

Hurricane Harvey Private Sector

eBrief

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FEMA

Disaster Recovery Centers are now open in Brazoria and Caldwell Counties

Two State of Texas/federal Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) opened Tuesday, Oct. 24, in Brazoria County, in the city of West Columbia, and in Caldwell County, in the city of Lockhart. DRCs offer in-person support to individuals and businesses in counties included in the Texas federal disaster declaration for Hurricane Harvey and the subsequent floods.

Recovery specialists from FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the State and other agencies will be at the center to talk about disaster assistance and to help anyone who needs guidance in filing out an application. The new centers are at the following locations:

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| <p>West Columbia Civic Center 512 E. Brazos Ave West Columbia, TX 77486 Mon- Sat 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday Noon- 5:00 p.m.</p> | <p>Old Hospital/ Tech Facility (Next to Senior Center) 901 Bois D' Arc Street Lockhart, TX 78644 Mon- Sat 9 a.m.-7 p.m. / Sunday Noon- 5:00 p.m.</p> |
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Disaster recovery centers are accessible to people with disabilities. Centers have assistive technology equipment allowing disaster survivors to use amplified telephones, phones that display text, amplified listening devices for people with hearing loss and magnifiers for people with vision loss. Video Remote Interpreting is available and in-person sign language is available by request. The centers also have accessible parking, ramps and restrooms. American Sign Language interpreters are available to assist at a DRC.

Requests can be made via text message at **(470) 379-5943**. Survivors will need to provide their name, the address of the DRC they will be visiting, the date and time of their visit and the type of sign language they are requesting. All requests for help should be made at least 24 hours in advance of a DRC visit to ensure assistance is available. If possible, homeowners, renters and businesses should register with FEMA before visiting a recovery center. Eligible residents may register for assistance the following ways:

- Online at DisasterAssistance.gov.
- Phone **800-621-3362** (voice, **711/VRS**-Video Relay Service) (TTY: **800-462-7585**). Multilingual operators are available (press **2** for Spanish).
- Via the **FEMA app**, available for **Apple** and **Android** mobile devices. To download visit: fema.gov/mobile-app.

The following information is helpful when registering:

- Address of the location where the damage occurred (pre-disaster address).
- Current mailing address.
- Current telephone number.
- Insurance information.
- Total household annual income.
- Routing and account number for checking or savings account (this allows FEMA to directly transfer disaster assistance funds into a bank account).
- A description of disaster-caused damage and losses.

Disaster survivors can visit any of the centers for assistance. Locations of other recovery centers are online at www.fema.gov/DRC.

Homeowners, renters and businesses in **Aransas, Austin, Bastrop, Bee, Brazoria, Caldwell, Calhoun, Chambers, Colorado, DeWitt, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Karnes, Kleberg, Lavaca, Lee, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Polk, Refugio, Sabine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Tyler, Victoria, Walker, Waller and Wharton** counties may be eligible for help.

For more information on Hurricane Harvey and Texas recovery, visit the Hurricane Harvey web page at www.fema.gov/disaster/4332FEMA [Facebook page@FEMARegion6](#) [Twitter account](#) [Texas Division of Emergency Management website](#).

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|--|---|---|---|
|  FEMA Disaster Aid | |  FEMA Asistencia por Desastre | |
|  ONLINE disasterassistance.gov | |  POR INTERNET disasterassistance.gov/es | |
| PHONE  800-621-3362 (Voice, 711 or VRS) or 800-462-7585 (TTY) | FEMA APP fema.gov/mobile-app  | POR TELÉFONO  800-621-3362 (voz, 711 or VRS) or 800-462-7585 (TTY) | LA APLICACIÓN DE FEMA fema.gov/es/aplicación  |

Hotel stays for Harvey survivors extended with a new checkout date of Nov. 7

Hurricane Harvey survivors who need more time to find housing are getting an extension to stay temporarily in hotels while they look for an alternative place to live.

The Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) program, which pays for short-term hotel stays, has been extended. The new checkout date is on **Nov. 7**. Participants eligible to continue in the program will receive a phone call telling them what they need to do to remain at their current hotel or find a new hotel. Applicants must meet certain requirements to remain eligible.

Hurricane Harvey survivors who recently applied for assistance will be notified automatically of their eligibility. To be considered for TSA eligibility disaster survivors must be registered with FEMA for disaster assistance.

FEMA pays the hotel for the room and any applicable taxes (including non-refundable pet fees – up to the maximum allowable room night charge). Applicants are responsible for all other incidental costs (meals, transportation, etc.). Hotels require a government issued photo ID at time of check-in, survivors must adhere to any hotel check-in requirements and may be required to provide a credit card for incidental expenses.

A household of four or fewer members is authorized one hotel room and a household of five or more will be authorized additional rooms (limit four people per room). One member of each household, 18 years or older, must reside in each room.

TSA-eligible applicants must find and book their own hotel rooms. The list of participating hotels is available at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/assistance) under the [Transitional Sheltering Assistance Program](#) link or by calling FEMA at 800-321-3362. For 711 or Video Relay Service, call 800-621-3362. For TTY, call 800-462-7585.

Applicants with disabilities or who have access and functional needs should check with hotels to ensure appropriate accommodations are available. Those with pets must check with the hotel to see if the hotel accepts pets.



Texans coping with emotional stress from the hurricane can get help

If you're stressed due to Hurricane Harvey, call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 800-985-5990 or 800-846-8517 (TTY).



Click [here](#) to be **removed** from this email list | Click [here](#) to be **added** to this email list.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY: Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 (voice), 711/VRS – (Video Relay Service), (TTY: 800-462-7585). Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish).