



Individual Assistance (IA) Checklist

After a disaster, the federal government will decide if any counties in the state meet the criteria for individual disaster assistance (IA). The decision is based on data supplied by state and local officials documenting the severity and magnitude of the event. When a county receives an Individual Assistance declaration from the President of the United States, anyone who lives in that county can apply for assistance.

- The first step in the IA process is registering with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- For each IA declaration, there is a deadline to register. For deadline updates, visit riema.ri.gov/recovery/individualassistance.
- Registering with FEMA does not obligate an individual to officially apply for assistance or to accept assistance.
- Property owners or tenants are encouraged to register with FEMA as soon as possible after a disaster.
- Once you register with FEMA, there is no deadline to submit an official application for assistance.

When Registering, Be Ready to Provide the Following Information:

- ☐ Current and pre-disaster address
- ☐ Current phone number
- ☐ Social security number
- ☐ Insurance information (homeowners, health, automobile, flood, etc.)
- ☐ Total household annual income
- ☐ Description of losses
- ☐ Bank account and routing number.

At the end of the registration process, you will be given a claim number. Write this number down and store it in a safe place that is easily accessible. You will need your claim number for any future inquiries you make.

Each claim is reviewed on an individual basis and FEMA decides if the request qualifies to receive federal assistance (Damages to second homes do not qualify for IA.) Even if an individual does not qualify for payment from the federal government, there are other FEMA programs that may be able to help an applicant. By registering with FEMA, you can learn about other federal programs.

Three Ways to Register With FEMA:

1. Visit disasterassistance.gov
2. Use a smartphone at m.fema.gov
3. Call (800) 621-3362; TTY (800) 462-7585

DisasterAssistance.gov
ACCESS TO DISASTER HELP AND RESOURCES