

# Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance Program



**June 18, 2009**  
**Disaster Assistance Division**

# Public Assistance Division

## Mission Statement

**Mission:** To assist communities in recovering from the devastating effects of disasters by providing technical assistance and financial grants in an efficient, effective, consistent and customer-friendly manner. We will accomplish the mission by having experienced, trained, knowledgeable and friendly staff; well documented, easy-to-understand and accessible policies and procedures; timely and transparent decision-making; and a strong partnership with the states. We will continuously seek and identify opportunities to improve program delivery.

# The Public Assistance Process



# What is a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA)?:

- Mechanism to determine the impact and magnitude of damage caused by a disaster
- A PDA team reviews the types of damage or emergency costs incurred by the state and the impact to critical facilities

# Public Assistance Disaster Declaration?

**Two Key Indicators from PDA:**

- **State Threshold**
- **County Threshold**

# State Threshold

## Statewide per Capita

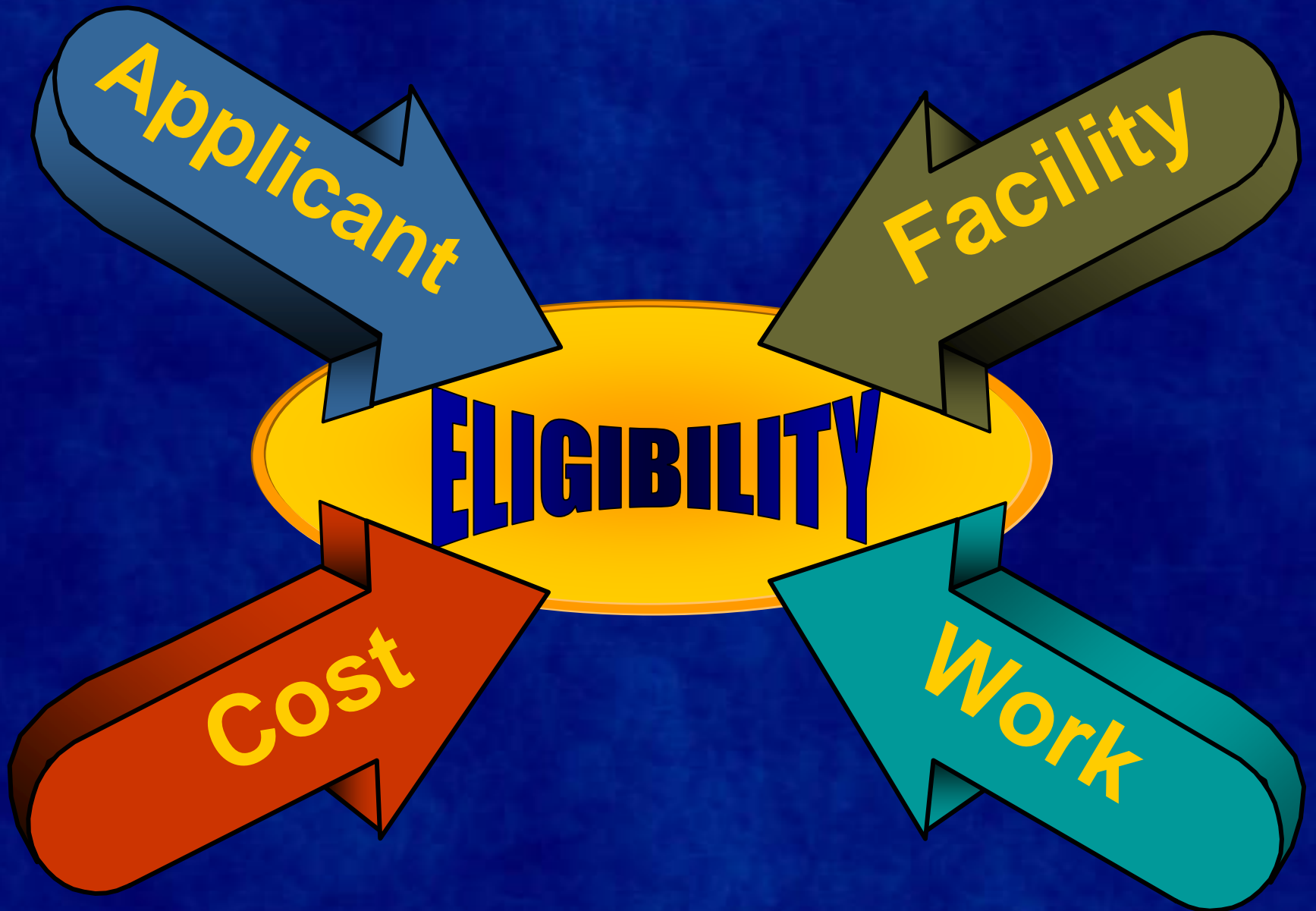
- **\$1.31 for FY 2009**
  - Total statewide damages divided by state population (2000 census)
- **\$1,373,298 for Rhode Island**
  - Population 1,048,319 X \$1.31

