

Question Asked	Answer Provided
Can FEMA money be used to dedensify congregate shelters even when no one in the congregate has been diagnosed with covid-19?	Non-congregate sheltering for the occupants of congregate shelters may be eligible emergency protective measures in some circumstances. However, the applicant must have legal responsibility to perform the non-congregate sheltering.
If an organization runs an EA congregate shelter, how do they show that they have a legal responsibility to keep families in congregates safe by de-populating the shelters?	Likely this would come in the form of a MOU or contract with the municipality/state directing the organization to perform these types of emergency actions.
Does the authorization to provide non-congregate shelter to "individuals" would include families, if the family is in shelter together as a family unit and one or more members of the family need non-congregate sheltering for any of the authorized reasons?	FEMA requires additional information concerning the specifics of the situation to evaluate.
Can hospitals apply for expenses relating to quarantining patients who are suspected to have COVID or screening of staff/visitors that may not necessarily relate to direct treatment of COVID patients?	Yes, you can submit these costs and we will review. Non-congregate medical sheltering/quarantining for patients covid-19 suspected or confirmed may be eligible. I would encourage you to develop a description and narrative for the necessity of any screening and quarantine activities performed.
Can hospitals apply for expenses relating to quarantining patients who are suspected to have COVID or screening of staff/visitors that may not necessarily relate to direct treatment of COVID patients?	Yes, you can submit these costs and we will review. Non-congregate medical sheltering/quarantining for patients covid-19 suspected or confirmed may be eligible. I would encourage you to develop a description and narrative for the necessity of any screening and quarantine activities performed.
I do not see the project application in the portal. Where exactly will it be?	When you click, "create a project", it will ask you 2 questions and that will start the project application. ,Once your RPA is approved, you should be able to enter your "Applicant Event Profile" page and see a blue box at the top of the screen titled "Submit Project Application"
Can a domestic violence shelter provider utilize FEMA funds to pay for hotel rooms or short-term apartments for survivors fleeing when congregate shelters are full or are limiting the number of people due to COVID-19?	This is not currently identified as an eligible emergency protective measure. However, I would encourage you to track these costs that you are incurring as we are receiving new guidance routinely.
Will you be sharing these slides after the presentation?	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.
We are a residential program and we are incurring unanticipated costs such as increased pay for employees working with covid19 positive individuals. This cost was unanticipated and solely resulting from COVID 19 emergency. This emergency is unlike any other past emergency event such as a hurricane. Can FEMA confirm this will be an eligible cost?	The eligibility of labor costs would depend upon the type of work the employees were performing, and the category of employee they are (budgeted vs unbudgeted). The labor costs must be in the performance of emergency protective measures addressing an immediate threat to public health and safety. Increased operating costs are generally not eligible. "Hazard pay" is typically reimbursed based upon the applicant's pre-disaster pay policy/labor agreement. I would encourage you to track all of the costs that you are incurring.

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Will we be receiving a copy of the powerpoint?	MEMA will make the slides from today's presentation available for download on the MEMA Recovery webpage later this week. We will also make the recording of today's briefing available.
Are Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) providers eligible to apply?	We will need more information about Permanent Supportive Housing providers to be able to determine whether they may be an eligible applicant or not. MEMA will reach out to you directly to discuss.
CMS assistance provided under the CARES Act is meant to cover COVID - related expenses and/or lost revenue. If a provider's lost revenue is greater than the CARES disbursement, does this preclude requesting FEMA reimbursement for expenses?	FEMA cannot duplicate benefits for specific activities performed by an applicant that they have already received funding for, including insurance and other federal grants. Additionally, increased operating costs such as lost revenue is not currently identified as an eligible emergency protective measure.
How will a PNP be notified that its RPA has been approved and what is the wait time (submission to approval)? Thx	We are in the process of approving RPAs now, if it is not yet, it will be reviewed this week. There is no wait time, once RPA is approved.
do we enter the PIN on our phone or on the audio panel?	You enter the audio pin on your phone, but the code can be found on the audio panel of your screen.
Specifically interested in 501c6 eligibility such as a chamber of commerce	Assuming the applicant is tax exempt or designated as an organization working under state law as a non profit organization, then it may be eligible. I would encourage you to submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA).
With regard to the point about not duplicating other federal funding -- what about funding that originates from the federal government but is administered to PNPs from the state of MA via a state-led procurement process (i.e., ESG)? Would this funding be considered "federal" by FEMA?	Duplication of benefits extends to sources beyond federal grants, including state grants, loans, insurance, etc. I am unfamiliar with ESG...if you follow-up with a MEMA representative after the webinar we can discuss your specific case.
Can rent and utilities for a temporary facility be included as a "donated resource"?	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).
Can we submit a project applications for expenses incurred up til a certain date, i.e. June 30, and then submit a second project application for July 1 thru the end of the disaster?	Yes, you can also submit a combination of incurred actual costs and future costs you expect to incur under one application now.
Does the \$131,000 large project threshold include the 25% cost share as part of the \$131,000?	Yes...the \$131,000 refers to the actual costs incurred (or estimated for the future), \$131,100 is the small to large project threshold, the 25% is deducted after that.

