Public Assistance

- Financial assistance to state and local governments and certain private non-profit organizations for eligible expenses in direct response to public health threat from COVID-19.
    - Disaster declaration: FEMA-DR-4492-SC
    - Declared: March 27, 2020
    - Incident period: January 20, 2020, and ongoing (for now)
- Reimbursement basis.
- Federal share is 75% of eligible costs.
- Eligible applicants for PA: State agencies, counties, municipalities, special purpose districts, federally recognized Native American tribes, and certain private non-profits

PA and CARES Act combo

- For PA-eligible projects submitted by Department of Admin's CARES Act 8/21 deadline, SCEMD will process use of CARES Act funds to pay 25% non-federal share
- PA-eligible applicant must:
  - Submit Request for Public Assistance (RPA) in FEMA's Grants Portal
  - Complete project application in Grants Portal with needed documentation of costs
- Only expenses from 3/1/2020 through 6/30/2020 will be eligible for CARES Act 25% share (unless additional funds are provided for later periods)
- Refer to COVID-19 PA fact sheets on eligible protective measure costs (no permanent work)
- SCEMD PA staff are available to review PA applications and discuss eligibility of costs before final submission in Grants Portal
- Project applications will be reviewed for obligation by FEMA.

COVID-19 PA-Eligible Expenses

Not all-inclusive but must be tied to control and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety.

- Emergency operations center costs
- Response/medical personnel overtime (based on organization's pre-incident policy)
- Disinfection of eligible public facilities
- Training specific to event

- Emergency medical care
- Medical sheltering
- Purchase and distribution of consumable supplies, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Transport of supplies and persons
- Communication of health and safety info to public

PA Resources

- FEMA Public Assistance Policy and Program Guide (PAPPG)
  - 2018 PAPPG v3.1
- FEMA's Grants Portal
  - The Public Assistance program is administered through this portal through obligation of all projects associated with the event.
  - https://grantee.fema.gov/
- SC Recovery Grant management system:
  - State's system for managing Public Assistance grants, once obligated by FEMA, including documentation, reimbursement, and closeout.
  - https://screcoverygrants.org/
  - COVID-19 PA facts sheets and guidance: https://screcoverygrants.org/site/covid19.cfm

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