



Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

“Disaster Preparedness Saves Lives and Property.”

Individual Assistance Damage Assessment Level Guidelines

Form DAG-1

Damage Definitions	General Description	Things to Look For	Water Levels
DESTROYED	DESTROYED	DESTROYED	DESTROYED
Structure is a total loss. Not economically feasible to rebuild.	Structure leveled above the foundation or second floor is gone. Foundation or basement is significantly damaged.	Structure leveled or has major shifting off its foundation or only the foundation remains. Roof is gone, with noticeable distortion to walls.	More than 4 feet in first floor. More than 2 feet in mobile home .
MAJOR	MAJOR	MAJOR	MAJOR
Structure is currently uninhabitable. Extensive repairs are necessary to make habitable. Will take more than 30 days to repair.	Walls collapsed. Exterior frame damaged. Roof off or collapsed. Major damage to utilities; furnace, water heater, well, septic system.	Portions of the roof and decking are missing. Twisted, bowed, cracked, or collapsed walls. Structure penetrated by large foreign object, such as a tree. Damaged foundation.	2 to 4 feet in first floor without basement. 1 foot or more in first floor with basement. 6 inches to 2 feet in mobile home with plywood floors. 1 inch in mobile home with particle board floors.
MINOR	MINOR	MINOR	MINOR
Structure is damaged and uninhabitable. Minor repairs are necessary to make habitable. Will take less than 30 days to repair.	Interior flooring / exterior walls with minor damage. Tree(s) fallen on structure. Smoke damage. Shingles / roof ties moved or missing.	Many missing shingles, broken windows and doors. Loose or missing siding. Minor shifting or settling of foundation. Minor damage to septic system.	2 inches to 2 feet in first floor without basement. 1 foot or more in basement. Crawlspace - reached insulation. Sewage - in basement. Mobile home , “Belly Board” to 6 inches.
AFFECTED HABITABLE	AFFECTED HABITABLE	AFFECTED HABITABLE	AFFECTED HABITABLE
Structure has received minimal damage and is habitable without repairs .	Chimney or porch damaged. Carpet on first floor soaked. Broken windows.	Few missing shingles, some broken windows. Damage to air conditioning units / etc. Some minor basement flooding.	Less than 2 inches in first floor. Minor basement flooding. Mobile home , no water in “Belly Board.”

IDA Tips: Estimating Water Depths

Brick - 2¹/₂ inches per course

Lap or aluminum siding - 4 inches or 8 inches per course

Stair risers - 7 inches

Concrete or cinder block - 8 inches per course

Door knobs - 36 inches above floor

Standard doors - 6 feet 8 inches



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Category	Purpose	Eligible Activities
A: Debris Removal	Clearance of trees and woody debris; building wreckage; sand, mud, silt, and gravel; vehicles; and other disaster-related material deposited on public and, in very limited cases, private property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debris removal from a street or highway to allow the safe passage of emergency vehicles. • Debris removal from public property to eliminate health and safety hazards.
B: Emergency Protective Measures	Measures taken before, during, and after a disaster to save lives, protect public health and safety, and protect public and private property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Operations Center activation • Warning devices (barricades, signs, and announcements). • Search and rescue. • Security forces (police and guards). • Construction of temporary levees. • Provision of shelters or emergency care. • Sandbagging. • Bracing/shoring damaged structures. • Provision of food, water, ice and other essential needs. • Emergency repairs. • Emergency demolition. • Removal of health and safety hazards.
C: Roads and Bridges	Repair of roads, bridges, and associated features, such as shoulders, ditches, culverts, lighting and signs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible work includes: repair to surfaces, bases, shoulders, ditches, culverts, low water crossings, and other features, such as guardrails.
D: Water Control Facilities	Repair of irrigation systems, drainage channels, and pumping facilities. Repair of levees, dams, and flood control channels fall under Category D, but the eligibility of these facilities is restricted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Channel alignment • Recreation • Navigation • Land reclamation • Fish and wildlife habitat • Interior drainage • Irrigation • Erosion prevention • Flood control
E: Buildings and Equipment	Repair or replacement of buildings, including their contents and systems; heavy equipment; and vehicles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings, including contents such as furnishings and interior systems such as electrical work. • Replacement of pre-disaster quantities of consumable supplies and inventory. Replacement of library books and publications. • Removal of mud, silt, or other accumulated debris is eligible, along with any cleaning and painting necessary to restore the building. • All types of equipment, including vehicles, may be eligible for repair or replacement when damaged as a result of the declared event.
F: Utilities	Repair of water treatment and delivery systems; power generation facilities and distribution lines; and sewage collection and treatment facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of damaged utilities. • Temporary as well as permanent repair costs can be reimbursed.
G: Parks, Recreational Facilities, and Other items	Repair and restoration of parks, playgrounds, pools, cemeteries, and beaches. This category also is used for any work or facility that cannot be characterized adequately by Categories A-F.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads, buildings, and utilities within those areas and other features, such as playground equipment, ball fields, swimming pools, tennis courts, boat docks and ramps, piers, and golf courses. • Grass and sod are eligible only when necessary to stabilize slopes and minimize sediment runoff. • Repairs to maintained public beaches may be eligible in limited circumstances.

Only states, local government agencies and authorities, public utilities, and certain non-profit organization may be eligible for Public Assistance grants.

Eligibility Criteria: State Population per latest US Census x annual multiplier for state eligibility:
 Locality population per latest US Census x annual local multiplier for local eligibility