

## Preliminary Damage Assessments

---

### Iowa Flooding September 21, 2016 and Continuing

- At the request of the State of Iowa, teams of local, state and federal disaster specialists will begin Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) in nine (9) Iowa counties impacted by flooding from September 21 and continuing.
- The following counties are part of this Individual Assistance (IA) PDA: Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Delaware, Floyd, Jones and Linn.
- The Individual Assistance Program provides aid to individuals and households.
- These damage assessments are the first step in helping a governor determine whether the scope of the disaster is beyond the state's capabilities and whether additional federal assistance is needed. Additional assessments may be requested as damage information is received from local officials.
- The teams are comprised of representatives from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) and local officials.
- If the Governor deems that the disaster response or recovery requires federal assistance, he can submit a request for aid to FEMA using results from the damage assessments and other pertinent information.
- The request is forwarded to the White House for a decision by the President.

#### For individuals impacted by the September 21 flooding and continuing:

- On September 23, Governor Terry E. Branstad issued proclamations of disaster emergency for **Allamakee, Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Cedar, Chickasaw, Delaware, Floyd, Franklin, Linn and Wright** counties in response to flooding that occurred on September 21 and continuing. The Governor's proclamations allow State resources to be utilized to respond to and recover from the effects of these flooding.
- On September 26, Governor Branstad issued a proclamation of disaster emergency for four additional counties: **Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Mitchell, and Worth.**
- On September 27, Governor Branstad issued a proclamation of disaster emergency for four additional counties: **Howard, Jones, Louisa and Story.**
- The proclamations also activated the Iowa Individual Assistance Program for residents of those counties.
- The Iowa Individual Assistance Program provides grants of up to \$5,000 for households with



incomes up to 200 percent of the current [federal poverty level](#), or a maximum annual income of \$40,320, for a family of three.

- Grants are available for home or car repairs, replacement of clothing or food, and for the expense of temporary housing.
  - Original receipts are required for those seeking reimbursement for actual expenses related to storm recovery.
  - The grant application and instructions are available on the [Iowa Department of Human Services website](#).
- 
- Potential applicants have 45 days from the date of the Governor’s proclamation to submit a claim.
  - Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management officials advise flood-impacted individuals and businesses to report damage to their local emergency management officials.
  - Local officials can connect flood-impacted individuals to any services being provided by state departments and non-governmental organizations assisting with unmet needs.
  - Individuals and business owners also should notify their insurance companies of damage.

