

FEMA REGION V
RECOVERY
DIVISION

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FIELD OPERATIONS

EVA WILSON



FEMA



FEMA

Outline

- Declaration Process
- Public Assistance Overview
- Grants Portal/Grants Manager
- COVID-Specific Information
- Questions

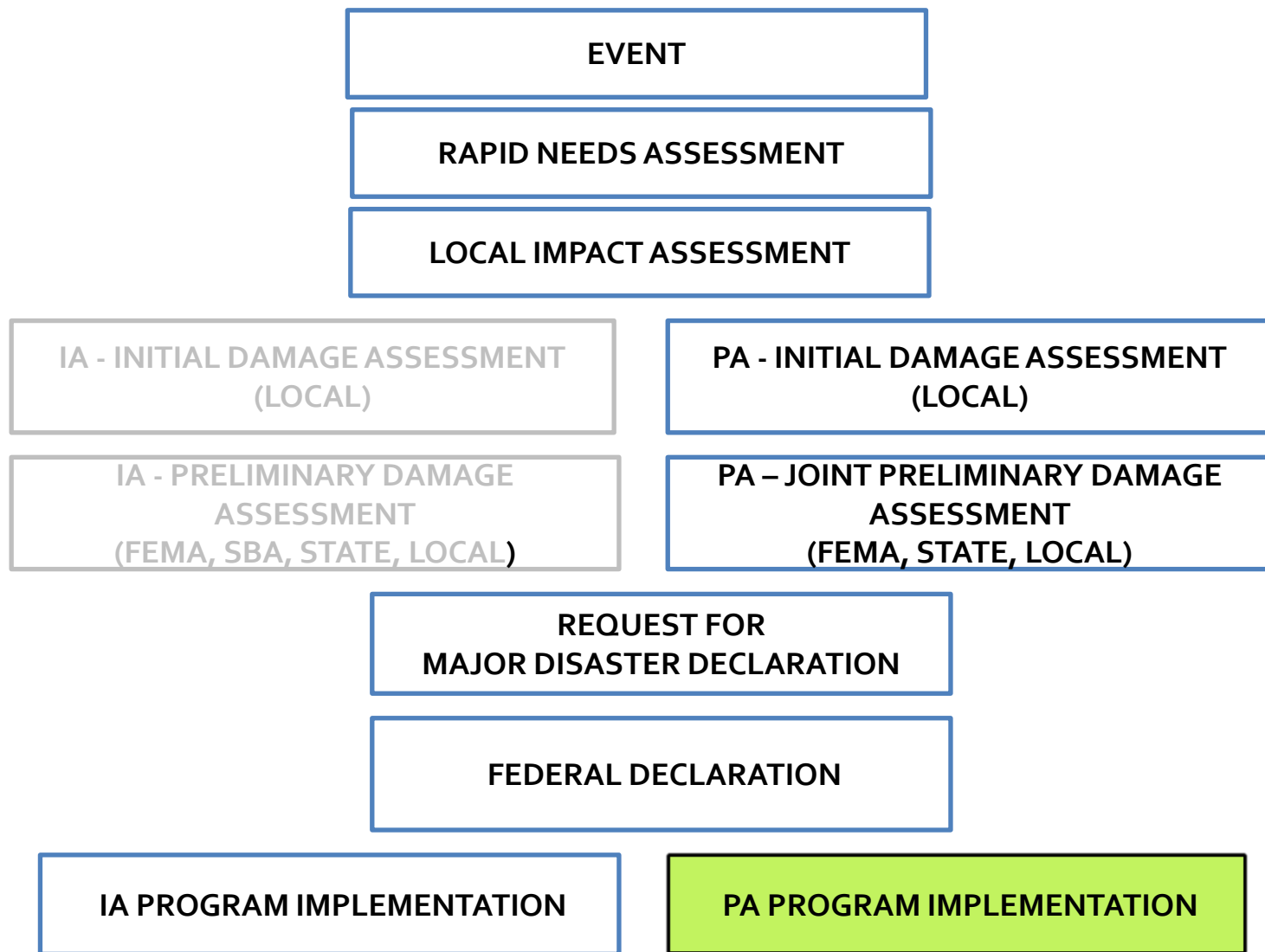


Where's the Money?

