

You Asked: My home is damaged and needs repairs. Can I get FEMA help for rental assistance?

Hurricane Ida survivors whose homes in the 25 designated Louisiana parishes were made unlivable or unsafe may be eligible for temporary rental assistance from FEMA.

Question: Is temporary rental assistance available for renters as well as homeowners?

Answer: Yes. This assistance is available to homeowners and renters whose primary home or permanently occupied residence (if you're a renter) is located in one of the 25 designated parishes affected by Hurricane Ida. But you must apply for FEMA disaster assistance to find out if you're eligible.

Question: Does FEMA look at other criteria before they make their decision?

Answer: Yes. If your FEMA application shows your primary residence sustained damage in the storm, a FEMA inspector will contact you to assess the level of damage. Based on the assessment, FEMA will determine if you qualify for an initial award of up to two months of rental assistance.

Question: What type of housing will I be able to move into?

Answer: If you qualify for temporary rental assistance, FEMA will refer you to properties such as a house, apartment, hotel or motel room that are available for rent. Rental awards are based on Fair Market Rent (FMR) rates that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development identifies for a particular housing area.

Recreational vehicles such as manufactured homes or travel trailers are also rental options FEMA allows. But you are responsible for locating the unit and entering into a rental agreement with the owner.

Question: I'm a renter. How do I access rental assistance?

Answer: Renters may apply for disaster assistance from FEMA. But if you have renter's insurance, first call your insurance provider to file a claim. When you apply for FEMA assistance, FEMA will ask that you provide an insurance declaration page and a settlement or a denial letter.

Question: Will FEMA consider me for rental assistance if I've filed a claim with my insurance company but received no response?

Answer: Yes. If you can show evidence that your insurance settlement is delayed 30 days or more from the date you filed your claim, you may be eligible for an initial rental assistance award.



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Question: Will FEMA pay my rent and utilities?

Answer: The amount provided for temporary rental assistance covers the monthly rent including essential utilities. It doesn't include phone, cable, TV or internet service. Money for utilities is not provided separately from the rent amount but is included in the total award.

Question: What if it takes more than two months to complete my home repairs, and I haven't found a more permanent place to live?

Answer: If you need more time to complete repairs on your home or to find a permanent place to live, you can apply for continued rental assistance. You would have to provide FEMA a completed Application for Continued Temporary Housing Assistance along with receipts and a permanent housing plan demonstrating a disaster-related or financial need.

Continued rental assistance can be renewed in three month increments for up to a maximum of 18 months, if necessary.

Question: Can I receive temporary rental assistance from FEMA if my insurance company also provided me with this benefit?

Answer: No. FEMA cannot provide you an award for a benefit you already received from your insurance company, another agency, other disaster assistance awards, or benefits you received from other registrations for assistance.

FEMA may advance you funds because your insurance was delayed, with your understanding that you will return the funds to FEMA once you receive your insurance settlement.

View these questions and answers by visiting [Hurricane Ida Rental Assistance: You Asked...](#)

25 Louisiana parishes are designated for FEMA assistance for Hurricane Ida: Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana.

Apply online at DisasterAssistance.gov or call the FEMA Helpline at **800-621-3362** (TTY: 800-462-7585). Phone lines currently operate 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Those who use a relay service such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service.

For the latest information on Hurricane Ida visit fema.gov/disaster/4611. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/FEMARegion6 and like us on Facebook at facebook.com/FEMARegion6/.

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