



<https://news.caloes.ca.gov/2023-winter-storms-recovery>

A Major Disaster Declaration has been approved for the counties of Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and San Luis Obispo. Here are some resources for navigating the federal Emergency Management Authority (FEMA) application process:

Apply for Disaster Assistance:

The fastest way to apply is through DisasterAssistance.gov. You can also apply through the [FEMA mobile app](#) or by calling 1-800-621-3362. If you use a video relay service, captioned telephone service, or other communication services, please provide FEMA the specific number assigned for that service. Press 2 for Spanish. Press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language.

Get Immediate Help: Find help with needs that FEMA is not authorized to provide. Check with your local emergency management officials, [voluntary agencies](#), or by [dialing your local 2-1-1](#).

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs)

At these Centers, residents who were affected by the severe storms and flooding can submit and update their FEMA applications and learn about state and community programs and other available assistance. Each Center provides the following standard accessibility resources:

- On-site American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter
- Remote ASL interpreting through Zoom
- Assistive listening devices (Pocket talkers)
- Magnifying glasses
- Manual wheelchairs
- Language translation services (in-person and/or telephonically)
- People who can assist survivors to read/write/complete forms

The Merced County DRC:

Merced County Fairgrounds (Yosemite Building)
900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Merced, CA 95341
Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
Dates: January 18 through 25, 2023

The Sacramento County DRC:

Chabolla Community Center
600 Chabolla Avenue
Galt, CA 95632
Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
Dates: January 18 through February 1, 2023

The Santa Cruz County DRC:

Ramsay Park Family Center
1301 Main St.
Watsonville, CA 95076
Hours of operation: 9:00 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
Dates: January 21 through February 18, 2023

Cal OES Resources

Support for Californians impacted by the winter storms:

[2023 Winter Storms Recovery \(English\)](#)

[2023 Winter Storms Recovery \(Spanish\)](#)

For an accessible video on how to apply, go to [FEMA Accessible: Three Ways to Register for FEMA Disaster Assistance](#).

This video covers how to register: [Important Registration Assistance Information for People with Disabilities](#)

This video covers very specifically question 24 (1 minute video):

[Applying for Assistance: Important Information for People with Disabilities \(Question 24\)](#)

[Individuals and Households Program Disability Cap](#)

Federal Resources

[California Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides DR-4683-CA](#)

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I Applied for Assistance. What's Next?

You will receive notification letters from FEMA either by U.S. mail or by electronic correspondence explaining your next steps. If you reported during the application process that you received damage and are not able to live in your primary residence, an inspector will contact you by phone to schedule an inspection. FEMA home inspections are conducted in-person; however, if you are apprehensive due to ongoing COVID-19 uncertainties, you can request we conduct the inspection without entering your home. [Learn more about the steps after applying.](#)

"Help After a Disaster" Brochures

Translated into 27 languages, the "Help After a Disaster" brochure is a tool that can be shared in your community to help people understand the types of FEMA assistance that may be available to support individuals and families in disaster recovery. [Download brochures.](#)