's COVID-19 response?</p>	<p>For Emergency Work, straight-time is not eligible for reimbursement for budgeted employees. However, overtime labor for budgeted employees reassigned to respond to the emergency and contribute to the county's COVID-19 response may be eligible, based on criteria found in the Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG), page 24.</p>	

CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	4. Are increased operating costs associated with re-opening public facilities to address social distancing	Under COVID-19 major disasters or emergencies declared by the President, FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program provides emergency protective measures to state, territorial, tribal, local governments, and certain types of private non-profit organizations, so that communities can quickly respond to those events. Applicants eligible for the PA Program receive this assistance through reimbursement of eligible work and costs. Reimbursement for the increased operating costs associated with re-opening public facilities to address social distancing (such as purchase and distribution of face masks, installing physical barriers like plexiglass, and sign-marks denoting 6 feet distance, etc.) are only eligible when being used in the performance of an eligible emergency protective measure. The costs associated with re-opening public facilities are not emergency protective measures, so PA would not provide funding for these activities in these circumstances. States can seek funding through other sources if choosing to provide items that are not eligible for funding through FEMA's PA program. For example, FEMA has distributed masks and temperature scanners directly to states on behalf of HHS using HHS's authority and funding, which are not subject to Public Assistance Eligibility. Other sources of Federal funding for these costs include the Coronavirus Relief Fund administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury and funding that has been appropriated specifically for schools that is being administered by the U.S. Department of Education.	
CAT B Eligibility	Applicant Eligibility	<p><b>Questions about Non Congregate Shelter Costs</b></p> <p>1. Does a homeless shelter need a Letter of Agreement with the local county jurisdiction to prove that it had the legal responsibility to take care of the homeless population?</p> <p>2. If money is spent to place unsheltered individuals into a hotel, as opposed to congregate sheltering, would that be eligible for FEMA Public Assistance?</p> <p>3. For the non congregate housing, will FEMA require us to submit medical proof from the individuals using our resources?</p> <p>4. How long will it take for FEMA to approve the Non-Congregate sheltering?</p>	<p>1. Measures to protect life, public health, and safety are generally the responsibility of state, local, tribal, and territorial governments. In some cases, a government entity may be legally responsible to provide services and enter into an agreement with a private non-profit (PNP) to provide those services (e.g., sheltering individuals experiencing homelessness). For PNPs, operating costs are generally not eligible even if the services are emergency services unless the PNP performs the work at the request of and certified by the legally responsible government entity. In these cases, the PNP is reimbursed through the eligible applicant. The process by which that occurs is a decision to be made by the PNP and the local government entity.</p> <p>2. For purposes of eligibility under the COVID-19 declarations, FEMA may provide funding through the Public Assistance Program for non-congregate sheltering for health and medical-related needs, such as isolation and quarantine resulting from the public health emergency. Sheltering specific populations in non-congregate shelters should be determined by a public health official's direction or in accordance with the direction or guidance of health officials by the appropriate state or local entities.</p> <p>3. While the applicant may be asked to provide general descriptions for populations receiving non-congregate sheltering assistance, FEMA will not require applicants submit medical documentations specific to individuals housed in non-congregate settings.</p> <p>4. Regional Administrators have the authority to approve non-congregate sheltering in 30-day increments. The length of time between request and approval will depend on the speed at which states can submit their requests to the appropriate FEMA regional office.</p>	
