

# Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Factsheet



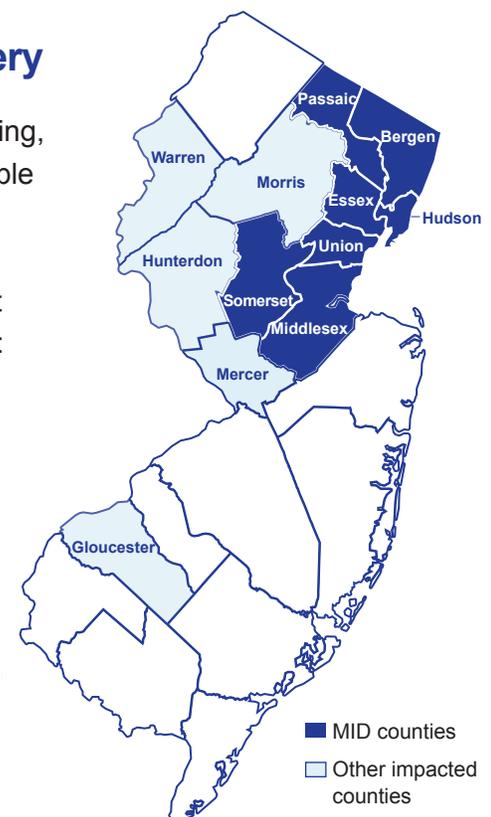
## Overview

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has allocated \$228 million to New Jersey to aid the ongoing recovery from Hurricane Ida. The funds are provided through the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR).

## Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery

CDBG-DR funding can be used for long-term recovery projects such as housing, rebuilding the local economy, and restoring infrastructure. The funds are flexible but must meet the following requirements:

- At least **80%** of the funds must be spent in areas that HUD defines as most impacted and distressed (MID). These areas include the following counties: **Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Passaic, Somerset, and Union**.
  - » The remaining **20%** of funds may be used in other disaster-impacted counties, including: **Gloucester, Hunterdon, Mercer, Morris, and Warren** Counties.
- At least **70%** of the total CDBG-DR funding must go towards projects that will directly benefit low- and moderate-income residents or investments in infrastructure that serve a majority (over 50%) of these residents.
- At least **15%** of funds must be used for mitigation projects that strengthen recovery efforts from disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss in future disasters.



## How Can Funds Be Used?

- **Housing Recovery:** Some programs can help renters and new and existing homeowners with, for example, new construction, home elevation and rebuilding projects, homelessness prevention, buyouts, counseling, and/or mobile home replacement and more.
- **Planning:** Grant funds may be used to create plans that guide housing recovery projects and help state and local agencies develop strategies to mitigate future disasters.
- **Infrastructure:** Grant funds can be used to repair damaged infrastructure or for new projects to help create new housing options or make communities more resilient to future disasters. Funds can also be used to cover non-federal cost share for state and local portions of infrastructure projects that FEMA funds.
- **Economic Development:** Loans or grants to small businesses to help revive the local economy.

## Process

The State must complete several steps to receive CDBG-DR funds. These tasks include conducting an Unmet and Mitigation Needs Assessments and developing an Action Plan that identifies how the State will use grant funds to address these needs. The State will submit an Action Plan to HUD in September.

- **Unmet Needs Assessment:** The State must analyze Ida's impact and the remaining needs not addressed through other funding sources.
- **Mitigation Needs Assessment:** The State must identify the greatest risks in each county.
- **Action Plan:** The State develops an Action Plan that includes programs to address the needs identified in the unmet needs and mitigation needs assessments.
- **Public Comment:** A draft plan will be shared with the public to collect feedback. After a 30-day public comment period, the State will respond to all comments, incorporate feedback into the plan, and submit the Action Plan to HUD for review and approval.

## Community Participation

Community input is essential to developing the Action Plan and the success of recovery and mitigation programs. We want to ensure all residents impacted by Ida have an opportunity to participate in the planning and assessment of the CDBG-DR recovery programs.

### How you can help:

- **Register with DCA:** Complete the Hurricane Ida Registration Survey on the DCA website ([www.nj.gov/dca/ddrm/home/idasurvey.shtml](http://www.nj.gov/dca/ddrm/home/idasurvey.shtml)) to let us know that you are interested in receiving assistance when it is available.
- **Provide feedback on the plan:** The draft Action Plan will be posted on the DCA website in **August 2022**. Review the plan and provide your feedback by email or at a public hearing.
- **Spread the word:** Share the plan with others and encourage them to review it, ask questions, and submit their feedback.

## CDBG-Disaster Recovery Action Plan Development Timeline



For more information about New Jersey's disaster recovery and mitigation efforts, go to [www.nj.gov/dca/ddrm](http://www.nj.gov/dca/ddrm). If you have questions, please email [DisasterRecoveryandMitigation@dca.nj.gov](mailto:DisasterRecoveryandMitigation@dca.nj.gov).