



STATE OF FLORIDA

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Kevin Guthrie
Director

October 28, 2022

Thomas McCool, Federal Coordinating Officer
FEMA DR-4673-FL
Initial Operating Facility
Fort Myers, Florida

RE: DR-4673-FL, Request for Expansion of 403B Emergency Protective Measures for Sheltering in Home for Recovery Continuation (SHRC)

Dear Mr. McCool,

On September 29, 2022, the State of Florida requested the deployment of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Blue Roof Program. This emergency protective measure provides temporary roofing and the coordination of roofing activities of all other organizations (e.g., National Guard and local voluntary organizations) performing portions of this roofing mission. These activities may include ordering supplies, equipment, materials, and logistics support necessary to provide temporary roofing to homes and other structures as per FEMA Policy. This specific Public Assistance 403B authority provides, in relevant part:

Emergency protective measures conducted before, during, and after an incident are eligible if the measures:

- *Eliminate or lessen immediate threats to lives, public health, or safety; OR*
- *Eliminate or lessen immediate threats of significant additional damage to improved public or private property in a cost-effective manner.*

FEMA may require certification by Federal or SLTT government officials that a threat exists, including:

- *Identification and evaluation of the threat; and*
- *Recommendations of the work necessary to cope with the threat. (FEMA PAPPG, p.6)*

The State of Florida is seeking an expansion of the execution of this authority, for a limited, specific shelter-in-place mission, using verified volunteer labor, to include the purchasing of materials and equipment beyond tarps, plastic sheeting, and furring strips. Materials may include:

- Cleaning, sanitizing, and related products
- Caulk, tape, paint, sealer, fluid products, and accessories
- Generators and pressure washers
- Concrete and cement products
- Lumber and framing accessories
- Doors, windows, and accessories
- Electrical products
- Plumbing materials (including toilets and tubs) necessary to equip one functioning bathroom per home and functioning kitchen sink if needed
- Roofing products required for weatherproofing, not repairing
- Tools for muck and gut, hand and general tools, and power tools and accessories
- Nails, screws, etc.

- Ladders
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety gear

This federally supported, state managed, and locally executed initiative will be focused on applicants in IA-declared counties who are deemed ineligible for financial home repair, replacement, or clean and sanitation assistance. Ineligibility may include such categories as No Relocation, Ownership Not Verified, Noncompliant Flood Insurance, and Insufficient Damage. These temporary repairs will be consistent with the FEMA and American Red Cross Shelter Field Guide which requires: 1) functional and sanitary kitchen and bathroom; 2) sufficient lighting; 3) functional utilities; 4) entry and egress free of debris; 5) access and functional need support capacity; and 6) mitigated safety and fire hazards.

Therefore, the State defines temporary home repairs to shelter in place limited to the following repairs:

- Roof and walls secured from the elements, consistent with geographic health and safety needs.
- Windows and doors secured from the elements; access controlled by resident.
- Access control features to secure the home and ensure emergency access to the home.
- Climate control consistent with health and safety needs, and seasonal climate during the period of performance.
- One functional bathroom.
- Minor utility restoration (including electrical service, potable water supply, and operational wastewater systems for the area of the home designated for sheltering) consistent with health and safety needs.
- Access and functional needs support consistent with health and safety needs (e.g., construction of a temporary access ramp to enter residence).
- Cleaning/sanitizing homes to remove health and safety threats.
- Debris removal to remove disaster-caused access barriers and health/safety threats.
- Mold remediation where applicable.

This approach is consistent with the purpose and intent of this emergency protective measure to Eliminate or lessen immediate threats to lives, public health, or safety; or eliminate or lessen immediate threats of significant additional damage to improved public or private property in a cost-effective manner:

- Mold remediation will lessen immediate threats to the health and safety of residents
- Mold remediation, roof repairs, and other exterior repairs will lessen immediate threats of significant additional damage.
- Allowing residents to stay in their communities aids in the economic recovery and sustainability of the community
- It allows applicants to remain near work, school, and services
- It reduces the need for other sheltering options
- Using volunteer labor is cost-effective and contributes to local engagement for communities owning their own recovery
- It can be used for rental properties to keep survivors from relocating
- It is dependent on local volunteer capacity and may need invitational travel to bring in additional volunteer support.

The State will work with FEMA IA, local municipalities, the State-led Disaster Housing Task Force, and nonprofit partners to identify eligible survivors. By leveraging federal, state, and voluntary resources we can make an immediate and positive impact for survivors.

Sincerely,

Douglas Roberts
State Disaster Recovery Coordinator, DR-4673-FL
Florida Division of Emergency Management

cc: Gracia Szczech, Regional Administrator, Region IV
Melissa Forbes, Assistant Administrator, Recovery Directorate
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