- Public Assistance is a federal **GRANT** for eligible state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) governments and some PNP organizations to reimburse costs for damage to public infrastructure caused by natural or man-made disasters
 - FEMA provides the funds to the State or Tribal Governments
 - Local, Tribal and PNPs receive funds from the State or Tribe



Disaster Assistance Process



FEMA

State/Local Initial Damage Assessment (IDA)

- **Local government organizations**
 - Identify damages and preliminary costs
 - Complete and submit damage reports to County EMS
 - County EMS then provide damage reports to state: MSP/EMHSD
- **State EMA: MSP/EMHSD**
 - Review and compile initial damage assessment costs
 - Damage locations on maps and photos of damages
 - Estimate of costs by location
 - Impact of event on the area
 - Make recommendation to Governor on need for disaster proclamation



(Joint) Preliminary Damage Assessments and State Indicators – FY2020

Factors Considered

- Localized impacts
- Insurance Coverage
- Previous successful Mitigation
- Recent previous storms / declarations
- Other government programs / other Federal agencies with jurisdiction
- Each County also has to meet its per capita indicator (\$3.84)
 - Adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index

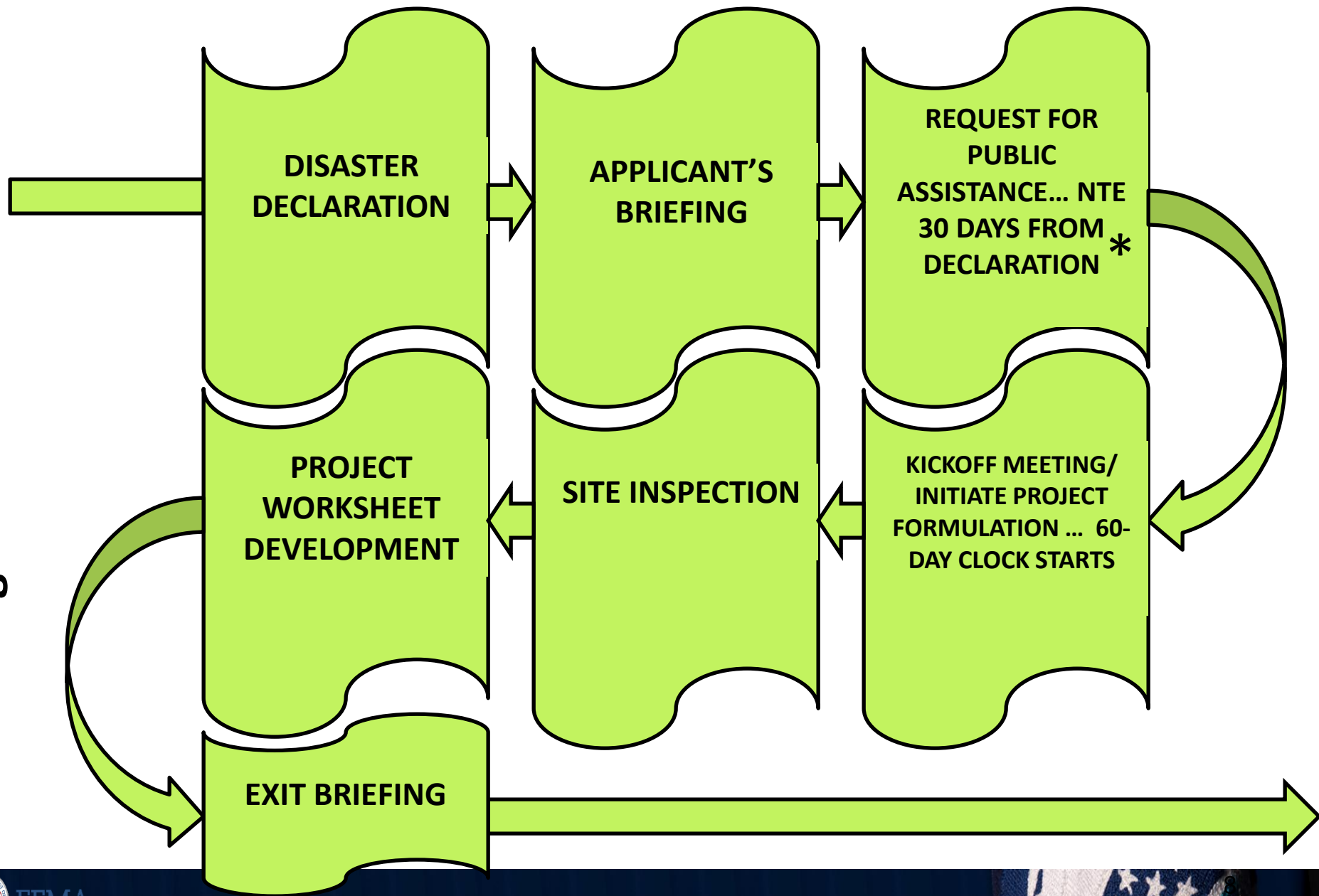
State	Population	State Per Capita Threshold (\$1.53)
Michigan	9,883,640	\$15.1M

