



Joint Information Center - JIC Recovery Release No. 88 July 22, 2023, 3:45 p.m. (ChST) JRR0722#88

Less than a Week Left to Apply for FEMA Assistance; FEMA May Call from an Unknown Number; SBA Disaster Loans Also Still Available

If you have sustained damage or loss because of Typhoon Mawar, you may be eligible for FEMA Individual Assistance. **Acting quickly is important, as the deadline of July 27 is less than one week away.** FEMA strongly encourages Typhoon Mawar survivors to apply as soon as possible. FEMA assistance may include grants to help homeowners and renters pay for:

- Temporary housing for those displaced from their disaster-damaged primary homes.
- Essential repairs to owner-occupied primary homes, including structural components such as foundation, exterior walls and roof, and interior areas such as ceiling and floors.
- Replacement of personal property, including specialized tools for employment, household items, appliances, disability equipment (i.e., wheelchairs, hearing aids, etc.), and vehicle repair or replacement.
- Other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance, including medical, dental, moving, and child-care expenses and funeral and transportation expenses.

Typhoon Mawar survivors should register for assistance even if they have insurance. FEMA cannot duplicate insurance payments, but underinsured applicants may receive help after their claims have been settled.

The remaining Disaster Recovery Centers are still open:

Disaster Recovery Center	Hours of Operation
Guam Community College	8 a.m 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, 9 a.m 2 p.m., Saturday Closed on Sundays
Juan M. Guerrero Elementary School	

FEMA May Call from an Unknown Number

FEMA and disaster service representatives are reaching out to Guam survivors of Typhoon Mawar that have applied for disaster assistance and federal programs. Representatives may call for a variety of reasons, such as issues with applications (missing documents, insurance settlement paperwork, etc.), follow-up on access and functional needs, and/or to schedule inspections at the address where damage was reported.

In these instances, phone calls may come from unknown numbers or unfamiliar area codes. If you receive a phone call from FEMA, don't share your personal information unless you are sure the person you are talking to is a legitimate FEMA representative. If you receive a call from someone stating they are a FEMA representative, but you are skeptical, do not give out any information. Call 800-621-3362 to verify the call is legitimate. If you suspect fraud, call the toll-free Disaster Fraud Hotline at 866-720-5721 or visit justice.gov/disaster-fraud/ncdf-disaster-complaint-form. When an applicant calls the Helpline to speak with a FEMA representative, they may be asked to share personal information to verify identity.

If you haven't applied for federal disaster assistance yet, please do so at <u>disasterassistance.gov</u>, by using the <u>FEMA mobile app</u>, by calling 800-621-3362 (The Helpline is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week at no cost for Guam residents), or by stopping by a Disaster Recovery Center.

SBA Disaster Loans Also Still Available

FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration work closely to help survivors in Guam. SBA is the largest source of federal disaster recovery funding for rebuilding, replacement, or repair of disaster-damaged businesses and homes. As of July 21, SBA has approved more than \$100.6 million in federal disaster loans for Guam businesses and residents impacted by Typhoon Mawar, including \$5,148,900 for businesses and \$95,548,400 for residents to help rebuild and recover from this disaster.

FEMA collaborates with the SBA in determining applicant eligibility for some types of disaster assistance programs. If you have applied for FEMA disaster assistance, FEMA may refer you to SBA for consideration for a low-interest, long-term disaster assistance loan.

If you are referred to SBA, it is important to submit the loan application as soon as possible. If your application is approved, you don't have to accept an SBA loan. However, failure to return the application may disqualify you from some possible FEMA assistance. If you are determined by SBA to be ineligible for a low-interest, long-term disaster loan, FEMA may provide you with additional assistance to meet your other needs, including Personal Property Assistance, Transportation Assistance, and Group Flood Insurance Policy.

As for an SBA disaster loan, applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information, and download applications at https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Visit the following links for the latest information:

- Governor's Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/govlouguam
- GHS/OCD Website: https://ghs.guam.gov/
- GHS/OCD Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/

For more information, contact the Joint Information Center at (671) 478-0208/09/10.

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