

## **PNP Hospitals in the Aftermath of Hurricane Harvey- Understanding What is Eligible for FEMA Reimbursement**

It is common for hospitals to incur significant costs when disaster hits. Providers are often unaware that FEMA can reimburse those expenses for which no other means of reimbursement exists.

Here are the five key expense categories for which FEMA reimbursement is generally available for Private Non-Profit Hospitals (PNP).

- 1. Emergency Preparation Measures.** Actions taken to ensure continuation of essential public medical services:
  - Debris removal
  - Sandbagging
  - Boarding up of windows and doors
  
- 2. Evacuation and Sheltering.** When disaster seriously threatens damage to hospitals, costs associated with evacuation and transport of patients to alternative facilities:
  - Incremental Labor
  - Equipment Costs (e.g. ambulances, buses, etc.)
  
- 3. Equipment Rental.** Items rented and used as a result of the disaster:
  - Generators
  - Air Conditioners
  - Refrigeration units
  
- 4. Provision of Good and Services to Shelters.** Items requested from and provided to area shelters (e.g. Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc.):
  - Cots
  - Food/Water
  - Personal comfort kits
  - Durable Medical Equipment
  - Pharmaceuticals
  
- 5. Incremental Labor.** Unscheduled force account labor used during emergency preparation measures, patient evacuation and transport, and disaster response activities:
  - Over time for regular staff
  - Regular and overtime for backfill or transferred staff
  - Contracted labor costs

Please note that the above listing of expenses generally eligible for FEMA reimbursement is no way meant to be exhaustive. Further, even when an expense may be of an eligible category, specific documentation preparation and retention; as well as timely filing requirements must be met for FEMA reimbursement.

Murer has significant experience navigating the FEMA reimbursement process, helping PNP hospitals receive FEMA reimbursement for incurred costs for which no alternative means of reimbursement exists. Please contact Ryan Yokley, JD, MHA (Vice President) [ryokley@murer.com](mailto:ryokley@murer.com) with any questions and to discuss how best we may be able to assist you in this time of need.