

Question Asked	Answer Provided
Is hazard pay an eligible cost for budgeted permanent employees?	Typically the reimbursement for labor items like hazard pay are dependent upon the applicant's pre-disaster pay policy/ collective bargaining agreement (FEMA will often reimburse based upon the applicant's standard policies).
Is hazard pay an eligible cost for budgeted permanent employees?	This is likely dependent upon the applicant's established pre-disaster labor agreement/pay policy. FEMA will typically reimburse based upon an applicant's standard process.
If the agency did not have a hazard pay policy prior to the disaster, but enacts one now, will hazard pay be approved for the time period after the policy was enacted?	Maybe, FEMA will evaluate all submitted costs. Typically, FEMA will reimburse based upon the applicant's standard pay policy. I would recommend submitting your costs and developing a narrative as to necessity of hazard pay.
If the agency is using a facility for non-congregate sheltering that has been donated by a third party, should the rent and utility costs of this facility be included as donated resources?	Generally "donated resources" constitute equipment, supplies, materials, labor and logistical support donated to an organization from a third-party to assist with response activities. The applicant may use the value of donated resources to offset the non-Federal share of its eligible Emergency Work Projects (Category B- Emergency Protective Measures in the case of DR-4496). It is recommended that you submit the cost information for this Non-Congregate Sheltering and FEMA will review.
Our current status in the Grants Portal says "pending grant completion" and I'm a little unclear now about the next step. Is our next step to submit a project application that includes our costs incurred to date, as well as projected costs for the future?	Correct, the next step is to fill out a streamlined project application form. The process to complete this form within the Grants Portal will be available in the very near future. You can submit the costs incurred to date and estimate any costs you expect to incur over the next several months as part of one streamlined application.
Will this webinar recording be available after today?	This presentation will be available on MEMA's website at the conclusion of all applicant briefings this week.
Are private colleges eligible for assistance as an educational facility?	Yes, a PNP college is potentially an eligible applicant for Public Assistance under the categorization of a PNP providing education as a "critical service."
will these slides be available for download?	Yes, we anticipate that they will be available on the MEMA website by the end of the week.
For the written agreement to have a private nonprofit provide food distribution, when did that agreement need to be in place? Can it be retroactive? Are there requirements or a template for this agreement?	We require some additional information to answer this question. We will follow-up after the webinar to discuss the specifics.
when will be the deadline of the application ?	There is no deadline at this time because the disaster incident period is still ongoing. MEMA will notify applicants when FEMA designates a deadline.
can we submit part of the cost like up till april then we submit another cost from may to like august ?	You can submit whichever way is best for you.
would that be considered as duplicate application for mulit application for different time period ?	It will not be considered a duplicate because it will have different activity dates. Make sure you do not overlap.
will the funding be exhausted if we submit the application late	No we will not run out of funding.

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A colleague of mine applying for FEMA assistance in another state indicated that FEMA was recommending that non-profits engage the use of a Consultant to assist with the submission. He was advised that the cost of the Consultant would be covered 100% up to 5% of the total cost of the FEMA claim. Is this accurate?	Costs for consultants can be included as "management costs" which is eligible for up to 5% of your total grant amount (all of your projects). Example= You have a Category B- Emergency Protective Measure Worksheet for \$100,000....you would be eligible for up to \$5,000 in management costs. You must still provide back-up documentation that demonstrates you spent up to the maximum 5%.
If an RPA is being reviewed currently, is it possible to amend the RPA to include further information (like the PNP Cert) or should we wait until the initial review has completed?	You can upload additional information into the grants portal. You can additionally reach out to a MEMA rep and they should be able to help guide you/process the information.
Can you share a link to the PNP Certificate?	MEMA will connect with you after the webinar to ensure that you have the appropriate paperwork to upload into Grants Portal.
regarding eligible facilities": are only those organizations providing critical functions or essential non-critical functions eligible?	Correct, a PNP organization must fall under either the category of providing critical or essential non-critical services. There is a comprehensive eligibility table with the various types of PNP functions. A MEMA representative should be able to share this.
How should we track labor costs? Should we be over or underinclusive?	There is a project workbook available on MEMA's website to help you track your cost. It can be downloaded at: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-federal-disaster-declaration#public-assistance-grant-process-
This is a FEMA disaster and MEMA is the facilitator of the disaster? I just want to make sure I understand each role.	Yes, MEMA is the "recipient" and you as the "applicant" would be the "sub-recipient." It is a FEMA disaster declaration, but MEMA is the pass through entity for all grant funding to applicants. Both MEMA and FEMA staff will review project worksheets.
The FEMA Streamlined Application was added to the FEMA website under Resources. Is this the same as the Project Application Template that is being finalized by FEMA now? Not sure if there are two applications to complete or are they same thing?	The streamlined application that is posted on the MEMA website (and within Grants Portal under Resources) are the same template. This PDF template is to help you plan and prepare materials to enter into the Grants Portal. The actual tool (within Grants Portal) will be available in the next week or so.
Can the Expedited Funding be done more than once?	Yes, you could submit one claim now, and then another down the road if costs continued and the applicant still had an immediate need for funding.
Can the Expedited Funding be done more than once?	FEMA can additionally estimate future costs that you expect to incur over the next several months.
We've heard that long term medical care for COVID 19 patients is not eligible. However, it does say emergency medical care for COVID-19 patients is an eligible cost. Does that mean that if you operate a hospital, costs related to COVID-19 patients (or COVID-19 suspected patients) in the emergency department are eligible for reimbursement from FEMA?	Correct, emergency medical treatment for covid-19 positive or suspected patients, such as what would be performed in a hospital emergency department, may be eligible. The applicant must have legal responsibility to be performing this work. Long-term medical care for Covid-19 patients is generally not eligible.
Since the incident is ongoing, can applicants submit multiple project applications, for example on a monthly basis?	yes, you can submit more than 1 CAT B project to capture 30 /60 /90 days or you can estimate out. This may be difficult not knowing the end date.
What about depopulating emergency homeless shelters and adding day space for 24/7 life saving programs	Depopulating homeless shelters and non-congregate sheltering for these population groups may be eligible, however, the applicant must have legal responsibility to perform this work.