Major Disaster Declarations

- The President may declare a major disaster for the state
- FEMA designates the counties eligible for assistance
- A Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) is appointed;
 - The State often Appoints a State Coordinating Officer and the Governor appoints a Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR)
- A Joint Field Office (JFO) is established*; sometimes virtual



PA Program Critical Elements



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
REQUEST FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

O.M.B. NO. 1660-0017
Expires April 30, 2013

PAPERWORK BURDEN DISCLOSURE NOTICE

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 10 minutes. Burden means the time, effort and financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, disclose, or to provide information to us. You may send comments regarding the burden estimate or any aspect of the collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden to: Information Collections Management, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Washington, DC 20472, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB Control Number 1660-0017). You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB number. **NOTE: Do not send your completed questionnaire to this address.**

APPLICANT (Political subdivision or eligible applicant)

DATE SUBMITTED

COUNTY (Location of Damages. If located in multiple counties, please indicate)

PHYSICAL LOCATION

STREET ADDRESS

COUNTY

ZIP CODE

MAILING ADDRESS

POSTAL CODE

**YOU MUST SUBMIT
AN RPA!**

NUMBER

YES ☐ NO ☐

NO

Identified by your organization?

21(e) defines an eligible non-profit facility as: "... any private non-profit educational, utility, emergency, medical or custodial facility for the aged or disabled, and other facility providing essential governmental type services to the general public, and such as museums, zoos, community centers, libraries, homeless shelters, rehabilitation facilities, shelter workshops and facilities which provide health and safety services of a governmental nature. Facilities must be open to the general public."

Private Non-Profit Organizations must attach copies of their Tax Exemption Certificate and Organization Charter or By-Laws. If your organization is a school or educational facility, please attach information on accreditation or certification.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY: FEMA - -DR- - FIPS# DATE RECEIVED



Public Assistance Overview

- General Program Eligibility : Eligible Work By An Eligible Applicant
- PA is a cost-share reimbursement program: Typically 75/25 Federal/Non-Federal Share

Emergency Work



Permanent Work



Public Assistance (PA) Program

- Supplement to other forms of assistance and insurance
- Cost sharing
 - 75% Federal share
 - 25% Non-Federal Share
- Organizations must submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA) form to within 30 days of declaration date
 - Must submit through GP



Public Assistance Eligibility



Public Assistance Categories

- Category A – Debris Removal
- Category B – Emergency Protective Measures
 - Search and rescue, flood fighting and similar emergency operations
- Category C – Roads and Bridges
 - Restoration of damaged road systems such as washed out roads and culverts
- Category D – Water Control Facilities
 - Restoration of damaged dams, levees, drainage ditches and similar facilities
- Category E – Public Buildings and Contents
 - Restoration of damaged buildings, building contents and equipment
- Category F – Public Utilities
 - Restoration of water, sewer and electric utilities including plants and distribution systems
- Category G – Parks, Recreation and Other
 - Restoration of parks, recreation facilities and other types of damaged facilities that do not fit into other categories



Public Assistance Project Completion Deadlines*

Emergency Work

Category A - Debris Removal

- Six (6) months from declaration date

Category B - Emergency Protective Measures

- Six (6) months from declaration date

Permanent Work

Categories C-G

- 18 months from declaration date



Project Worksheet (PW)

- **General**

- Must have at least \$3,300 in eligible costs
- Work must be completed in accordance with PW scope of work

- **Small Projects**

- Less than \$131,100
- Payment made based on the estimate of total eligible costs approved on the PW

- **Large Projects**

- \$131,100 or more
- Payment made based on actual documented eligible costs submitted to MSP/EMHSD

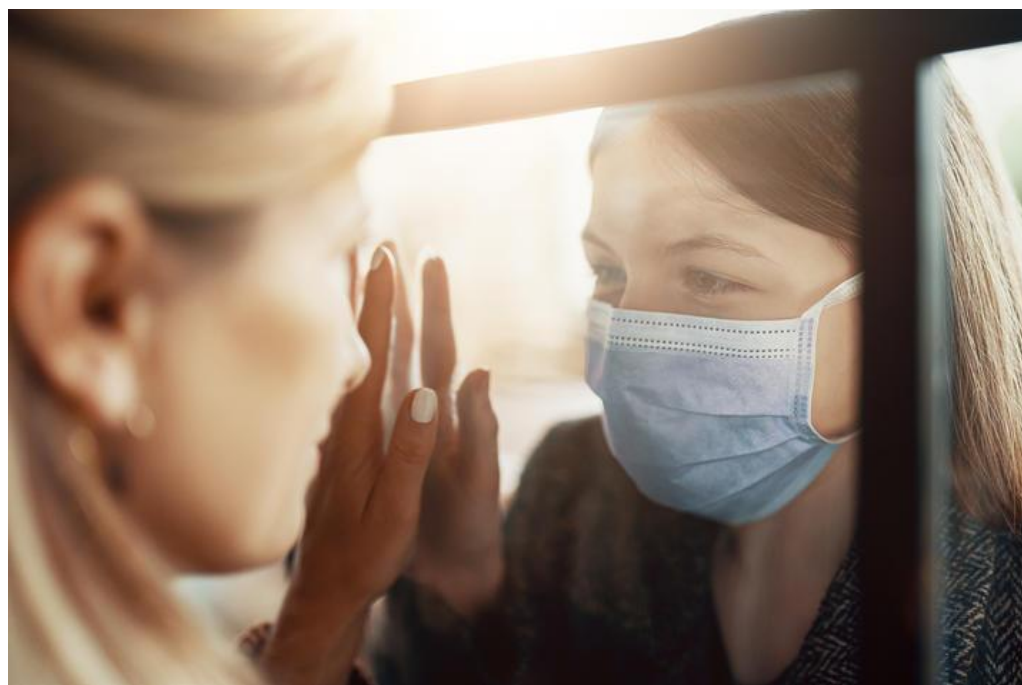


Advice for Public Agency/PNP Representatives:

- During and after: Maintain copies of all potentially eligible costs, expenses and invoices. Keep track of Labor and Equipment Use.
- After: If you haven't read about the declaration process in the media, contact your County EM for an update on the declaration process.
- Once you know your county is declared: ATTEND the APPLICANT BRIEFING! It will likely be held in your county soon after the declaration.
- Complete a REQUEST FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (RPA). The RPA leads to the one-on-one visit with the FEMA Specialist.*



Grants Portal/Grants Manager: The Window to PA Funds



Overview of *Non-COVID* Program Delivery Process

1. Applicant Briefing
2. State Invites you to create an account in Grants Portal
3. Submit the RPA
4. Exploratory Call
5. Recovery Scoping Meeting
6. Site Inspection
7. Project Formulation
8. Project Approval/Obligation
9. Recovery Transition Meeting



