

Austin Joint Field Office

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**HURRICANE HARVEY** 

## News Release

## Harvey Survivors Get More Time to Apply for Disaster Assistance

**AUSTIN, Texas** – Texans in **41** designated counties who suffered damage and losses from Hurricane Harvey now have until **Friday, Nov. 24, 2017**, to register for disaster assistance.

Registration is open to survivors in Aransas, Austin, Bastrop, Bee, Brazoria, Caldwell, Calhoun, Chambers, Colorado, DeWitt, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Karnes, Kleberg, Lavaca, Lee, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Polk, Refugio, Sabine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Tyler, Victoria, Walker, Waller, and Wharton counties.

Survivors may register for assistance the following ways:

- Online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.
- Via the FEMA mobile app, available at <a href="fema.gov/mobile-app">fema.gov/mobile-app</a>
- Phone (800) 621-3362 (711 or Video Relay Service) 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, TTY (800) 462-7585.
- At a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC). Find your nearest DRC at <a href="fema.gov/drc">fema.gov/drc</a>.

FEMA grants do not have to be repaid. FEMA assistance is nontaxable and will not affect eligibility for Social Security, Medicaid or other federal benefits.

This extension also gives survivors more time to apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

The SBA is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps businesses of all sizes, private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property.

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These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations.

Applicants may apply online using SBA's secure website at <a href="https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela">https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela</a>.

In addition, applicants can get more information on SBA disaster assistance by calling SBA's Customer Service Center at **(800) 659-2955**, by visiting <a href="www.sba.gov/disaster">www.sba.gov/disaster</a>, or by emailing <a href="disastercustomerservice@sba.gov">disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</a>. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call **(800) 877-8339**. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

For more information on Hurricane Harvey and Texas recovery, visit the Hurricane Harvey disaster web page at <a href="https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4332">www.fema.gov/disaster/4332</a>, or Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/FEMAharvey">https://www.facebook.com/FEMAharvey</a>, the FEMA Region6 Twitter account at <a href="twitter.com/FEMARegion6">twitter.com/FEMARegion6</a>, or the Texas Division of Emergency Management website at <a href="www.dps.texas.gov/dem/">www.dps.texas.gov/dem/</a>.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 (voice, 711/VRS - Video Relay Service) (TTY: 800-462-7585). Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish).

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