

FAQs from FEMA, March 27, 2020

Below are some responses we hope provide clarification. We look forward to continuing our work with you, informing Counties of this important information.

1. **Why do Governors still need to request and receive a major disaster declaration for COVID-19** if the President's already declared a national emergency? – [Issuance of the national emergency declaration made available FEMA's emergency funding under Public Assistance Category B, without jurisdictions having to issue their own emergency declaration.](#)
2. **Why is FEMA highlighting states with new major disaster declarations?** Is this more for individual assistance and hazard mitigation programs? – [FEMA declarations are public information, and available online at www.fema.gov/coronavirus, under "News Releases."](#)
3. **Are all counties eligible now for reimbursement** from Public Assistance for eligible activities and costs under Category B? ***Or just those counties in states with a major disaster declaration?*** – [Expanding on #1, States/Tribes/Territories may request a Major Disaster Declaration to expand the categories of FEMA funding available \(beyond PA Cat. B included in the national emergency declaration\).](#)
4. Can you help us clarify the different streams of money / pots of money – *including eligibility process and criteria* - under the Disaster Relief Fund for counties, including our sheriff departments, public health and overall public safety activities? – [The standard disaster programs and funding streams apply as approved/activated within each jurisdiction. Additional guidance is available online at www.fema.gov/coronavirus, under "Fact Sheets and Guidance," and all updated resources will be posted here to ensure availability and transparency of information.](#)

Respectfully,

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