

September 26, 2024 DR-4815-PA NR-006 FEMA News Desk: 215-931-5597 FEMAR3NewsDesk@fema.dhs.gov

News Release

Understand your FEMA Letter

HARRISBURG, Pa. – If you applied for FEMA assistance, you will receive a letter explaining FEMA's decision within 10 days after the inspector's visit.

Read your letter carefully and completely. The letter will explain:

- whether you are approved for assistance
- how much assistance you will receive
- how the assistance must be used
- how to appeal FEMA's decision if you do not agree with it

The letter will be sent to you by email or mail based on what you selected when you completed your application.



UNDERSTANDING YOUR FEMA DETERMINATION LETTER

If you applied for FEMA assistance you will receive a letter explaining FEMA's decision within 10 days after the inspector's visit.

If you are **approved** for assistance, you may get funds by direct deposit or by a U.S. Treasury check based on what you chose during your application. Only use money from FEMA for the reasons described in your approval letter. Keep your records and receipts for at least three years, showing how the funds were used for disaster recovery. If you need more help, let FEMA know.

If you are **not approved** for assistance, FEMA may need additional information from you. This will be explained in your determination letter. Read the letter carefully. Send FEMA information to support your application if the disaster caused more damage than what was recorded in your inspection. You must appeal FEMA's decision within 60 days.



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The FEMA letter will provide additional information on what you will need to provide if you choose to appeal FEMA's initial decision. These can include documents.

For example, if you are appealing for additional assistance to help repair your home, you will want to provide FEMA with any receipts, bills, insurance information or repair estimates received for the repairs.

When submitting any documentation or information to FEMA, you must include your name, the last four digits of your Social Security number or your FEMA application number, and the disaster number (DR-4815-PA) on every page.

If you have any questions about a letter from FEMA, we encourage you to visit a <u>Disaster Recovery Center</u> or call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. FEMA staff are standing by to answer your questions.

For more information on Pennsylvania's disaster recovery, visit the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Facebook page, fema.gov/disaster/4815 and facebook.com/FEMA.

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FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters. FEMA Region 3's jurisdiction includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Follow us on X at x.com/FEMAregion3 and on LinkedIn at linkedin.com/company/femaregion3.

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 833-285-7448. If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service. Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish and 3 for other languages).