



## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

To our municipal and special district partners,

As you may know, the Federal government declared a disaster specific to the COVID-19 pandemic on March 13, 2020. This step, in conjunction with the State and Cook County disaster declarations, means that local units of government may be entitled to Federal reimbursement of up to 75% of their pandemic response costs. Such reimbursements will come through the Public Assistance (PA) grant program. Each local unit of government must register for PA through the State of Illinois **no later than April 12, 2020** if they intend to submit for reimbursement.

The PA Program may provide federal disaster assistance to local units of government (Counties, Townships, Cities, Villages, School Districts and Special Districts) for emergency protective measures taken as a result of the COVID-19 declaration. Actions that may be deemed reimbursable include steps to manage, control and reduce immediate threats to public health and safety (Emergency Operations Center costs, training, disinfection of eligible public facilities), emergency medical care, medical sheltering, and the purchase and distribution of consumable goods including personal protective equipment.

Local units of government seeking reimbursement must make an initial Request for Public Assistance (RPA) to IEMA within 30 days of the declaration date. **This is not a submission of costs for which you seek reimbursement.** Rather, it tells the State that you will be seeking reimbursement for response costs in the future. **Your application must be submitted no later than April 12, 2020.**

Each unit of government must apply for PA and submit their reimbursement claim separately. One of the basic eligibility criteria for PA is that work and costs be the legal responsibility of an eligible applicant. As such, the County cannot submit claims on your behalf. While we will provide guidance how to gather and review your costs, **it is up to you to submit a claim for reimbursement on behalf of your local unit of government.**

Each applicant will need to complete the attached form [FEMA Form 009-0-49](#) with your FEIN written in the upper left-hand corner as well as your DUNS written in the upper right-hand corner. Please ensure that separate, unique emails are provided for the Primary and Alternate contact persons. **The system will not allow for a single email address to be used by both.** Once completed, please e-mail the form to [PA.grants@illinois.gov](mailto:PA.grants@illinois.gov) to request an invitation to register in the PA Grants Portal. The State will then process the RPA and an invitation will be sent to the Primary and Alternate POC's emails. Questions about grant eligibility and the application process should be directed to Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) PA staff at (217) 782-8719

As always Cook County Emergency Management and Regional Security (EMRS) stands by to assist you with additional information or technical assistance as needed. Questions related to the PA application and reimbursement in general can be directed to [cookcountyemrs@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:cookcountyemrs@cookcountyil.gov).

Thank you,

William Barnes  
Executive Director  
Cook County Department of Emergency Management & Regional Security