



FEMA

MEMA



# PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OVERVIEW COVID-19

MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
DISASTER RECOVERY UNIT

# MAJOR DECLARATION FEMA-4496-DR-MA

DECLARATION DATE: March 27, 2020

INCIDENT DATE: January 20, 2020 and continuing

DECLARED COUNTIES: All Massachusetts Counties

AUTHORIZED DISASTER ASSISTANCE: FEMA Public Assistance Program

*Category B - FEMA Public Assistance Program*

# AGENDA

- FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
- ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES AND COSTS
- REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
- HOW TO APPLY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

# FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA) PROGRAM

FEMA provides supplemental financial assistance to state, local and tribal governments, and certain private non-profit organizations for emergency protective measures that may be eligible under FEMA's Public Assistance Program in accordance with the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration in order to ensure that resource constraints do not inhibit efforts to respond to this unprecedented disaster.

The assistance FEMA provides through its PA Program is subject to a cost share. The Federal share is 100% of the eligible costs.

**FEMA will not duplicate assistance provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or other federal agencies. Additionally, this emergency declaration does not make direct financial assistance available to private businesses or individuals.**

## CATEGORY B – EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES

### DEFINITION:

An emergency protective measure is an activity undertaken to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to lives, public health, or safety.

# ELIGIBILITY PERIODS

COVID-19 Public Assistance Eligible Work – Comparison Table

		Initial Eligibility Jan. 20, 2020 – Sept. 14, 2020	Ongoing Eligibility Sept. 15, 2020 – Jan. 20, 2021	Eligibility Under Updated Policies Jan. 21, 2021 – Sep. 30, 2021
Medical Care	Clinical Care for COVID patients	✓	✓	✓
	Vaccination	⚠	✓	✓
	Alternate Care Sites & Community Testing Sites	✓	✓	✓
	Contact Tracing Disease & Research	✗	✗	✗
Opening & Operating	Personal Protective Equipment	✓	⚠	✓
	Cleaning & Disinfecting	⚠	⚠	✓
	Screening incl. Testing & Temp. Checks	⚠	⚠	✓
	Temp. Physical Barriers	⚠	⚠	✓
	Virtual Operations	✗	✗	✗
Mass Care	Non. Cong. Sheltering	✓	✓	✓
	Emergency Feeding	✓	✓	✓

Legend: ✓ Eligible Work   ⚠ Limited Eligibility with Specific Documentation   ⚠ Very Limited Eligibility with Specific Criteria   ✗ Ineligible Work

Links to Guidance:

[Initial Eligibility](#)

[Ongoing Eligibility](#)

[Eligibility Under Updated Policies](#)

# ELIGIBILITY: SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 – JANUARY 20, 2021

- a. Purchase and distribution of face masks,<sup>19</sup> including cloth facial coverings, provided to persons conducting eligible emergency work and/or in facilities where eligible emergency work is performed.
- b. Temperature scanning, including purchase and distribution of hand-held temperature measuring devices and associated supplies, in facilities where eligible emergency work is performed.
- c. Disinfection, in accordance with CDC guidance,<sup>20</sup> in facilities where eligible emergency work is performed, including purchase and provision of necessary supplies and equipment, and in excess of current operating costs.
- d. Acquisition and installation of temporary physical barriers, such as plexiglass barriers, in facilities where eligible emergency work is conducted.
- e. Law enforcement and security.
- f. Training and technical assistance specific to the declared event.
- g. Reimbursement for force account overtime costs, costs related to hiring temporary employees, and contract labor costs associated with performance of eligible emergency protective measures.<sup>21</sup>
- h. Movement of equipment and supplies, including transportation and storage.
- i. Other work and costs delineated within COVID-19 policies referenced in C.4.

- Eligible Emergency Work: emergency actions taken to directly respond to COVID-19.
- Does not include school re-opening or operation costs

Click [HERE](#) for FEMA guidance.

