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Commissioner & Adjutant General

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**Department of Military
and Veterans Affairs**

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

January 4, 2020

Contact: Jeremy Zidek (907) 441-2337

Press Release:

Governor Dunleavy Amends 2020 December Southeast Storms Disaster Declaration

Amendment enables individuals and families with storm damages to their primary home to apply for State Individual Assistance

JBER, Alaska – Governor Mike Dunleavy declared a State Disaster on December 5, 2020, in response to numerous landslides, mudslides, and flooding across Southeast Alaska. The Dec. 5 declaration activated the state’s Public Assistance disaster recovery program which funds emergency protective measures and critical infrastructure repair. On Dec. 29, Governor Dunleavy amended his declaration and activated the state’s Individual Assistance (IA) program which is designed to help individuals and families with damages and/or expenses related to the disaster event.

The State of Alaska is working with federal partners to identify programs that may become available to disaster survivors. If activated, federal disaster assistance must be pursued prior to a State IA award.

“Our state’s Individual Assistance Program is designed to address the critical unmet needs of those impacted by a disaster. The IA program will be utilized to the fullest, but its limitations mean only the most critical needs of disaster survivors will be considered. It is a publicly funded assistance program, not insurance.” said Director Paul Nelson, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. “The state will pursue every avenue of assistance to help those impacted by this disaster.”

Disaster survivors in Southeast Alaska can register for the State Individual Assistance program by visiting the State of Alaska’s Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management webpage **at Ready.Alaska.Gov**

Online Registration

Begins January 4th, 2021 at Ready.Alaska.Gov

Registration Deadline

February 26, 2021

If you have any questions or issues applying online, please call 1-855-445-7131(Disaster Assistance Hotline)

State of Alaska Individual Assistance (IA) has three parts; Temporary Housing grants (TH); Housing Assistance grants (HA); Other Needs Assistance grants (ONA).

Temporary Housing (TH) can provide funds to secure lodging while applicants pursue permanent housing solutions. Financial assistance may be available for up to 18 months for owners and 3 months for renters.

Housing Assistance (HA) grants can provide funds for damages to primary residences not covered by insurance. The residence must be owner occupied at time of event. The IA program does not help with secondary homes, recreational properties and homes lived in less than 6 months a year. Damages must be serious and negatively impact the essential living spaces in the home, and damages must be from the declared event.

Other Needs Assistance (ONA) can provide funds for losses to essential personal property not covered by insurance such as clothing, appliances and furniture. Also, recovery costs such as clean up and some storage expenses. It may also help with disaster caused medical/funeral expenses not covered by insurance.

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Fact Sheet

Contact: Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Individual Assistance
1-800-478-2337
1-907-428-7000



DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

When the Governor declares a disaster and authorizes Individual Assistance (IA), Alaska's **Individual and Family Grant (IFG) Program** and **Temporary Housing Program (THP)** provide timely assistance to individuals or families to meet disaster-related necessary expenses and serious needs. Together, these programs provide essential support when other resources are unavailable or inadequate.

The Individual Assistance program works closely with disaster-affected communities to ensure applicants are aware of the available IA resources. Individuals can apply with the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS & EM) for 60 days following declaration of a disaster via:

- **Online.** Register online at **Ready.Alaska.Gov**. Be prepared to provide a description of damages and/or loss, home ownership documentation, insurance information, personal identification, and proof of occupancy (utility bill).
- **Telephone Registration** at 1-855-445-7131 Be prepared to provide a description of damages and/or loss, home ownership documentation, insurance information, personal identification, and proof of occupancy (utility bill).

IA staff work closely with individuals on their applications and throughout the program to ensure immediate and essential individual and family needs are met.

INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE OVERVIEW

Housing Assistance

- **Owners (primary residences only).** Money to repair, replace, or rebuild; provide access; clean or make sanitary; remove debris relating to life, health, and safety issues.

Other Needs Assistance (determined separately from housing assistance)

- **Personal property (Owners and Renters).** Money to replace essential clothing; household items, furnishings or appliances; tools and employer-required specialized clothing; subsistence equipment; repair, cleaning or sanitizing of personal property; or moving and storage to prevent or reduce further damage.
- **Transportation.** Assistance to repair an Applicants only means of transportation.
- **Medical and Dental Expenses.** Assistance for disaster caused medical and dental expenses.
- **Funeral Expenses.** Assistance for disaster caused expenses incurred by an Applicant not covered by insurance.

TEMPORARY HOUSING PROGRAM (determined separately from housing assistance)

Temporary Housing (TH) can provide funds to secure lodging while applicants pursue permanent housing solutions.

- Eligible home owners up to 18 months
- Eligible renters up to three months



State Disaster Assistance

For Individuals and families with temporary housing needs, damaged primary residences, or essential personal property lost in 2020 December Southeast Storms.

Residents in the City and Borough of Haines, Municipality of Skagway Borough, City and Borough of Juneau, City and Borough of Wrangell, Petersburg Borough, City and Borough of Sitka, Ketchikan Gateway Borough, and the Annette Island, and Chatham, may be eligible for disaster recovery grants for damages to their primary residences that occurred during the 2020 December Southeast Storm.

Online Registration

Begins January 4th, 2021 at Ready.Alaska.Gov

If you have any questions or issues applying online, please call 1-855-445-7131 (Disaster Assistance Hotline)

The deadline to apply is February 26, 2021

Please have the following information with you when you visit:

- Description of damages and/or losses
- Home ownership documentation
 - Insurance information
 - Personal identification
- Proof of occupancy (utility bill)

2020 December South East Storms survivors are strongly encouraged to apply for individual assistance as soon as possible.

The deadline to apply for individual assistance is February 26, 2021

Disaster assistance is available without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, or economic status.