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<p>What about setting up a fema tent for individuals to isolate before entering reg shelter as to not infect others. Is staffing cost eligible here</p>	<p>Generally to be eligible as a CAT B Emergency Protective Measure, work needs to be protecting against or addressing an immediate threat to public health and safety. I would develop a narrative as to the necessity of the action taken. The applicant additionally must have legal responsibility to perform the work. All costs are subject to review. The best thing is to document all activities with backup documentation and it will be reviewed by FEMA.</p>
<p>Can the cost of test kits purchased from reference labs be eligible for funding?</p>	<p>The purchase of supplies to eliminate an immediate threat to public health and safety may be eligible. An applicant must have legal responsibility to perform the emergency protective measures.</p>
<p>Can management costs be submitted for salaried employees for time spent on COVID meetings, the funding request, etc?</p>	<p>Yes, salaried employees may be eligible as long as you can generate an hourly rate to charge for their time. Eligible management costs are generally administrative, indirect or direct costs incurred by the applicant administering their Public Assistance project. These costs must be related to developing eligible PA projects and receiving reimbursement.</p>
<p>If you accept the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan can you also apply for PA through FEMA?</p>	<p>It would likely depend on specifically what the loan covered. FEMA cannot duplicate benefits for specific activities performed by an applicant that they have already received funding for, including insurance and other federal grants.</p>
<p>thank you. So if PPP was used 100% for payroll, PA could possibly be used for non-payroll expenses (food, supplies, etc.)?</p>	<p>Correct, these items may be eligible if they are not specifically covered under another type of funding source (benefit) such as insurance or another federal grant.</p>
<p>Are category B costs subject to the 50% cost sharing? (only 50% reimburseable)?</p>	<p>75% Fed Share, 25% Local Share for CAT B Projects</p>
<p>Are category B costs subject to the 50% cost sharing? (only 50% reimburseable)?</p>	<p>Expedited Funding requests are initially funded at 50% of the estimated costs.</p>
<p>If proof of ownership is needed for a PNP to submit a Request for Public Assistance, will a Deed suffice? And can the deed also be used as proof of legal responsibility?</p>	<p>A deed is suitable to demonstrate proof of ownership. Proof of legal responsibility would depend upon the type of work that the applicant is claiming reimbursement for. Generally a PNP would engage with the municipality that has legal responsibility to perform emergency protective measures, such as the town and city. A possible outcome is that the municipality with legal responsibility contracts the work to a PNP to perform.</p>
<p>Are costs for staffing a Command Center or providing training on COVID 19 eligible costs for reimbursement under FEMA?</p>	<p>Both Emergency Operation Center costs and training specific to the disaster may be eligible for reimbursement.</p>
<p>Will reimbursed labor costs be in conflict with PPP funds?</p>	<p>It would likely depend on specifically what the loan covered. FEMA cannot duplicate benefits for specific activities performed by an applicant that they have already received funding for, including insurance and other federal grants.</p>
<p>we are a health system - should we file an application for each of our entities or can we use one application for the entire system?</p>	<p>Typically, this would depend upon the legal status of the entity's under the umbrella organization. If the organizations under the parent own and operate separate facilities then they would likley submit their own individual RPAs.</p>
<p>is this assistance for COVID related PPE, santizing, protective and treatment projects only - or does this also provide assistance for the support of remote work - like the purchase of laptops, web cams etc, for example to allow for continuation of teaching in an educational faculty?</p>	<p>Equipment to facilitate remote learning is not currently identified as an eligible emergency protective measure. Generally to be eligible as a CAT B Emergency Protective Measure, work needs to be protecting against or addressing an immediate threat to public health and safety. I would encourage that you to continue tracking these types of costs as we are receiving routine guidance.</p>

