



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DISASTER FINANCIAL RECOVERY AND RECONCILIATION

Major Disaster Declaration (DR) Vs. Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) Reimbursement

	Major Disaster Declaration (DR)	Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)
Declared By	Presidential Declaration authorizing Public Assistance (PA)	Federal declaration of Fire Management Assistance Grant. Upon Approval by the Regional Administrator.
Disaster /Grant Request Triggers	A Major Disaster Declaration with PA can be declared following an FMAG declaration if there is sufficient cost and damages that are not eligible under the FMAG program, to include extensive infrastructure damage and associated permanent work.	Regional Director approves when an immediate "threat of major disaster" exists. The entire process is accomplished on an expedited basis and FEMA decision is rendered in a matter of hours.
Grantor	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
For Activities Starting	Activities starting on or after the incident start date	Period of time (During incident period stated)

Last Updated 11/18/2024

	Major Disaster Declaration (DR)	Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)
Categories of Work	As designated by FEMA for the declaration. Declarations may designate all categories as eligible or may designate only Emergency Work categories. Cat A-B: Emergency Work Cat C-G: Permanent Work Cat Z: Management Costs	Cat B - Emergency Work Cat H - Fire-Fighting Activities Cat Z - Management Costs
Incident Period	To be determined by FEMA	Cal OES Fire Branch works with FEMA to decide incident period. Ultimate decision is FEMA.
DREOA Availability	SOE must be proclaimed by Gov	SOE must be proclaimed by Gov
Funding Source	Disaster Relief Fund	Disaster Relief Fund
Duration of Fund Availability	Up to 8 years	Up to 2 Years
VAYGo Validation Required	Yes, for all large and Cat Z projects	Validation is required to show proof of payment
Direct Admin Costs (DAC)	Management costs obligated via Cat Z Project Worksheets (PWs) and funded at 100% federal share. Based on actual costs incurred up to 5% of the Applicant's total award amount.	Included in FMAG Program as a line item in Cat B or H Project Worksheet (PW)
Project Worksheets	PWs can be written as: - Expedited, for Large Cat A and B projects - obligated at 50% of the estimated project cost - 100% Work Complete - based on actuals - Work to be Completed - based on estimates	Prepared at 100% completion and based on actual costs only
Preliminary Damage Assessments	Yes, conducted jointly between the State and FEMA to determine the extent of the disaster and inform requests for Major Disaster Declarations.	No Preliminary Damage Assessments

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Building Damage Reimbursement	Yes, if categories C-G are authorized; provides reimbursement for the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities.	No
Required Documents	Documentation to support project scope of work and actual costs incurred will be required during project formulation, funding disbursement, and project closeout.	Application – RFMAS FEMA form FF-104 Signature Authority for State Agencies – OES-FPD-130SA Project Assurances for Fed Assistance -OES-FPD-089 Documentation to support project scope of work and actual costs incurred will be required during project formulation. Since projects are written at 100% complete, all documentation is needed, including proof of payment.
Cost Share	Minimum 75% Federal Share. Authority to adjust the PA cost share resides with the President.	75% Federal Share
Hazard Mitigation Option	Yes - 406	No - Separate Program
Cost Tracking - DFRR	Yes - All response Activity Costs need to be reported to DFRR Analyst through Smartsheets	Yes - All response Activity Costs need to be reported to DFRR Analyst through Smartsheets
DREOA & FEMA Reimbursement & Reconciliation	If DREOA received, reconciliation with funding will be done by DFRR and DOF	If DREAO received, reconciliation with funding will be done by DFRR and DOF
Monetary Thresholds to Apply for Federal declaration	\$4,000 small project threshold as of 10/1/2024; updated annually at the start of the Federal fiscal year	All FMAG Projects are processed as large projects. As FMAG PWs are prepared after final costs are known, there are no estimated payments and no final inspections. PWs must be greater than \$1,000 to be eligible under the FMAG Program.