CAT B Eligibility	EOC	<p>A. What Emergency Operation Center (EOC) costs are eligible under COVID-19?</p> <p>B. Are purchases of laptops, equipment (printers, monitors, etc.) as well as costs for VPN services to increase cyber security eligible so EOC employees can telework under COVID-19 declarations?</p> <p>C. Is changing the footprint of the EOC facility or leasing additional space to increase the size for social distancing eligible?</p>	<p>A. What Emergency Operation Center (EOC) costs are eligible under COVID-19?</p> <p>PA may fund EOC costs, if not funded by the HHS/CDC or other federal agency, to coordinate COVID-19 activities for management, control and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety. Examples include SLTT's (state, local government, tribe, and territory) EOCs coordinating: communities' needs to establish sheltering operations (including sheltering household pets); movement of supplies and persons; communications regarding general health and safety information to the public; and search and rescue to locate and recover members of the population requiring assistance from impacts of COVID-19.</p> <p>Examples of eligible reimbursements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Labor (see PAPPG, Chapter V); for an example, see Q&amp;A #207</li> <li>* EOC facility costs (e.g., increased utilities)</li> <li>* Supply costs (e.g., paper, ink cartridges)</li> <li>* Meal costs, as described in PAPPG (V3.1 and V.4), Chapter 2:VI.B.8 (V3.1 p. 62) and Chapter 7:II.M. Meals (V.4 p. 117)</li> <li>* Disinfection of the facility in accordance with CDC guidance</li> </ul> <p>B. Are purchases of laptops, equipment (printers, monitors, etc.) as well as costs for VPN services to increase cyber security eligible so EOC employees can telework under COVID-19 declarations?</p> <p>No, purchases (computers, printers, monitors, VPN services, etc) so that EOC employees can telework are not considered emergency protective measures.</p> <p>C. Is changing the footprint of the EOC facility or leasing additional space to increase the size for social distancing eligible?</p> <p>No, changing the footprint of the EOC facility or leasing additional space to increase the size for social distancing is not eligible work. Purchasing desks, tables, etc. to allow social distancing is not eligible work.</p>	

CAT B Eligibility	Labor Cost	State inquired whether using NG to staff polling places for election would be eligible Cat B because most poll workers are in high risk group (age)?	<p>Using NG to staff polling places for election would not be eligible for Cat B. This is similar to a question we received for NG to staff an unemployment call center which is not an authorized activity under Section 403 of the Stafford Act.</p> <p>You may refer to the CARES Act funding for elections at <a href="https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/2020-cares-act-grants">https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/2020-cares-act-grants</a>. The CARES Act provided \$400 million in funding for the Help America Vote Act administered by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.</p>	
CAT B Eligibility	PPE	Would buying Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for election officials/volunteers to help with the election be eligible under Public Assistance?	<p>FEMA Public Assistance is providing funding the cost of eligible emergency protective measures in the COVID-19 emergency and major disaster declarations that are necessary to save lives and protect public health and safety, including medical care, sheltering and feeding. As the conduct of elections is not an emergency protective measure, under current policy FEMA PA is not providing funding for those costs which may include additional costs for operating elections in a pandemic environment, such as cloth facial covering, temporary barriers, additional equipment, etc. Funding for such costs is available through other sources of Federal funding, including namely the Coronavirus Relief Fund administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury, which received \$150 billion in funding for State, Local and Tribal governments under the CARES Act: <a href="https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/state-and-local-governments">https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/state-and-local-governments</a>. Also, the CARES Act provided \$400 million in funding for the Help America Vote Act administered by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, but I'd have to defer to the Commission on the costs eligible for funding under that program: <a href="https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/2020-cares-act-grants">https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/2020-cares-act-grants</a>.</p>	
CAT B Eligibility	Disinfecting Facility	Is purchasing UV-C disinfection lights eligible for PA?	<p>Generally, disinfection is an increased operating cost (e.g., cleaning and disinfection are a part of normal operating costs), these additional costs are only eligible if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The services are specifically related to eligible emergency actions to save lives or protect public health and safety or improved property;</li> <li>• The costs are for a limited timeframe based on the emergency or exigency of the circumstances; and</li> <li>• The Applicant tracks and documents the additional costs.</li> </ul> <p>For eligible public and private non-profit (PNP) facilities, costs associated with disinfecting the facility to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety are eligible in the performance of otherwise eligible emergency protective measures such as feeding, sheltering, and medical care.</p> <p>If disinfection is eligible, the work should be consistent with current public health guidance as it relates to disinfection recommendations. