



FEMA

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# News Release

## Disagree with FEMA? Know Your Options to Appeal

**CHICAGO** –Michiganders who disagree with FEMA’s assistance decision have the option to submit an appeal and have their case reconsidered.

After registering for FEMA assistance, applicants will receive a letter explaining FEMA’s eligibility decision and the reason for that decision. *Read your letter carefully* because it specifies why you are ineligible and recommends actions that may change the decision.

You may need to provide additional information or documents. For example, FEMA cannot duplicate benefits from other sources, including insurance. However, if your policy doesn’t cover all your **essential** needs, you may submit your insurance settlement documents for FEMA to review.

Examples of other missing documents may include proof of residence, proof of ownership of the damaged property, or proof that the damaged property was your primary residence at the time of the disaster. Additionally, if you told FEMA your home was safe to live in when you registered, but your situation has changed, you can contact the FEMA Helpline by calling 800-621-3362 (TTY 800-462-7585) to have your property inspected and reconsidered for assistance.

### Appealing a FEMA Decision

Everyone has the right to appeal a FEMA decision. An appeal must be filed in the form of a signed

## HOW TO WRITE AN APPEAL

**The appeal must be postmarked within 60 days of the date on the award or denial letter from FEMA.**

Your FEMA Registration # \_\_\_\_\_  
 FEMA Disaster Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Current Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 XXXX-XXXX-X  
 DR-XXXX-STATE

Dear FEMA,

On MM/DD/YYYY, I received a letter stating [describe the letter with which you disagree]. I am appealing your decision because [include detailed justification on why you believe you are eligible or should receive more funds]. I have attached the following supporting documentation [ensure you provide documentation supporting your appeal such as receipts, verifiable contractor estimates, or other supporting documentation].

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature*

### 3 Ways To Submit Your Appeal

**Online** DisasterAssistance.gov (Upload to your account)

**By Fax** 800-827-8112 (Attention FEMA)

**By Mail** FEMA National Processing Service Center  
P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055



letter, by the applicant, within 60 days of the date on the decision letter. In the appeal, explain why you disagree with the decision. Include any requested information and supporting documentation. Be sure to include the following:

- Applicant's full name, current address and phone number
- Address of the applicant's pre-disaster primary residence
- Applicant's signature and the date
- Applicant's registration number (on every page)
- FEMA disaster declaration number – DR-4607 (on every page)

If the person writing the appeal letter is not the applicant or a member of the applicant's household, a statement must be included granting the writer authorization to act on your behalf.

Appeal letters and supporting documentation can be uploaded quickly to your account on [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov) or faxed to 800-827-8112. Please ensure all faxes include the cover sheet provided with your FEMA decision letter. Your appeal may also be submitted at a Disaster Recovery Center or Document Drop-off Center where staff are also available to assist you with ensuring all necessary documents are included. Individuals can find their nearest recovery or document drop-off center by visiting <https://egateway.fema.gov/ESF6/DRCLocator>. Appeals can also be mailed to:

FEMA National Processing Service Center  
P.O. Box 10055  
Hyattsville, MD 20782-8055

For more information about Michigan's recovery, visit [www.fema.gov/disaster/4607](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4607). FEMA assistance is currently available to residents in Washtenaw and Wayne counties. The deadline for individuals to apply for disaster assistance is Sept. 13, 2021.

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*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency, or economic status. Reasonable accommodations, including translation and American Sign Language interpreters via Video Relay Service will be available to ensure effective communication with applicants with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and access and functional needs. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 (including 711 or Video Relay). If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585.*

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

[www.fema.gov/disaster/4607](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4607)  
<https://twitter.com/femaregion5>