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If we have already submitted a PA how will we be notified of the next step and determination of our application?	You should receive a notification from the Grants Portal system (email) when an eligibility decision is made on your RPA. MEMA will engage applicants once the streamlined project application form functionality is available in Grants Portal.
We have a task in our RPA (SBA loan determination). It doesn't appear that I can do anything with that task though it shows us as the associated personnel. We still don't have FEMA approval. Do I need to do something and/or who can I talk to about these types of specific questions? Thank you!	I am in the process of going over and approving RPAs now.
If we are approved for an expedited request will that provide the 50% of the FEMA portion prior to the closeout of the project?	Yes, the 50% of funding will be available quickly. At closeout, a complete reconciliation of costs incurred will be conducted, and the proejct will be adjusted back to 100%.
Do you put in a seperate Project for type of costs or is it better to put it all under one request	I would fill out the streamlined project application form and include all of your costs in the one submission.
Do all food requests have to go through the municipality	We require some additional information to answer this question. We will follow-up after the webinar to discuss the specifics.
Is a private non-profit home health agency who provides medical services (nursing visits) in the homes of patients rather than in a facility and has purchased personal protective equipment to respond to COVID-19 cases eligible to apply?	In order to be eligible for Public Assistance, a Private Non-Profit must demonstrate that they own or operate a facility providing an eligible service.
Only the overtime from re-assigned employees represents an eligible cost, while work from outside contractors is covered at the actual cost. Will FEMA assistance be reduced if organization decide to furlough staff in low volume areas and hire outside contractors to address emergency work rather than train and re-assign existing staff?	MEMA will connect with you after the webinar to address your specific question.
Will the slides and a recording be sent out afterwards?	yes, you will be able to download it and MEMA will give you guidance on where to go to get it.
what types of non-profits are eligible for this? Thank you!	A PNP organization must fall under either the category of providing critical or essential non-critical services. There is a comprehensive eligibility table with the various types of PNP functions. A MEMA representative should be able to share this.
Can costs include loss of revenue due to COVID-19 pandemic ?	Loss of revenue is not currently identified as an eligible emergency protective measure. Generally to be eligible as a CAT B Emergency Protective Measure, work needs to be protecting against or addressing an immediate threat to public health and safety. However, we are receiving new guidance routinely so I recommend tracking these costs.
Is funding based on cost reimbursment ?	Yes, FEMA Public Assistance is a reimbursment grant program.
Are RAPID antibody test kits costs can be covered ?	Generally to be eligible as a CAT B Emergency Protective Measure, the purchase of supplies needs to be protecting against or addressing an immediate threat to public health and safety. The applicant additionally requires legal responsibility.
can we get a copy of this slide deck also?	The briefing slides will be posted on the MEMA website at the conclusion of applicant briefings this week. If you reach out to us at disaster.recovery@mass.gov we can email them to you.
Similar to the last speaker, we are a boys and girls club who is delivering food and grocery without partnership with the school system. Would we be able to apply that for funding/reimbursement of food and ppe used to provide the food	The applicant would need to demonstrate that they have legal responsibility to provide an emergency feeding program and that there is a need to provide this service in the community. Typically, a municipality (town/city) has legal responsibility to perform this type of work.

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Under Mass Declaration to allow non-congregate sheltering you mentioned states and cities were approved by FEMA to provide. What about PNPs who have been directed by a City to provide non-congregate sheltering?	Typically PNPs do not legal responsibility to perform Non-Congregate sheltering. It is critical that PNPs coordinate with the respective municipality that has legal responsibility. A possible outcome is that the municipality with legal responsibility contracts out the work to the PNP.
Can MEMA confirm if a city or community has requested and been approved for non-congregate sheltering? Specifically, interested on City of Boston.	The current state-wide approval for non-congregate sheltering approves eligible costs incurred by local governments, such as Boston (City of). Non-congregate sheltering is only available if provided for approved at-risk population groups.
Can FEMA PA funds be used to purchsae a non congregate shelter facility to temporarily relocate an at risk population?	FEMA may reimburse an applicant to perform this type of emergency protective measure. However, the PNP organization must have legal responsibility to shelter the groups in question.
This is a follow-up question to whether FEMA PA can be used to purchsae property. If a PNP is a homeless emergency shelter with a mission to house homeless individuals in a specific areas, is this a "legal responsibility" or is the legal responsibility to the City unless the City directs the PNP to take on this responsibility?	Typically the city has legal responsibility unless it has directed another entity to perform said work through some type of binding arrangement, such as a contract. However, every situation is different and we would need to evaluate the specifics of the situation.