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides disinfection guidance online at <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean-disinfect/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean-disinfect/index.html</a></p> <p>Alternative disinfection methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The efficacy of alternative disinfection methods, such as ultrasonic waves, high intensity UV radiation, and LED blue light against COVID-19 virus is not known.</li> <li>• EPA does not routinely review the safety or efficacy of pesticidal devices, such as UV lights, LED lights, or ultrasonic devices. Therefore, EPA cannot confirm whether, or under what circumstances, such products might be effective against the spread of COVID-19.</li> <li>• CDC does not recommend the use of sanitizing tunnels. There is no evidence that they are effective in reducing the spread of COVID-19. Chemicals used in sanitizing tunnels could cause skin, eye, or respiratory irritation or damage.</li> <li>• CDC only recommends use of the surface disinfectants identified on List N against the virus that causes COVID-19.</li> </ul> <p>See: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html</a></p>	
CAT B Eligibility	Elections	What type of Category B: Emergency Protective measures are being considered eligible for the next general elections? I.E. PPE to polling staff, OT for polling staff, cost of postage for extra absentee ballots, absentee ballots, staff to mail out and evaluate returned absentee ballots, security, public announcements regarding social distancing and health, and PPE for general public?	<p>FEMA Public Assistance is providing funding the cost of eligible emergency protective measures in the COVID-19 emergency and major disaster declarations that are necessary to save lives and protect public health and safety, including medical care, sheltering and feeding. As the conduct of elections is not an emergency protective measure, under current policy FEMA PA is not providing funding for those costs which may include additional costs for operating elections in a pandemic environment, such as cloth facial covering, temporary barriers, additional equipment, etc. Funding for such costs is available through other sources of Federal funding, including namely the Coronavirus Relief Fund administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury, which received \$150 billion in funding for State, Local and Tribal governments under the CARES Act: <a href="https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/state-and-local-governments">https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/state-and-local-governments</a>. Also, the CARES Act provided \$400 million in funding for the Help America Vote Act administered by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, but I'd have to defer to the Commission on the costs eligible for funding under that program: <a href="https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/2020-cares-act-grants">https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/2020-cares-act-grants</a>.</p>	

CAT B Eligibility	Medical Testing	<p>we are still getting a lot of questions from our states on whether community-based and large scale testing, including wrap around services, will be reimbursed by FEMA or is the responsibility of the CDC/HHS and the state to work out. I am bringing this back up because based on our last discussion (3 August), we were going to hold off and wait on any messaging back to the states until issuance of the updated Medical Care Policy and the External Affairs Guidance. We have several projects that have been submitted with testing costs included and want to know how to proceed with these. The majority of these testing costs are all small projects. Our opinion is to push them through and obligate them based on the current <i>Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Medical Care Costs Eligible for Public Assistance FEMA Policy FP 104-010-04</i> stating "Temporary medical facilities may include Alternate Care Sites or Community Based Testing Sites if eligible work and costs related to these facilities are incurred by eligible PA Applicants". And then when the new policy comes out, we will have an as of date where we will no longer consider them eligible.</p>	<p>Yes, the current policy makes testing eligible; however, if there is a policy change, the change will be effective at a date in the future so if testing becomes ineligible we will not go back on any work performed before that date.</p>	
