



March 17, 2020

## Federal Assistance Guidance for Counties, Tribal Nations and Municipalities for COVID-19 Response

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Below are important points for County Emergency Manager/DES Coordinators, County Commissioners, Tribal Emergency Manager/DES Coordinators, Tribal Councilmembers, Mayors and Municipal Councilmembers regarding possible Federal financial assistance programs for activities to respond to COVID-19.

- Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) are the lead Federal agencies for the COVID-19 response.
- FEMA will not duplicate financial assistance provided by HHS, IHS, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or other federal agencies.
- It is very important that funding from FEMA for emergency protective measures be tracked separately from HHS, IHS (Health) health funding or other funding. Do NOT co-mingle tracking of funds.
- Your local health departments should also track public health COVID-19 costs separately from emergency protective measures.
- FEMA reimbursable activities may include emergency protective measure such as the activation of your Emergency Coordination Center (EOC), law enforcement, and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety.
- FEMA eligible costs for emergency protective measures include overtime (salary and fringe), travel, equipment, and supplies and materials incurred for COVID-19 response. Straight-time and overtime pay for unbudgeted employees needing to be hired to perform Emergency Work temporarily in response to COVID-19 impacts is eligible.
- FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75%-25% Federal-Local cost share. If your county's or municipality's 2-MIL levy does not cover your 25%, the State will assist with the cost share balance.
- If a Tribal Nation decides to be a direct Grantee with the Federal government, they will be responsible for their 25% match. If a Tribe goes through the State, the State will cover the cost share.
- It is important for counties, tribal nations, and cities or towns to declare a local Declaration of Emergency if you intend to request assistance through FEMA's Emergency Declaration, FEMA-3476-EM-MT. NOTE – This Emergency Declaration is different from a Health Declaration.
- Supporting documentation is needed for all requests for Federal financial assistance.

**Please contact MT DES Recovery with any questions:**

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