

# FEMA Support for Tribal Governments

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# FEMA: An Unprecedented Response

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- Together with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, FEMA has led the whole-of-government COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.
- As of 16 March 2021, FEMA has obligated \$62.7 billion to support the nation's COVID-19 response efforts, including:
  - \$4.38 billion for expenses related to COVID-19 vaccination at a 100% cost share.
  - \$39.6 billion for those who were unemployed due to COVID-19 through 27 Dec. 2020.
- FEMA is partnering with more than 26,000 government and non-profit applicants to reimburse eligible costs.
- Tribal, state, and local officials drive their recovery in a locally-executed, tribe/state-managed, and federally-supported recovery.



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# FEMA Regions



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# FEMA Assistance for Tribal Governments: COVID-19

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- President's nationwide emergency declaration of March 13, 2020.
- Major Disaster Declarations covering every U.S. state means all federally-recognized tribal governments in the U.S. are also covered.
- Tribal governments have the option to request their own Presidential major disaster declarations.



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# General COVID-19 Eligibility

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- Purchase / distribution of PPE directly related to eligible emergency work, or provided to healthcare workers, patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection, and first responders
- Medical care
- Purchase/distribution of food
- Non-congregate medical sheltering
- Communications to disseminate public information
- Mass casualty management
- Operation of Emergency Operations Centers
- Cloth facial coverings
  - temperature scanning
- Disinfection
- Temporary physical barriers
- Law enforcement and security
- Training and technical assistance
- Labor costs
- Movement of equipment



# Overall Role of Tribal Liaisons

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- Primary point of contact for Federally-Recognized Tribes
- Build relationships and develop trust with tribal partners
- Ensure Tribal partners are informed of new policies, training, and initiatives
- Provide information and respond to needs identified by Tribal partners before, during, and after disasters
- Coordinate training, technical assistance, and emergency management capacity building
- Advocate for the Tribes
- Elevate tribal issues and concerns to FEMA leadership
- Coordinate, conduct, and assist with consultation



# Tribal Liaison Roles in COVID-19 Response & Recovery

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- Initial Outreach: identify unmet needs, respond to questions and begin discussion of options for federal assistance.
- Conference calls with Tribal Leaders and Staff.
- Numerous calls with Tribal Leaders, Recovery Program Leads to discuss and provide information that would assist Tribal leaders in determining which option would be best for their Nation.
- Assist with completion of FEMA/Tribe Agreement once a decision is made.



# Resource Procurement

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- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Resource Request Forms
- Indian Health Services
- Coordination of philanthropic donations



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# Thank You

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