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<p>A PNP serving homeless in a community where the city does not serve this population ..how do we receive legal authority? We are contracted by state to provide normal shelter activities...now we had to put up a tent to serve and quarantine others.</p> <p>Can we apply directly?</p>	<p>See below.</p>
<p>Can a pnp apply directly for homeless tent for quarantine when municipality does not do this activity and pnp is the sole provider of these services to community</p>	<p>The PNP would likely need to be performing such emergency actions through a formal agreement or contract with the municipality or state. If you are currently engaged in a contract with the state to perform normal shelter activities then it may be a good idea to review the provisions of this contract to see if it extends to emergency sheltering. If you reach out to a MEMA representative after the webinar then we can discuss your specific situation.</p>
<p>Hi. I hope you all are well! My primary question is whether emergency protective measures undertaken by a PNP must have been undertaken at the direction of, or have been expressly authorized by a government entity/authority. I've received this question from a number of non-profits, and FEMA's online guidance seems unclear on this. Hoping you will focus on this, perhaps under Eligible Activities and Costs. Thanks!</p>	<p>The private non-profit organization must have legal responsibility to perform any emergency protective measures. Typically the legal responsibility for emergency protective measures servicing a community rest with the municipality. It is advisable that PNP's engage municipalities before performing such actions. A possible outcome is for the municipality to contract out this type of work to PNP's.</p>
<p>If a PNP is seeking reimbursement only for emergency protective measures (Cat B) and not for damage to its facility, does it still need to demonstrate that its facilities are either critical or non-critical. For example, if the PNP provides food and mental health to people who are quarantined, and does so under a contract with a town, does it matter what type of facility it owns/operates?</p>	<p>Yes, In order to be an eligible applicant for Public Assistance, a Private Non-Profit must demonstrate that they own or operate a facility providing an eligible service (critical or essential non-critical).</p>
<p>will all of these questions be part of the FAQ</p>	<p>All of the written questions and answers from this presentation will be made available on MEMA's webpage later this week. Any questions that we're not able to answer during the webinar will receive a response through the Q&A posting or via direct response from MEMA.</p>
<p>Will specific info be shared for the PNP's currently providing emergency child care services in MA?</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.</p>
<p>Will there be a separate Applicant Briefing for Health Care Systems / Hospitals?</p>	<p>This is the second briefing that we've held for all private non-profits. We don't have another scheduled briefing.</p>
<p>Will subrecipients be held to the contracting standards from 2 CFR 200?</p>	<p>Yes, but an applicant may use the emergency/exigency exceptions. They should provide justification for doing so (i.e necessity to sole-source as an example).</p>

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If a subrecipient allocates funds received from HHS to lost revenue, will FEMA reimburse eligible project costs without considering HHS funding as duplicate funding?	Probably. We will be evaluating whether there is a duplication of benefit for each specific item. We are still receiving more information on the interaction between funding sources.
If the subrecipient is a healthcare system with many hospitals and central purchasing, will they have to support to which location supplies went?	Yes, you must document where supplies went as well as quantity and cost.
Does FEMA anticipate an amendment to the Disaster Declaration to include straight time for a period?	We are receiving new guidance periodically, which will be shared with applicants. I have not specifically heard of this type of amendment.
Is FEMA coming up with new equipment rates, specific to hospitals (like ventilators)?	Currently I have not heard anything on this. CRC will use a cost code according to guidance they have been given. If a new equipment cost code comes out detailing this type of equipment, MEMA will have this information on their website.
Does the 6-month period of performance start on January 20th?	Costs for emergency work for Covid-19 declarations are limited to within six months of the date of the declaration (March 27, 2020 for DR-4496-MA) or until the end of the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency, whichever comes first. For all Covid-19 declarations, FEMA may extend the deadline in accordance with 44 C.F.R 206.204(d) if the duration of the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency extends beyond six months or for work required after the end of the Public Health Emergency, such as demobilization or temporary facilities, or to address localized needs as appropriate.
When would you expect to hear on the cost share adjustment?	Currently we have no information on that but MEMA will relay that information, if it changes.
Will FEMA be using the old FEMA workbook to capture claimed costs?	There is a new workbook on the MEMA website along with directions on how to fill it out. MEMA has posted a new State Workbook on the MEMA website for use to capture and summarize claimed costs. https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-federal-disaster-declaration#public-assistance-grant-process-
Can we use that in other states no doubt?	Other States may have their own workbook to be used.
For Management Costs, will reimbursement be based on 5% or on actual costs?	"Management costs" are 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%
And if you don't spend up to the ceiling amount, say you spend \$4,000, would the excess funds \$1,000 be eligible for reimbursement on condition of use for HMP?	No

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will MEMA validate claimed costs prior to payment?	Yes, unless the project is requested as an "expedited funding project," all claimed costs will be validated as part of the project review and approval process.
Thanks, to clarify, MEMA will be validating PWs, as opposed to just processing payments	Yes, MEMA and FEMA both validate PWs. MEMA then contracts to make the payments when the PW is obligated.
How do we download/print the slides?	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.
My hospital set up a COVID call center for our county. Are those costs eligible?	The applicant should demonstrate that they have legal responsibility to perform emergency protective measures for the county, and develop a narrative to document how this call center is addressing an immediate threat to public health and safety.
We are a 501c3 standalone Skilled Nursing Facility. We've received the CARES Act PPP funding. Our biggest financial challenge is lost revenue. Also, the need to hire agency help for clinical and housekeeping. Is any of this covered?	Generally, to be eligible under CAT B Public Assistance an emergency protective measure must address an immediate threat to public health and safety. Increased operating costs, even those attributed to the disaster, are generally not eligible.