

Citizenship and FEMA Eligibility

FEMA is committed to helping all eligible disaster survivors recover from the August 18-19, 2024 Severe Storm, Flooding, Landslides and Mudslides, including U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals and qualified aliens.

Disaster survivors in Fairfield, Litchfield and New Haven Counties may apply for assistance from FEMA's Individuals and Households Program (IHP). You or a member of your household must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien.

If you do not meet the status of either U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien, your household may still apply for and be considered for IHP assistance if:

- Another adult member of your household meets the eligibility criteria and certifies their citizenship status during the registration process or signs the Declaration and Release form, or
- The parent or guardian of a minor child who is a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or a qualified alien applies for assistance on behalf of the child, if they live in the same household. The parent or legal guardian must register as the co-applicant, and the minor child must be under age 18 at the time the disaster occurred.

Qualified aliens

“Qualified alien” includes:

- A legal permanent resident (“green card” holder).
- An asylee, refugee or an alien whose deportation is being withheld.
- An alien paroled into the U.S. for at least one year.
- An alien granted conditional entry (per law in effect prior to April 1, 1980).
- A Cuban or Haitian entrant.
- Certain aliens subjected to extreme cruelty or who have been a victim of a severe form of human trafficking, including persons with a “T” or “U” visa.
- Aliens whose children have been abused and alien children whose parent has been abused who fit certain criteria.
- Legal residents in accordance with the Compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.



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Non-Citizen Nationals

A non-citizen national is a person born in an outlying possession of the U.S. (e.g., American Samoa) on or after the date the U.S. acquired the possession, or a person whose parents are U.S. non-citizen nationals. All U.S. citizens are U.S. nationals; however, not every U.S. national is a U.S. citizen.

Qualified Minor Children

The parent or guardian of a minor child living in the same household may apply for assistance on behalf of the minor child who is a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien. The minor child must be under age 18 as of the first day of the incident period, August 18, 2024.

Resources

See Citizenship and Immigration Status Requirements for Federal Public Benefits for more information in multiple languages at fema.gov/assistance/individual/program/citizenship-immigration-status.

If you're unsure of your immigration status, talk to an immigration expert to learn if your status falls within the immigration status requirements for FEMA disaster assistance.

Visit nvoad.org to learn about voluntary organizations that mitigate and alleviate the impact of disasters. For local information, visit ctvoad.org

Apply for FEMA Disaster Assistance

To be eligible for any FEMA Individual Assistance program you must apply to FEMA. **The deadline to apply is November 19, 2024.**

- There are four ways to apply for FEMA assistance:
 - Visit the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) located at the Southbury Town Hall, 501 Main Street, South, Southbury, CT 06488 with operational hours of Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday closed.
 - Online at DisasterAssistance.gov,
 - Download and use the [FEMA Mobile App](#).
 - Call the FEMA Helpline at **1-800-621-3362**. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service. Helpline operators are available from 7 a.m. to 12 a.m. daily. Press 2 for Spanish. Press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language.

For an accessible video on how to apply for FEMA assistance go to, <https://youtu.be/HhtlyTX49RE>.

For more information on Connecticut's recovery from the Severe Storm, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides on August 18-19, 2024, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4820>. Follow FEMA on X (formally Twitter) at [FEMA](#)

[Region 1 \(@femaregion1\) / X](#) and on Facebook at [FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency | Facebook](#). To prepare yourself, your family and your community from future disasters visit [Ready.gov](#).

For updates on Connecticut’s response and recovery operations, please visit the DEMHS homepage at [Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security](#) and their recovery resource page [August 18th, 2024: Severe Flooding Disaster \(ct.gov\)](#). Follow CT DEMHS on X (formerly Twitter) at [CT Emergency Management & Homeland Security \(@CTDEMHS\) / X](#)