



Public Assistance (PA) Vs. Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) Reimbursement

	Public Assistance (PA)	Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)
Declared By	Presidential Major Disaster Declaration (DR) authorizing Public Assistance	Federal declaration of Fire Management Assistance Grant. Upon Approval by the FEMA Regional Administrator.
Declaration Condition or Criteria	When the following factors are evaluated: • Major potential economic impact. • The severity and magnitude of the disaster in specific counties or local jurisdictions. • The extent of public and private insurance recovery. • Consideration of whether hazard mitigation measures can reduce future catastrophic risks. • The state's recent disaster burden over the prior 12-month period.	When one or more of the following conditions are met in this order of priority: • A fire or fire complex would result in destruction that would constitute a major disaster without immediate intervention. • Threat to lives and improved property, including threats to critical facilities, infrastructure, and critical watershed areas. • State and local firefighting resources are depleted. • High fire danger conditions exist. • Potential major economic impact.
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).
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 A: Debris Removal ◦ Cat B: Emergency Protective Measures • Cat C-G: Permanent Work	Cat B – Emergency Protective Measures Cat H – Fire-Fighting Activities Cat Z – Direct Administrative Costs

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	○ Cat C: Roads and Bridges ○ Cat D: Water Control Facilities ○ Cat E: Buildings and Equipment ○ Cat F: Utilities ○ Cat G: Parks, Recreational, and Other Facilities ● 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	State Of Emergency must be proclaimed by the Governor.	State Of Emergency must be proclaimed by the Governor.
Funding Source	Disaster Relief Fund	Disaster Relief Fund
Duration of Fund Availability	Up to 8 years	Up to 3 Years
VAYGo Validation Required	Required for all large and Category Z projects.	Validation is required to show proof of payment.
Category Z Costs	Management costs obligated via Category 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. Both direct and indirect costs are potentially eligible for reimbursement. Eligible activities include those related to developing eligible PA projects and receiving reimbursement such as meetings, collecting documents, travel, training, etc. Applicants must substantiate all eligible management cost activities to receive reimbursement for actual expenditures.	For events prior to FY 24/25, Included in FMAG Program as a line item in Category B or H Project Worksheets (PW). For FY 24/25 forward, Category Z Direct Administrative Cost (DAC) projects are created as a separate project. Category Z DAC projects are funded at 75% federal/25% non-federal cost share. Only direct administrative costs are potentially eligible for reimbursement. No cap on actual costs incurred.

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Project Worksheets	PWs can be written as: • Expedited, for large Cat A and B projects: obligated at 50% of the estimated project cost. • Actual Costs: for projects where work is 100% complete, and actual costs are known. • Estimated Costs: for projects with work to be completed.	Prepared at 100% completion and based on actual costs only. Costs due to CalOES within 4 months of end of Incident Period.
Preliminary Damage Assessments	Preliminary Damage Assessments are 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.
Building Damage Reimbursement	Reimbursement for the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities is provided, if categories C-G are authorized.	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 form: Request for Public Assistance (RPA)	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. • Application: RFMAS FEMA form FF-104
Cost Share	Minimum 75% Federal Share. Authority to adjust the PA cost share resides with the President.	75% Federal Share
Cost Tracking - DCAR	Yes - All response Activity Costs need to be reported to DCAR Analyst through Smartsheet.	Yes - All response Activity Costs need to be reported to DCAR Analyst through Smartsheet.

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DREOA, FEMA Reimbursement & Reconciliation	If DREOA is received, reconciliation with funding will be done by DCAR and DOF.	If DREOA is received, reconciliation with funding will be done by DCAR and DOF.