

Maine State Long-Term Recovery Group Disaster Relief Fund Activation Guide

Purpose of fund

The Maine Disaster Relief Fund (hereinafter, “the Fund”) is managed and operated by the Maine State Long-Term Recovery Board (SLTRB) and accepts cash donations solely for the purpose of assisting eligible nonprofit and local government organizations active in disaster recovery to serve affected individuals and households (hereinafter, “clients”). No money donated to the Fund is used for overhead.

The Fund is intended to be used to help fill the unmet disaster-caused needs of clients after all other personal, local, state, and federal resources have been exhausted. In all cases, whether or not the disaster was federally declared, the FEMA Sequence of Delivery described herein is used as a guiding principal. In all cases, an accepted disaster case management process must be followed for grants from the Fund to be allocated.

Criteria for activation

Following are the primary criteria for determining whether the financial resources of the Fund will be made available to meet the purpose outlined above:

- The severity of the disaster,
- The widespread impact,
- A demonstrated need of affected individuals and households, and
- The anticipated lack of adequate resources to address long-term recovery needs.

Either an emergency proclamation from the Governor or a Federal declaration will automatically activate the Fund allocations process for the described purpose.

When a disaster event receives neither a State emergency proclamation nor a Federal declaration, the State LTRB may take a vote to determine if the event will be sufficient in nature to activate the Fund allocations process. A simple majority of the board members must vote in the affirmative for activation.

When the State LTRB members make such a determination, they are mindful that events that impact one or two individuals or households, such as a fire or burst pipes, are disastrous for those impacted. However, the Fund was created to assist in the long-term recovery of events that impact a broader population and where other resources are not available to facilitate the recovery.