# ONGOING GUIDANCE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 – JANUARY 20, 2021

- a. Medical care, in accordance with COVID-19 specific policy or subsequent updates.<sup>10</sup>
- b. Purchase and distribution of food, in accordance with COVID-19 specific policy or subsequent updates.<sup>11</sup>
- c. Non-congregate medical sheltering, in accordance with COVID-19 specific policy or subsequent updates.<sup>12</sup>
- d. Operation of Emergency Operations Centers to direct and coordinate resources and response activities for COVID-19 declarations.<sup>13</sup>
- e. Communications to disseminate public information regarding health and safety measures and provide warnings about risks and hazards.<sup>14</sup>
- f. Mass casualty management, including storage of human remains and mass mortuary services, as necessary to manage fatalities caused by COVID-19.<sup>15</sup>
- g. Purchase and distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)<sup>16</sup> that is directly related to the performance of otherwise eligible emergency work,<sup>17</sup> or is provided to healthcare workers, patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection, and first responders.<sup>18</sup>
  - i. Funding for stockpiling a supply of eligible PPE is limited to a supply that is projected for up to 60 days from date of purchase.
  - ii. Funding for storing eligible PPE is limited to what is necessary to store a projected 60-day PPE supply.

Activities are eligible for reimbursement **ONLY** if the entity has the legal responsibility!





## ELIGIBILITY: JANUARY 21, 2021 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

FEMA may provide assistance to all eligible PA Applicants, including SLTTs and eligible PNPs, for the following measures implemented to facilitate the safe opening and operation of all eligible facilities in response to COVID-19 declared events:

- a. Purchase and distribution of face masks, including cloth face coverings, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- b. Cleaning and disinfection, in accordance with CDC guidance or that of an appropriate Public Health official available at the time the work was completed, including the purchase and provision of necessary supplies and equipment in excess of the Applicant's regularly budgeted costs.
- c. COVID-19 diagnostic testing.
- d. Screening and temperature scanning, including, but not limited to, the purchase and distribution of hand-held temperature measuring devices or temperature screening equipment.
- e. Acquisition and installation of temporary physical barriers, such as plexiglass barriers and screens/dividers, and signage to support social distancing, such as floor decals.
- f. Purchase and storage of PPE and other supplies listed in this section based on projected needs.

- Supplemental to September 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 policy
- Eligible Public Facilities
- Click [HERE](#) for FEMA guidance.

# DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

## SMALL PROJECTS VS LARGE PROJECTS

### SMALL PROJECT DOCUMENTATION from \$3,300 - \$131,100

- Electronic Streamlined Project Application
- MEMA Workbook (Summary Log)
- Subrecipient Small Project Certification Form
- Procurement Policy
- Pay Policy & Applicable Union Contracts

### LARGE PROJECT DOCUMENTATION equal to or exceed \$131,100

- Electronic Streamlined Project Application
- MEMA Workbook (Summary Log)
- Procurement Policy
- Pay Policy & Applicable Union Contracts
- Force Account Labor
  - *Time Sheets*
  - *Proof of Payment*
- Force Account Equipment
  - *Proof of Ownership*
  - *Operator Time Sheets & Logs*
- Materials & Supplies
  - *Invoices/Receipts*
  - *Proof of Payment*
  - *Procurement Documentation*
- Contracts
  - *Contract Agreements*
  - *Invoices/Receipts*
  - *Proof of Payment*
  - *Procurement Documentation*

# HOW TO APPLY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

## Request an Organization Profile

*Only if you are a first time applicant in Grants Portal, if you have received PA from a disaster in 2018 or more recently in MA, go to next section.*

### **Local Government**

Directly request portal account/request public assistance for DR 4496 at <https://grantee.fema.gov>

### **Nonprofit with 501(c)3 IRS Status**

Must go through MEMA for portal registration

- 1) Fill out Portal Registration Form, located [here](#)
- 2) Email Portal Registration Form to [disaster.recovery@mass.gov](mailto:disaster.recovery@mass.gov)

## Submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA)

Once you have requested and created an organization profile in Grants Portal, you should receive an automatically generated email confirming an organization profile has been created. In order to request PA for DR 4496, you must complete the following:

- 1) Log into account on Grants Portal at <https://grantee.fema.gov>
- 2) Navigate to the “Request Public Assistance” button on the upper right side of your screen.
- 3) Complete and submit the RPA Form.

# STATE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CONTACTS

- MA Public Assistance Officer

[Erica.Heidelberg@mass.gov](mailto:Erica.Heidelberg@mass.gov)

- MA Public Assistance Program Coordinator – Complex Lane Projects

[Lorraine.Eddy@mass.gov](mailto:Lorraine.Eddy@mass.gov)

MA Public Assistance Program Coordinator – Standard Lane Projects

[Amanda.Campen@mass.gov](mailto:Amanda.Campen@mass.gov)

- Questions?

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-federal-disaster-declaration#questions->

[Disaster.Recovery@mass.gov](mailto:Disaster.Recovery@mass.gov)