

## Federal Disaster Programs

1. "Major Disaster" (Presidential) - As defined by PL 93-288, Sec. 102(1). It is declared by the President at the request of the Governor when the disaster situation appears to be beyond the capability of the State to provide adequate response. Such a declaration automatically activates a number of federal disaster programs for Individual and Public Assistance. More detailed information is provided in the operation sections of this plan.
2. Federal "Emergency" - (Presidential "Emergency") - As defined by PL 93-288, Sec. 102(1) is declared by the President at the request of the Governor when certain aspects of the disaster situation appears to be beyond the capability of the State to provide adequate response. Such a declaration makes available to the State, specific pre-determined federal assistance, but not the full range of federal programs made available under a "Major Disaster". More detailed information is provided in the operation sections of this plan.
3. Small Business Administration Disaster Declaration - The Small Business Administration may declare a disaster at the Governor's request only if physical damages occur as a result of the disaster. Such a request is submitted to the administrator of SBA, with documentation of the physical damages suffered by homes and businesses.. This request is submitted after a State "Emergency Disaster" has been declared. An SBA Declaration would make available to individuals and businesses, loans at a rate of 6 5/8 percent and up to \$5,000.00 to restore a business or home that has suffered physical damage.

If an SBA Declaration has been made, loans can also be made to supply working capital to business suffering a loss of business due to the disaster. An SBA Declaration cannot be made for working capital loans alone, physical damage must be present in the designated area. A business applying for a working capital loan however, does not need physical damage, but a loss of business to qualify.

4. U.S. Department of Agriculture Disaster Declaration - The U.S. Department of Agriculture may declare an "Agricultural Disaster" at the request of the State USDA Emergency Board for disasters which affect agricultural crops, livestock or farmers. This request may also be made by the Governor, with verification by the State USDA Emergency Board. Such a request should be submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture after a State "Emergency" has been declared. The request should be accompanied by factual information on the disaster and economic injury related to the disaster.

USDA Disaster Declarations automatically trigger the SBA programs for restoration of damages and working capital loans discussed previously.

In addition, the USDA Declaration would make available loans from the Farmers Home Administration. These loans for working capital and replacement of damaged facilities, would be available to farmers, ranchers and aquaculture operators at an interest rate of 5 percent and are available for up to the actual disaster-related loss. A test for credit is required.

The USDA County Emergency Boards, in conjunction with local emergency services organizations; and the State Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with ESD; will advise the Governor on such a declaration. Refer to Section 22 for additional information.

5. Pin Point Disaster Program - The U.S. Office of Education administers this program which can provide both loan and grant assistance to school districts. Loans are made available under Section 16 of PL 81-815 for the restoration or replacement of school facilities seriously damaged or destroyed as a result of a Pin Point Disaster. Grants are made available under Section 7 of PL 81-874 for operating expenses and minor repairs in case of a Major or Pin Point Disaster. A Pin Point Disaster is defined as a disaster, not caused by negligence or malicious action, which as determined by the Commissioner of Education, has destroyed or seriously damaged school facilities but which is local in effect and has not been designated as a "Major Disaster" by the President.

Requests for assistance are initiated at the local school district level with applications transmitted through the State Office of Education to the Governor for his signature before being submitted to the Commissioner of Education.

6. Crisis Counseling - In the event of a "Major Disaster", the Governor may make a special request to the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration for implementation of a "Crisis Counseling Grant". This grant is administered by the National Institute of Mental Health to State or local government. It may be used to provide professional mental health counseling services to victims of a disaster and training of disaster workers to provide counseling services. See Section 16 for more details.
7. Emergency Livestock Feed Program - The Emergency Livestock Feed Program is presently administered by the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration. The purpose of the Program is to

assist eligible livestock owners or needy Indian tribes in designated Presidential "Emergency" area through cost sharing in the purchase of livestock feed, the transportation of emergency livestock feed, or the transportation of livestock to other areas where feed is available.

To be eligible, the operators must have suffered a loss of livestock food or forage normally produced on his own lands, or be a member of a designated Indian tribe who is without sufficient means to purchase feed after allowance for necessary living expenses. Eligibility is determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

8. Fire Suppression Grants - The Fire Suppression Grant Program is administered by the regional director of FDAA through the Governor's authorized representative, the State Forester. Fire Suppression Grants to the State will be provided when such help is deemed necessary to suppress any fire on publicly or privately owned forest or grassland which threatens such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. This assistance does not relieve the State of a reasonable fire suppression obligation, nor will it be authorized when assistance can be provided on a non-reimbursable basis by federal agencies under other statutes. These grants are intended to cover cost incurred during the fire suppression period. See section 21 for more detailed information.
9. Commodity Foods - Commodity Foods include any edible commodities donated by the USDA and designated for schools and other eligible institutions or organizations, such as the American National Red Cross which will use these foods for disaster feeding purposes.
10. Federal Highway Administration - The Federal Highway Administration can provide assistance to state highway agencies for restoration of federal-aid highways damaged by a disaster. The assistance consists of project grants which may be used for repair or reconstruction of federal-aid highways, roads, and trails which have suffered severe damage as the result of a wide spread natural disaster or catastrophic failure from any cause. Assistance can be requested from the Federal Highway Administration, generally following a Governor's declaration of an "Emergency". See section 9b for more details.
11. Soil Conservation Service - Emergency Watershed Protection - The Soil Conservation Service, under Section 216 of Public Law 566, is authorized to administer an Emergency Watershed Protection program. Under this program the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to undertake such emergency measures for runoff retardation and soil-erosion prevention as may be needed to safeguard lives and property from floods and the products of erosion on any watershed whenever fire or any other natural element of force has caused a sudden impairment of that watershed.

Emergency measures are those taken to protect lives and property from flooding and the products of flooding, erosion, or sediment. These measures include work such as: establishing vegetative cover such as grass, shrubs, or trees on denuded land; stabilizing eroded banks using structural and/or vegetative means; removing debris; opening water courses where flow is dangerously restricted; constructing protective diversions, dikes, or jetties; stabilizing banks with rip-rap, cribbing, or piling; using land stabilization measures such as terraces; repairing dikes, dams, or other water control structures; and constructing emergency measures if they are the most feasible way to obtain emergency protection. It should be understood that emergency situations are not to solve watershed problems that existed prior to the natural disaster.

The emergency area need not be declared a national disaster area to be eligible for emergency watershed protection. Emergency watershed protection is applicable to small-scale, localized disasters as well as to large-scale disasters. Emergency watershed protection funds are not to be used to perform normal operation and maintenance.

Emergency work on non-federal land is to be sponsored by a local or state organization, such as a conservation district to a county, town or state agency.