CAT B Eligibility	DOB	<p>Question: State, county and city agencies have purchased PPE and contracted for medical staffing. These supplies and labor assets have been provided to hospitals free of charge. Hospitals routinely bill patients and those billing rates include supplies and labor. Does this create a duplication of benefits (DOB)?</p>	<p>Answer: No, this does not constitute a duplication of benefits under Section 312 of the Stafford Act. Section 312 prohibits FEMA from providing financial assistance where the applicant has received or will receive financial assistance from another source. (Section 312: "prohibits any person, business concern, or other entity from receiving any part of such loss as to which he has received financial assistance under any other program or from insurance or any other source." 42 U.S.C. 5155). As defined in 2 CFR Part 200, financial assistance includes grant funding.</p> <p>If an SLTT provides resources (e.g., healthcare workers or PPE) to an otherwise eligible PA applicant (e.g., a hospital), this does not constitute financial assistance. The SLTT is incurring a cost for and is providing goods and services based on a justified need and then requesting reimbursement from FEMA. In addition, the SLTT governments are not receiving any funding back from the hospitals. For SLTT governments that are requesting reimbursement for supplies and labor, FEMA will condition the grant to require they track where they send the supplies and labor. This will allow FEMA to establish that the goods and services are going to eligible entities for eligible needs.</p> <p>The hospitals are receiving a good or service, not funding. If the same PA applicant (hospital) receives insurance payments from patients' insurance, there is no duplicative financial assistance (prohibited by 312) because the hospital has not received financial assistance from either the SLTT, FEMA or another source of Federal funding. If the hospital as an eligible applicant seeks FEMA funding, it cannot claim costs that it did not incur (e.g., for goods and services provided by SLTT) or for which it received financial assistance from another source. Anecdotally, it may be unlikely that typical hospital billing structures/insurance would account for the increased need for staffing, equipment, and supplies that the SLTTs are providing. If medical facilities seek funding from FEMA (as an eligible applicant in their own right), FEMA will condition those grants as to disallow funding for any goods or services that were provided or funded by SLTT governments, other Federal agencies, other CARES Act funding, or insurance.</p>	
CAT B Eligibility	PPE	<p>Is PPE for elections reimbursable by FEMA funding?</p>	<p>FEMA Public Assistance is providing funding the cost of eligible emergency protective measures in the COVID-19 emergency and major disaster declarations that are necessary to save live and protect public health and safety, including medical care, sheltering and feeding. As the conduct of elections is not an emergency protective measure, under current policy FEMA PA is not providing funding for those costs which may include additional costs for operating elections in a pandemic environment, such as cloth facial covering, temporary barriers, additional equipment, etc. Funding for such costs is available through other sources of Federal funding, including namely the Coronavirus Relief Fund administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury, which received \$150 billion in funding for State, Local and Tribal governments under the CARES Act: <a href="https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/state-and-local-governments">https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/state-and-local-governments</a>. Also, the CARES Act provided \$400 million in funding for the Help America Vote Act administered by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, but I'd have to defer to the Commission on the costs eligible for funding under that program: <a href="https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/2020-cares-act-grants">https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/2020-cares-act-grants</a>.</p>	
CAT B Eligibility	General Eligibility	<p>Is the purchase of face masks, temperature scanners, and disinfecting supplies for schools and other public facilities eligible for PA reimbursement?</p>	<p>Under COVID-19 major disasters or emergencies declared by the President, FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program provides emergency protective measures to state, territorial, tribal, local governments, and certain types of private non-profit organizations, so that communities can quickly respond to those events. Applicants eligible for the PA Program receive this assistance through reimbursement of eligible work and costs. Reimbursement for the purchase and distribution of face masks, temperature scanners, and disinfecting supplies for schools is only eligible when being used in the performance of an eligible emergency protective measure. Normal operation of schools and other public facilities are not emergency protective measures, so PA would not provide funding for these activities in these circumstances. States can seek funding through other sources if choosing to provide items that are not eligible for funding through FEMA's PA program. For example, FEMA has distributed masks and temperature scanners directly to states on behalf of HHS using HHS's authority and funding, which are not subject to Public Assistance Eligibility. Other sources of Federal funding for these costs include the Coronavirus Relief Fund administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury and funding that has been appropriated specifically for schools that is being administered by the U.S. Department of Education.</p>	