

# **FEMA Public Assistance - How to Apply**



Your municipality must apply for [FEMA Public Assistance](#) funding. It is a grant, and, just like any other grant, there is an application process to receive an award of funds. An application for PA funding is called a Request for Public Assistance (RPA). Therefore, RPA = application.

When your municipality is ready to submit an RPA, use the Public Assistance [Grants Portal](#). The Portal is used to account for all activities associated with your municipality's damage claims. You can and should use the [Grants Portal](#) to:

- Register for and update an Applicant Profile:
  - If your municipality already has a profile, then sign in using your existing credentials. **DO NOT create a duplicate profile** for your municipality.
  - If your municipality does not yet have a profile, then create one by clicking on [Register Your Organization for Public Assistance](#).
  - Select the appropriate "DR" disaster event number for which you are applying.
- Submit a [Request for Public Assistance](#).
- Upload project documentation.

FEMA will make contact with your municipality only after your municipality is an [Applicant](#) in the [Grants Portal](#) and has attended an [Applicant Briefing](#).

FEMA accepts RPAs up to 30 days from the date the respective area was designated.

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## **Applicant Briefings**

If your municipality was unable to attend one of the Applicant Briefings offered, then you can watch the recording and review the presentation materials on our [FEMA PA Applicant Briefing](#) page.



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## Tools To Help You Get Started

- Quick Guide: [FEMA's Grants Portal Account and Request for Public Assistance Public Assistance Applicant Quick Guide](#)
- Webinar: FEMA Grants Portal [First Time Users - Org Creation and RPA Submission](#)

\*\* Please note that both of these tools are from March 2020, so some instructions for the Grants Portal may look a little different than you'll see online now. For example, where they refer to your DUNS number, use your Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), which replaced DUNS numbers in April 2022.

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## You Must Have an Active SAM.gov Registration

Is your municipality's registration with [SAM.gov](#) active? It must be in order for you to receive FEMA PA funding!

To sign into SAM.gov, you will need a Login.gov account. ([Follow instructions at Login.gov](#) if you don't already have an account.)

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