



HEARTS Georgia

Housing Emergency Assistance and Recovery Through Sheltering

Hurricane Helene Sheltering Program

What is it?



The State of Georgia is providing a temporary sheltering program available to survivors whose residences were majorly damaged, destroyed, or deemed not habitable in one of the 61 counties federally declared for FEMA's Public Assistance and Individual Assistance programs as a result of Hurricane Helene on September 24-October 30, 2024. The program will provide emergency sheltering in hotels or motels to survivors who are unable to locate rental homes or apartments and agree to the terms and conditions of the program.

This program is available to Georgia residents who need emergency sheltering assistance. Survivors must first apply to FEMA for Individual Assistance to be considered for the State of Georgia Hurricane Helene temporary sheltering program. FEMA and GEMA are coordinating to ensure there are no duplication of benefits in providing emergency sheltering.

Who is providing this service?



Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) is working to provide emergency shelter to individuals and families whose homes were damaged or destroyed during Hurricane Helene.

How long does the program last?



This is a temporary program that may last up to 6 months with a focus on transitioning survivors into sustainable housing.

How do I know if I'm eligible?



Survivors must have resided in a primary residence that was majorly damaged or destroyed during Hurricane Helene. If your home has been deemed habitable, you are not eligible for emergency sheltering. Program recipients must follow all laws and emergency sheltering program requirements and rules provided by the State of Georgia. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the facility.

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Who can apply for the Program?

The Program is for survivors from the counties impacted by Hurricane Helene and declared for both FEMA Individual and Public Assistance. To be eligible for the State of Georgia Sheltering Program, survivors must be registered with FEMA; seeking shelter in their eligible county; have a home that is majorly damaged, destroyed or not habitable; and agree to the program terms.



Do survivors need to apply for disaster assistance from FEMA for sheltering provided by the State of Georgia?

Yes, survivors first apply with FEMA for disaster assistance to be eligible for the Program. The State of Georgia will determine the home is majorly damaged, destroyed or not habitable and that it was the owners or renters pre-disaster primary residence.



What types of shelters are available through the Program?

The Program will provide hotel or motel rooms to survivors who are unable to locate a habitable residence.



If a survivor is eligible for the Program, are they eligible for other types of FEMA assistance?

Yes, survivors who apply for FEMA disaster assistance to access the State's Program may be eligible for FEMA financial assistance, including funding for home repair and loss of personal property.



How do survivors sign up for the Program?

Survivors must first apply with FEMA for disaster assistance. If survivors need sheltering, they may visit the HEARTS Georgia Program link at www.GEMA.Georgia.gov

Hurricane Helene Sheltering Program

STEP 1 REGISTRATION PROCESS	STEP 2 ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	STEP 3 TRANSITION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visit the GEMA/HS (www.GEMA.Georgia.gov) website and click on “HEARTS Georgia Program.”• Enter the information requested, including your name, the address of the damaged or destroyed home, and the number of people in your household.• After submitting, your application will be reviewed for eligibility.• If you have any questions, contact our call center at (833) 947-8439.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program staff will review your application to ensure the application is complete and determine eligibility for program benefits.• If approved, you will be required to sign program participation documents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will sign program participation documents and be provided a reservation at a program hotel or motel.• Eligibility for continued sheltering will be renewed on a consecutive 30-day basis for up to 6 months. Additional eligibility will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	TERMS & CONDITIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be eligible, you must be registered for Individual Assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).• Your primary residence must be located within one of the designated counties.• You must be ineligible for duplicative FEMA and non-profit housing programs.• Your home must have sustained major damage from Hurricane Helene and be uninhabitable.	<p>The program terms include agreement to the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Release of personal information to the State to provide assistance and connection to other recovery resources.• Accept responsibility for any damage caused to state property during your stay in the assigned shelter.• Understand this is a temporary sheltering program and you are actively working towards a sustainable housing solution while residing in state provided sheltering.	

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HOW DOES IT HELP?

- Provides safe sheltering to an individual or household
- Supports the transition to sustainable housing solutions



WHO DOES IT HELP?

- Focused on areas heavily impacted
- Survivors who need shelter and meet the program eligibility criteria



HOW DO I REGISTER?

