



FEMA

LA BEOC
LOUISIANA BUSINESS EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Private Sector Advisory

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Disaster Recovery Center in St. Landry Parish Will Transition to Disaster Loan Outreach Center to Serve Louisiana Survivors

The U.S. Small Business Administration is opening a disaster loan outreach center on Thursday, Oct. 6, in St. Landry Parish to assist Louisiana flood survivors. The center will be open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, until further notice.

St. Landry Parish

Word Ministries
1960 West Laurel Avenue
Eunice, LA 70535
Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Monday through Friday)

The new disaster loan outreach center will be transitioning from the FEMA disaster recovery center at the same address that will cease operations at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 5.

With the community continuing to repair and rebuild, its need for the disaster recovery center has diminished and the facility will now become a disaster loan outreach center to serve individuals with SBA loans.

Survivors can still visit any other disaster recovery center and may locate other centers near them by going online to fema.gov/disaster-recovery-centers, calling the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362, or downloading the FEMA mobile app.

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Federal Assistance Can Help Certain Louisiana Child Care Providers

For many children in Louisiana, August flooding disrupted their routines at home, school and daycare. Some child care centers weren't able to continue service while working to recover.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance Program (PA) may be able to provide grants to certain private nonprofit organizations (PNPs) that own or operate child care facilities damaged as a result of the floods.

(More)

Available Federal Assistance for Child Care Providers

FEMA may reimburse the following:

- Eligible **debris removal** and **emergency work**.
- Losses to **buildings, contents and equipment**.
- **Temporary relocation facilities**. Costs to lease, purchase or construct temporary facilities for the applicant to reestablish child care services provided prior to the disaster.
- **Repair, restoration or replacement of public & private nonprofit facilities**. To receive reimbursement for permanent work from FEMA, applicants must first apply for a disaster loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

SBA may offer additional assistance:

- **Low-interest loans to businesses of all sizes, most PNPs, homeowners and renters**. Businesses such as day care centers may borrow up to \$2 million for any combination of property damage or economic injury.
- SBA also offers **low-interest working capital loans** (called Economic Injury Disaster Loans) to small business and most private nonprofits of all sizes having difficulty meeting obligations as a result of the disaster.
- For more information, visit www.sba.gov/disaster. Applicants should apply simultaneously to FEMA and the SBA for disaster assistance.

PNP Eligibility Criteria

- Have a ruling letter from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service or satisfactory evidence from the state that it is a nonprofit organization doing business under state law.
- Own or operate an eligible facility, in this case a child care center, and be open to the public.
- Be legally responsible for disaster related repairs to the facility and/or its contents.

Process for Requesting Assistance

- Submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA) to the State of Louisiana by October 15. Find RPA forms online at [Resources - LouisianaPA.com](http://Resources-LouisianaPA.com) (scroll to bottom of page for forms).
- Include in the submission, the following documents:
 - Copy of the PNP's bylaws plus either articles of incorporation or charter;
 - State Tax ID, Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) and Dun & Bradstreet (DUNS) number, available at www.dhb.com; and
 - IRS ruling granting tax exemption status to the PNP.

For more information, contact your parish emergency management office. Find contact information -online at gohsep.la.gov/about/parishpa.

College Students May Qualify for Disaster Assistance

Students at Louisiana colleges or universities in areas affected by the August flooding may be eligible for FEMA disaster grants to help with damage to or losses of personal vehicles, clothing, text books and school supplies.

Disaster assistance loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are available up to \$40,000 for personal property loss of vehicles, furniture and other personal items.

Students do not need to be permanent residents of the designated parishes to be eligible for assistance. However, the property damage or loss must have occurred in a flooded area.

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Louisiana Disaster Assistance Applicants: Understand FEMA Determination Letters and How to Appeal Them

A quick fix may change your decision if you applied for FEMA help following Louisiana's August severe storms and floods and you disagree with your determination letter.

Everybody has a right to appeal. Read your determination letter carefully to understand FEMA's decision and know exactly what you need to do for your appeal.

Many times applicants just need to submit some extra documents for FEMA to process their application. FEMA can reconsider you in some cases if you:

- **Submit insurance documents.** Provide documents from your insurance company that detail your coverage or settlement is insufficient to make essential home repairs, provide a place to stay, or replace certain contents. FEMA cannot duplicate homeowner or renter insurance benefits.
- **Prove occupancy.** Provide documents that prove the damaged home or rental was your primary residence by supplying a copy of utility bills, driver's license or lease.
- **Prove ownership.** Provide documents such as mortgage or insurance documents, tax receipts or a deed. If you don't have a deed handy, contact your local or parish officials about obtaining a copy.

There are many other reasons you may disagree with FEMA's decision. If you feel the amount or type of assistance is incorrect, submit an appeal letter and any documents to support your claim, including a contractor's estimate for home repairs. You should have received a booklet called "Help After a Disaster" that explains what you need to provide for your situation. The booklet is available online at www.fema.gov/help-after-disaster.

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We urge everyone to continue to use caution in areas where floodwaters remain. Monitor DOTD's www.511la.org website for updated road closure information. Look for advisories from your local authorities and emergency managers. You can find the latest information on the state's response at www.emergency.la.gov GOHSEP also provides information on Facebook and Twitter. You can receive emergency alerts on most smartphones and tablets by downloading the new Alert FM App. It is free for basic service. You can also download the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other information at www.getagameplan.org.

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 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. Follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/femaregion6> and the FEMA Blog at <http://blog.fema.gov>.

The U.S. Small Business Administration is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners and renters fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For more information, applicants may contact SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov or visiting SBA's website at SBA.gov/disaster. Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call (800) 877-8339.