



COLORADO

State Emergency Operations Center

Updated: March 18, 2020

Emergency Declarations Assistance - EM 3436

On March 11, 2020 Governor Polis provided leadership in issuing a State Emergency Declaration to prepare and protect Coloradoans which directed the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to proactively respond to the COVID-19 threat including activation of the Colorado National Guard.

On March 13, 2020 the President of the United States approved emergency declarations that authorized the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide assistance to states, tribes, local governments, certain private non-profits and other agencies engaged in the response to COVID-19.

The Colorado State Emergency Operations Center is operational at the highest level and includes representatives from FEMA. Colorado DHSEM is in contact with FEMA leadership on an on-going basis and communicating your questions and concerns on the best way to support your staff and community.

Assistance Overview

- FEMA and HHS are diligently working to provide specific rules pertaining to eligible entities, expenses, and reimbursement procedures.
- FEMA will not be able to duplicate assistance provided by HHS and expenses reimbursable by HHS will not be reimbursable by FEMA.
- Colorado DHSEM will be the administrative agency in charge of dispersing funds to eligible entities from FEMA.
- CDPHE will be the administrative agency responsible for dispersing funds from the HHS.
- Colorado DHSEM and CDPHE have established a Unified Command Center and are working jointly on every aspect of this issue.
- The Small Business Administration (BA) has activated the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and small businesses can apply today for assistance through www.sba.gov



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- The federal declaration covers all 64 counties and tribes in Colorado. County declarations of emergency cover all eligible agencies within the geographical boundaries of the county or city and county.

Expected Assistance Requirements

A few rules codified in federal regulation apply to federal declaration. We expect the following to be applicable to this declaration unless further guidance is received from FEMA.

- Reimbursable activities from FEMA typically include emergency protective measures such as the activation of emergency operations centers, law enforcement and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety.
- Costs will be reviewed by the State and FEMA to determine if the costs appear to be necessary and reasonable.
- Federal procurement rules apply even in emergency circumstances and our staff will work with FEMA to determine the specifics.
- Documentation of expenses will be paramount in successfully receiving reimbursement.
- Fact sheets pertaining to documentation requirements and procurement are available from the contacts listed below.
- FEMA grant programs are administered on a reimbursement basis and it is unlikely that this funding will be made available to the local jurisdictions for at least 60 days. Expenses submitted for reimbursement should be tasked through and tracked by the local emergency operations center having authority for that jurisdiction.
- At this point, we don't expect reimbursement to happen for at least 90 days from the date of declaration, possibly longer. Colorado DHSEM will communicate timeframes as soon as they are known.
- Colorado DHSEM is planning a series of regionally based applicant briefings, fact sheets, and webinars that will provide a reimbursement process and answer questions as soon as FEMA has provided us with final guidance.

Please coordinate closely with your local emergency manager and local public health agency staff.

For additional questions, the following State points of contact are available to you at the local level:

- DOLA Regional Manager
- DHSEM Regional Field Manager

The following email address is also available for the duration of the emergency for questions:

cdps_em3436@state.co.us



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