



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DISASTER FINANCIAL RECOVERY AND RECONCILIATION

## Public Assistance (DR) Vs. Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) Reimbursement

	<b>Public Assistance (DR)</b>	<b>Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)</b>
<b>Declared By</b>	Presidential Declaration authorizing Public Assistance (PA)	Federal declaration of Fire Management Assistance Grant. Upon Approval by the Regional Administrator.
<b>Disaster /Grant Request Triggers</b>	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.
<b>Grantor</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<b>For Activities Starting</b>	Activities starting on or after the incident start date.	Period of time (During incident period stated).

Last Updated 06/11/2026

	<b>Public Assistance (DR)</b>	<b>Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)</b>
<b>Categories of Work</b>	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 – Direct Administrative Costs
<b>Incident Period</b>	To be determined by FEMA.	Cal OES Fire Branch works with FEMA to decide incident period. Ultimate decision is FEMA.
<b>DREOA Availability</b>	SOE must be proclaimed by the Governor.	SOE must be proclaimed by the Governor.
<b>Funding Source</b>	Disaster Relief Fund	Disaster Relief Fund
<b>Duration of Fund Availability</b>	Up to 8 years	Up to 2 Years
<b>VAYGo Validation Required</b>	Yes, for all large and Cat Z projects.	Validation is required to show proof of payment.
<b>Direct Admin Costs (DAC)</b>	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).
<b>Project Worksheets</b>	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.

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<b>Preliminary Damage Assessments</b>	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.
<b>Building Damage Reimbursement</b>	Yes, if categories C-G are authorized; provides reimbursement for the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities.	No
<b>Required Documents</b>	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.
<b>Cost Share</b>	Minimum 75% Federal Share. Authority to adjust the PA cost share resides with the President.	75% Federal Share
<b>Hazard Mitigation Option</b>	Yes - 406	No - Separate Program
<b>Cost Tracking - DFRR</b>	Yes - All response Activity Costs need to be reported to DFRR Analyst through Smartsheet.	Yes - All response Activity Costs need to be reported to DFRR Analyst through Smartsheet.

	<b>Public Assistance (DR)</b>	<b>Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)</b>
<b>DREOA &amp; FEMA Reimbursement &amp; Reconciliation</b>	If DREOA received, reconciliation with funding will be done by DFRR and DOF.	If DREOA received, reconciliation with funding will be done by DFRR and DOF.
<b>Monetary Thresholds to Apply for Federal declaration</b>	\$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. The minimum threshold does not apply to PWs submitted for Cat Z direct administrative costs.