


FEMA

E-News Update

This E-News Update is created by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Private Sector Function operating out of the Joint Field Office in Forest Hills, N.Y. It includes information on federal and state resources available to help New York homeowners, renters, business owners and their employees recover from Hurricane Sandy. We welcome your comments, questions, best practices and topics of interest. Please e-mail femaprivatesector-dr4085-ny@fema.dhs.gov.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE AS OF JANUARY 8

- Registration for Individual Assistance..... 261,258
- Approved Individual Housing Assistance..... \$834 million
- SBA loans approved for homeowners, businesses, renters..... \$469 million

For more information on New York's disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov/SandyNY, www.twitter.com/FEMASandy, www.facebook.com/FEMASandy and www.fema.gov/blog.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

NEW YORK – The deadline for Hurricane Sandy survivors in 13 designated New York counties to register for FEMA disaster assistance and submit Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster loan applications is Jan. 28, 2013.

Anyone who has not registered with FEMA for disaster assistance, has questions about his or her application or needs more information about recovery programs should call FEMA's toll-free Help Line **800-621-3362**.

- Registration can be accomplished anytime at www.DisasterAssistance.gov. With a smartphone or tablet, go to m.fema.gov or download the FEMA app.
- Those who have a speech disability or hearing loss and use a TTY can call **800-462-7585** directly.
- For 711-Relay or Video Relay Services (VRS) call **800-621-3362**.

Multilingual operators are available. For information on programs in languages other than English, visit www.fema.gov/all-languages.

Those needing face-to-face assistance can find a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) by texting DRC and a Zip Code to **43362 (4FEMA)**, and a text message will be sent back with the address. Also, check out the Disaster Recovery Center locator at www.FEMA.gov/disaster-recovery-centers. The toll-free telephone numbers operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, until further notice.

GRANT WILL HELP SANDY SURVIVORS WITH UNMET NEEDS

NEW YORK -New York state survivors of Hurricane Sandy whose disaster-related needs cannot be met with existing federal and state assistance will now have access to case management services to identify additional resources for their recovery.

The state of New York and the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced that more than \$9.6 million in federal funds has been made available for the Disaster Case Management program, which is fully funded by FEMA and administered by the state in partnership with nonprofit, community-based agencies.

Case managers will assist disaster survivors in developing a goal-oriented plan for their recovery, match survivors' essential needs to available resources in the area and monitor their progress toward reaching recovery goals. Services are available to any survivor with disaster-caused unmet needs.

At the request of the state, the program is operating in Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties and offering case management services for up to 24 months.

The State of New York is working with FEMA on a request for additional disaster case management assistance in the five boroughs of New York City.

Survivors who have unmet needs are encouraged to call 2-1-1 for information on services available in their areas and referrals to case management services.

SEVERAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO HELP BUSINESS OWNERS RECOVER FROM SANDY

NEW YORK – Getting local businesses back up and running is a key part of a community's recovery after a disaster. Several of FEMA's federal, state, local and private sector partners have programs in place to support New York businesses after Hurricane Sandy:

The **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)** has low-interest loans available for businesses and most private nonprofits for up to \$2 million dollars for physical property losses. Small businesses and most private nonprofits can also apply for economic-injury loans for up to \$2 million. Interested businesses can apply at any of the State/FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers, SBA Business Recovery Centers, online at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela> or contact the SBA at 800-659-2955.

NYC Economic Development Corporation established a Hurricane Sandy Emergency Loan Fund to support NYC small businesses with their recovery and clean-up efforts. This loan program will provide \$10 million in low-interest loans to businesses, ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000. Funds can be used to replace or repair damaged assets or to make up for working-capital losses incurred due to business interruption. For details and information on how to apply, businesses should visit: <http://www.nybdc.com/HurricaneSandySmallBusinessReliefFund.html>.

Nassau Industrial Development Assistance (IDA) has established a storm assistance program for small businesses. Eligible firms may receive up to \$99,000 to be used toward recovery efforts through the

Nassau IDA's Local Enterprise Assistance and Development Services Program. The program provides eligible small businesses with help through a sales tax exemption on any furniture, fixtures, equipment and material purchased for repair and reconstruction. For information, contact the Nassau County IDA at (516) 571-1745 or by email at Leads@nassauida.org. Nassau County has created a [website](http://www.nassaubackinbusiness.org/) with information, links and contacts to help businesses affected by Hurricane Sandy. Visit the website at <http://www.nassaubackinbusiness.org/>.

Suffolk County Industrial Development Agency's Emergency Sales Tax Relief Program gives an exemption of state and county sales tax of 8.625 percent to small businesses in Suffolk County on purchases up to \$100,000 for building materials or for replacing damaged equipment. Businesses can visit: www.suffolkIDA.org or call **631-853-4802** for additional information or to complete an application.

National Grid Hurricane Sandy Relief Program provides grants up to \$250,000 each to National Grid commercial, industrial or multi-family residential gas customers that were impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Eligible customers can use program funds for energy infrastructure repairs or replacement, rehabilitation of buildings and costs associated with replacement of machinery or equipment necessary for the operation of the businesses. Funding consideration will be based on documented financial need and impact to the community. To determine eligibility and for additional information, customers should contact National Grid at **855-496-9359**.

FEMA MAY BE ABLE TO HELP SOME NONPROFITS WITH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DISASTER GRANTS

NEW YORK – Nonprofit organizations that suffered damage from Hurricane Sandy may apply for Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance (PA) funding to help them get back to the business of helping others.

Private non-profit agencies that provide what are defined as critical services to the community may file a Request for Public Assistance from FEMA for reimbursement of costs incurred for emergency work performed as a result of Hurricane Sandy.

Facilities that provide critical services include but are not limited to:

- Hospitals and other medical-treatment facilities;
- Fire, police and other emergency services;
- Power, water and sewer utilities; and
- Educational institutions.

Private nonprofits that provide what are defined as essential services to the community may also be eligible for PA to repair damage caused by Hurricane Sandy. However, these private non-profits must first apply to the Small Business Administration (SBA) for a low-interest loan.

Facilities that provide essential services include:

- Libraries, museums and zoos;
- Community centers;
- Disability advocacy and service providers;
- Homeless shelters and rehabilitation facilities; and

- Senior citizen centers and day-care centers.

To be eligible for Public Assistance, a private nonprofit organization must have a ruling letter from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service or provide other satisfactory evidence from the state of New York that it is a nonprofit organization doing business under state law.

The deadline for requests for Public Assistance, which was due to expire, has been extended.

The new deadlines are:

- **Jan. 28, 2013:** for Bronx, Kings, Nassau, New York, Richmond, Suffolk and Queens counties;
- **Feb. 1, 2013:** for Rockland and Westchester counties; and
- **Feb. 11, 2013:** for Orange, Putnam, Sullivan and Ulster counties.

Public Assistance is a program administered by New York state and funded by FEMA. Nonprofit organizations interested in learning more about FEMA Public Assistance should visit:

www.dhSES.ny.gov/oem/recovery.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585