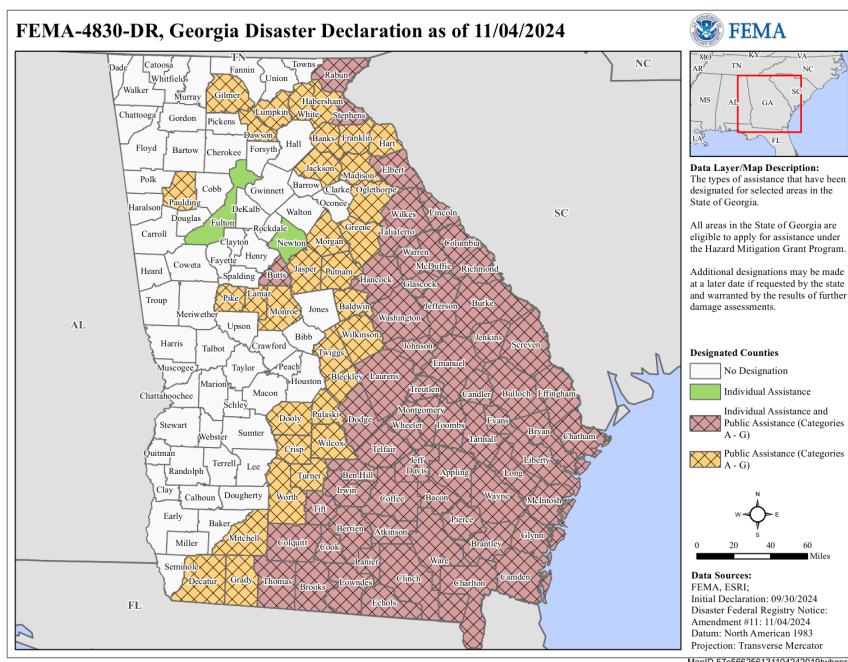
Go to: www.GEMA.Georgia.gov
Contact Customer Service: (833) 947-8439

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Impacted Areas and Service Description

State-provided Non-Congregate Sheltering will be made available to eligible survivors in all counties impacted by Hurricane Helene (FEMA-DR 4830-GA) that have been designated for both **Public Assistance** and **Individual Assistance** within the State of Georgia:



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|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Appling (County) | 22. Echols (County) | 43. Montgomery (County) |
| 2. Atkinson (County) | 23. Effingham (County) | 44. Pierce (County) |
| 3. Bacon (County) | 24. Elbert (County) | 45. Rabun (County) |
| 4. Ben Hill (County) | 25. Emanuel (County) | 46. Richmond (County) |
| 5. Berrien (County) | 26. Evans (County) | 47. Screven (County) |
| 6. Brantley (County) | 27. Glascock (County) | 48. Stephens (County) |
| 7. Brooks (County) | 28. Glynn (County) | 49. Taliaferro (County) |
| 8. Bryan (County) | 29. Hancock (County) | 50. Tattnall (County) |
| 9. Bulloch (County) | 30. Irwin (County) | 51. Telfair (County) |
| 10. Burke (County) | 31. Jeff Davis (County) | 52. Thomas (County) |
| 11. Butts (County) | 32. Jefferson (County) | 53. Tift (County) |
| 12. Camden (County) | 33. Jenkins (County) | 54. Toombs (County) |
| 13. Candler (County) | 34. Johnson (County) | 55. Treutlen (County) |
| 14. Charlton (County) | 35. Lanier (County) | 56. Ware (County) |
| 15. Chatham (County) | 36. Laurens (County) | 57. Warren (County) |
| 16. Clinch (County) | 37. Liberty (County) | 58. Washington (County) |
| 17. Coffee (County) | 38. Lincoln (County) | 59. Wayne (County) |
| 18. Colquitt (County) | 39. Long (County) | 60. Wheeler (County) |
| 19. Columbia (County) | 40. Lowndes (County) | 61. Wilkes (County) |
| 20. Cook (County) | 41. McDuffie (County) | |
| 21. Dodge (County) | 42. McIntosh (County) | |