# County Threshold

## Countywide per Capita

- **\$3.28 for FY 2009**
  - Total county damages divided by county population

# Factors of Eligibility



# Eligible Applicants

- **State governments**
- **Local governments**
- **Indian Tribes or authorized Tribal organizations**
- **Certain Private Non-Profit Organizations**

# Facility Eligibility

To be eligible, the facility must:

- Be the legal responsibility of an eligible applicant
- Have been in active use at the time of the disaster
- Be damaged as a result of the declared disaster
- Be located in the designated disaster area

# Work Eligibility

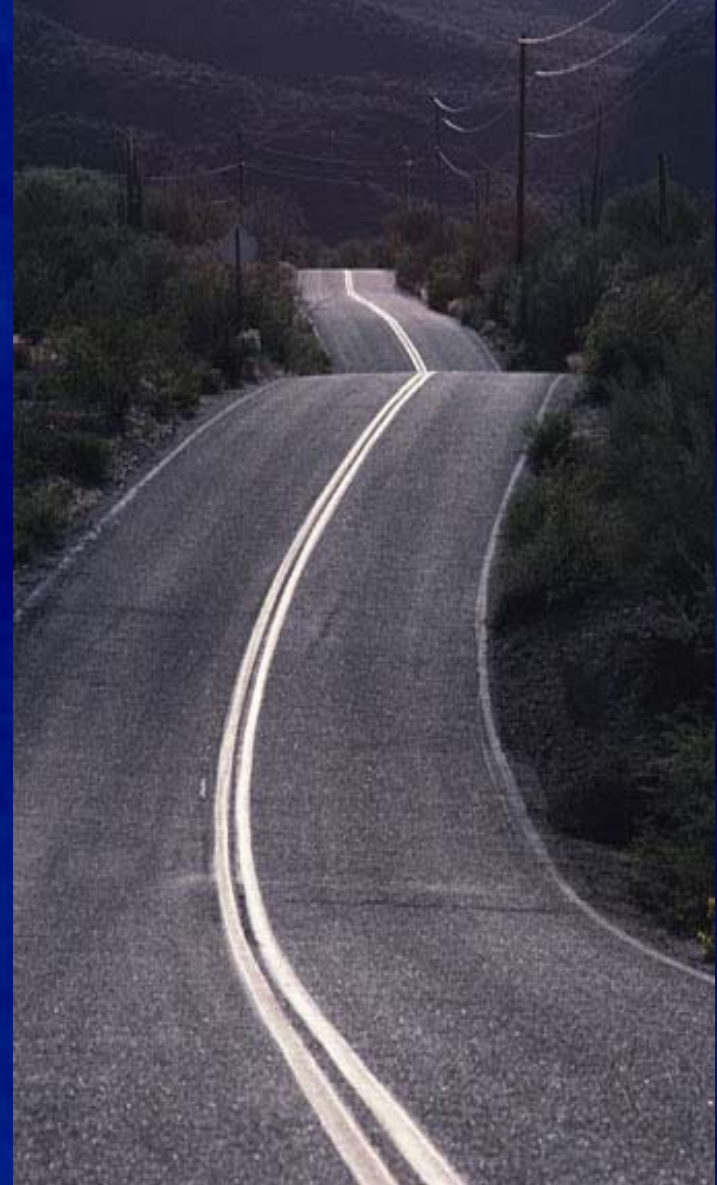
**To be eligible, the work must:**

- **Be disaster related**
- **Be located in the designated disaster area**
- **Be the applicant's responsibility**
- **Not be fundable by another federal agency**

# Types of Eligible Work

**Emergency Work**

**Permanent Work**



# Emergency Work

## Category A – Debris Removal



**Debris removal is eligible when:**

- **It eliminates an immediate threat to life, health, and safety.**
- **It eliminates an immediate threat of significant damage to improved property.**
- **It ensures economic recovery of the community and provides a benefit for the community-at-large.**

# Emergency Work

## Category B – Emergency Protective Measures



Emergency Protective Measures are actions taken by a community before, during, and following a disaster to save lives, protect public health and safety, or eliminate immediate threat of significant damage to improved public and private property through cost effective measures.

# Permanent Work

- **Category C: Road Systems & Bridges**
- **Category D: Water Control Facilities**
- **Category E: Buildings, Contents & Equipment**
- **Category F: Utilities**
- **Category G: Parks, Recreational & Other**

# Permanent Work

## Work Categories C - G

- **Eligible permanent work:**
  - **Must repair, restore or replace disaster-damaged facilities in accordance with regulations**
  - **Must restore to pre-disaster design, capacity and function in accordance with applicable codes and standards**
  - **Must be required as a result of the disaster**
  - **May include cost effective hazard mitigation measures**

# Small Project or Large Project?



Annually updated, \$64,200 is the FY 2009  
threshold amount.

# Small Projects versus Large Projects

Public Assistance projects are processed as either small or large projects. If the project cost is less than the annually updated cost threshold amount (\$64,200 for FY 2009) the project is processed as a small project. If the project cost equals or exceeds the threshold the project is processed as a large project.

Small Projects	Large Projects
Federal cost share is paid upon project approval.	Federal cost share is paid as work is accomplished.
Funding is based on an initial cost estimate.	Final assistance is based upon actual costs.

# Special Considerations

Special considerations are issues other than program eligibility that could affect the scope of work and funding of a project. These issues include:

**Hazard Mitigation**

**Environmental Requirements**

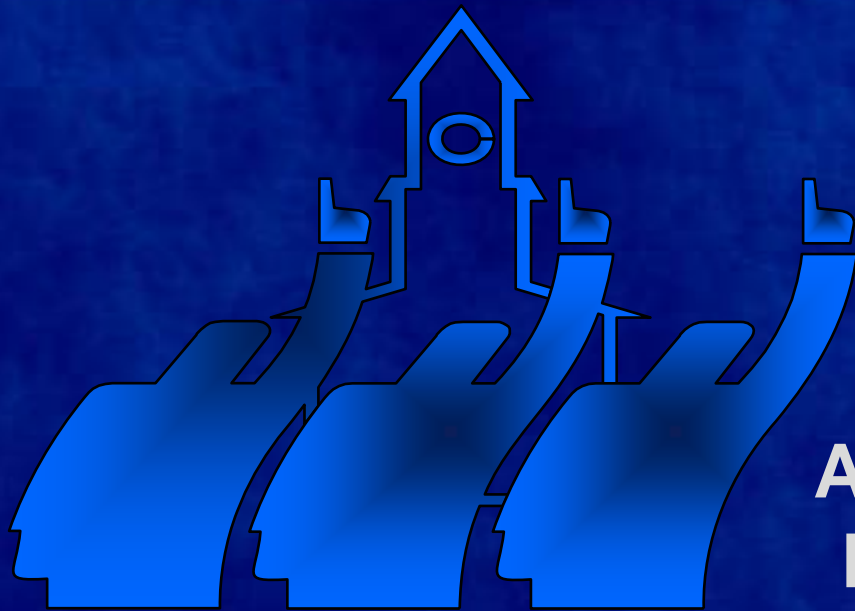
**Historic Preservation &  
Cultural Resources**

**Floodplain Management**

**Insurance Requirements**

# Project Worksheet (PW)

- Documents scope of work and cost estimate for a project
- Each project must be documented on a separate PW



# Appeals

**Any determination related to Federal assistance may be appealed.**

**The time limit for appeal submission is 60 days from receipt of notice of the action which is being appealed.**

# Record Keeping



**Accurate records of events and expenditures related to disaster recovery work must be maintained**

# Summary Forms

- 1. Force Account Labor Summary (FEMA Form 90-123)**
  - records personnel costs
- 2. Force Account Equipment Summary (FEMA Form 90-127)**
  - records equipment use costs
- 3. Materials Summary Record (FEMA Form 90-124)**
  - records the supplies and materials that you take out of stock or purchase
- 4. Rented Equipment Summary Record (FEMA Form 90-125)**
  - records the costs of rented or leased equipment
- 5. Contract Work Summary Record (FEMA Form 90-126)**
  - records the costs of work you have done by contractors
- 6. Applicant's Benefits Calculation Worksheet (FEMA Form 90-128)**
  - records fringe benefit pay for employees

# Submission Time Limits

**Request for Public Assistance -**

**30**

**days after designation**



**Project Worksheets -**

**60**

**days after Kickoff Meeting**

# Project Completion Deadlines

Time limits for all Projects begin  
the date of the disaster  
declaration

✓ Emergency work - **6** months

✓ Permanent work - **18** months

**Additional information can be  
obtained from:**

**→ FEMA's Web Site ([www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov))**