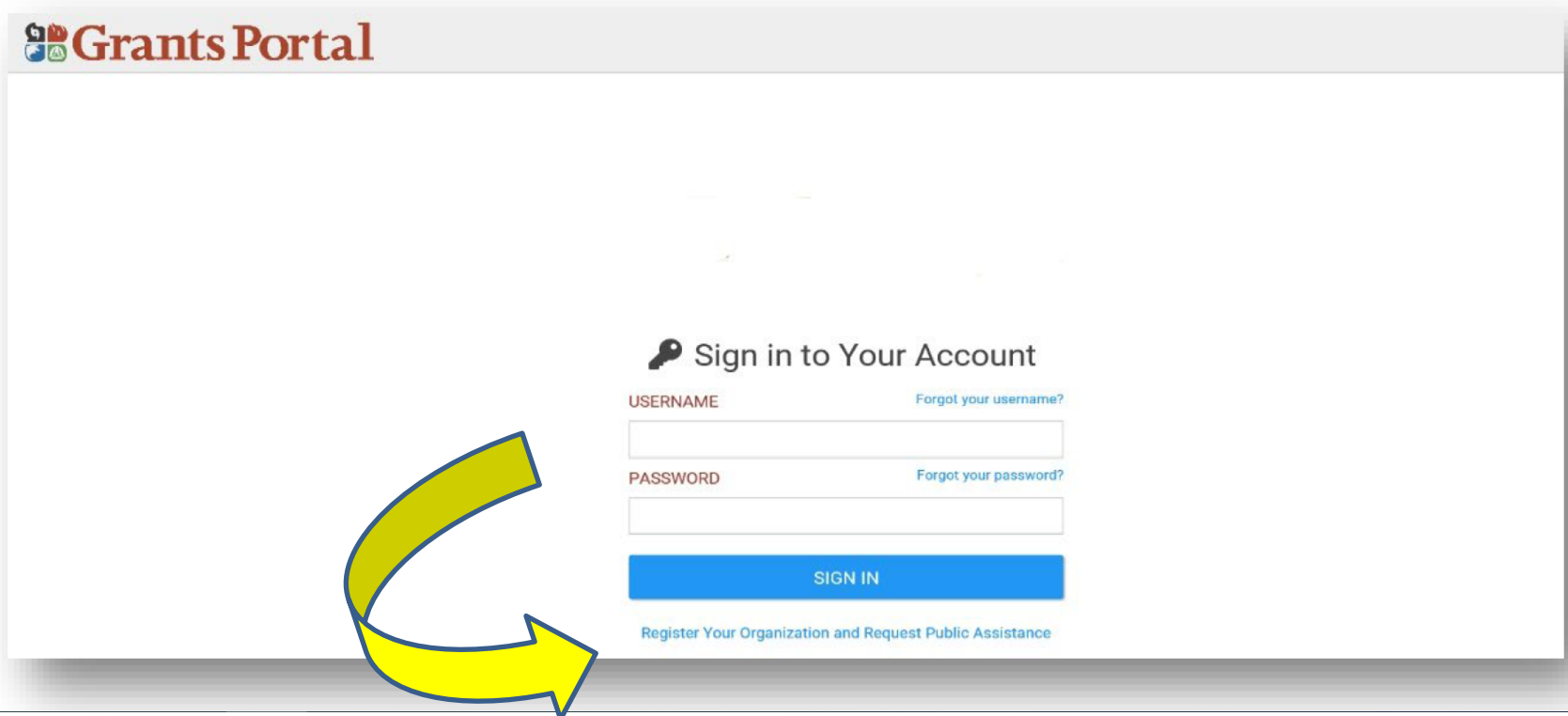
COVID-19 Program Delivery Process

1. Recipients attend virtual applicant briefing
 - a. Those interested in attending a briefing should contact state, local, tribal and territorial governments.
2. Log on and create account at Public Assistance (PA) Grants Portal
3. Submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA)
4. Submit a COVID-19 Streamlined Project Application
5. FEMA and Recipient review documents
6. Project Formulation
7. Applicant Signs Project
8. Receive funding through Recipient




Grants Portal

- **To Create an Account and Submit an RPA via Grants Portal (COVID-19 Declarations only and not available to PNPs)**
 - The Applicant goes to the Grants Portal home page at <https://grantee.fema.gov/> where they can click “Register your Organization and Request Public Assistance”



Grants Portal

 **Sign in to Your Account**

USERNAME [Forgot your username?](#)

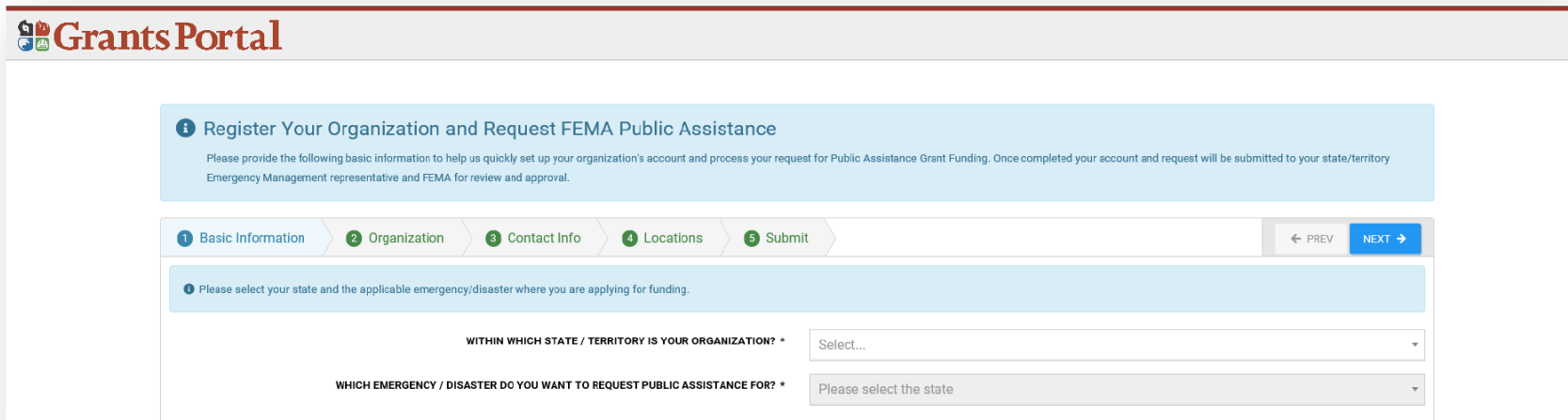
PASSWORD [Forgot your password?](#)

SIGN IN

[Register Your Organization and Request Public Assistance](#)

Grants Portal Registration

- The Applicant is then prompted to fill in basic information about the organization, contact information, and location and then submits the form for Recipient review.



The screenshot shows the 'Grants Portal' registration interface. At the top, the header reads 'Grants Portal' with a small icon. Below this, a light blue box contains the title 'Register Your Organization and Request FEMA Public Assistance' and a sub-instruction: 'Please provide the following basic information to help us quickly set up your organization's account and process your request for Public Assistance Grant Funding. Once completed your account and request will be submitted to your state/territory Emergency Management representative and FEMA for review and approval.'

A progress bar below the instruction shows five steps: 1 Basic Information (active), 2 Organization, 3 Contact Info, 4 Locations, and 5 Submit. Navigation buttons 'PREV' and 'NEXT' are on the right. The main form area has a light blue header with the instruction: 'Please select your state and the applicable emergency/disaster where you are applying for funding.'

There are two dropdown menus:

- The first is labeled 'WITHIN WHICH STATE / TERRITORY IS YOUR ORGANIZATION? *' and has a 'Select...' option.
- The second is labeled 'WHICH EMERGENCY / DISASTER DO YOU WANT TO REQUEST PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FOR? *' and has a 'Please select the state' option.

- After the Applicant completes the account request and the Recipient and FEMA have approved the request, the Applicant receives a system-generated email with a username and temporary password to gain access to Grants Portal.
- The system will then prompt the Applicant to create a permanent password.

Grants Portal Registration, Cont'd

- Once the Applicant has access to Grants Portal, they can choose to follow the instructions to Submit an RPA Directly (in the system) or Submit an RPA through the Recipient



COVID-19 Hot Topics

- Medical Care during COVID-19
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Food Purchase and Distribution
- PNPs
- CARES Act Funding/Priority of Use of Federal Funds
- Duplication of Benefits
- Cleaning and Disinfection of Public Facilities



COVID-19-Specific Topic: Non-congregate Sheltering

- 6 Criteria must be met prior to approval
 - State or Tribe must submit to FEMA Regional Administrator
 - If it's a county request, still goes through State
- NCS is a responsibility of the SLTTs
 - FEMA does not reimburse PNP's directly
- Common Practices: Hotels/Motels
 - Other Regions are using tents



FEMA REGION V
RECOVERY
DIVISION

EVA WILSON
FEMA REGION V
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FIELD OPERATIONS
773-485-7459
EVA.WILSON@FEMA.DHS.GOV



FEMA



FEMA