

Governor Christie Announces 30-Day Extension for Sandy Disaster Assistance Registration

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New April 1 Deadline Allows Additional Time for Residents to Register for FEMA Assistance

Trenton, NJ – The Christie Administration announced today that New Jersey residents impacted by Superstorm Sandy now have until **April 1, 2013** to register for individual disaster assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The deadline extension applies for homeowner, renter, and business registration with the Small Business Administration (SBA) for Disaster Loan Assistance, another important step in the disaster relief process to ensure survivors obtain all relief they are eligible for.

"This 30-day extension will help us ensure that anyone who has been affected by Sandy gets the help they need and deserve," said Governor Christie. "It's vitally important for people to know that the process of receiving any type of federal disaster assistance – including future grant assistance for homeowners and businesses – begins with registering as a disaster survivor with FEMA and working with a coordinator to determine eligibility for relief. I encourage those who have not yet registered with FEMA and SBA to do so now to get the relief they are entitled to and to ensure their eligibility for any future relief we can offer."

It is crucial that individuals register with FEMA and that businesses and individuals complete the SBA loan application so State officials can continue to compile an accurate, comprehensive picture of the damage and the need for additional disaster recovery assistance. Moreover, for businesses, an SBA Disaster Loan represents the best opportunity for disaster assistance. There is no obligation to accept an SBA disaster home loan even after applying, but homeowners and renters may become eligible for additional assistance in the future.

Of note, apart from the April 1 SBA Disaster Loan deadline for property damage, businesses also have until July 31 to apply for SBA economic injury disaster loans. All homeowners, renters, and businesses are encouraged to register with FEMA and SBA to ensure eligibility for future forms of aid.

People with storm losses in all counties can register online at www.disasterassistance.gov and via smart phone or tablet [here](#).

Survivors also can register by phone or 711/VRS by calling **800-621-3362, TTY800-462-7585**.

At the request of the State, FEMA extended the registration deadline another 30 days due to the magnitude of the storm disaster.

The disaster registration process serves as a referral point for FEMA programs and those of partner agencies such as the SBA, American Red Cross and the Salvation Army. FEMA disaster assistance for individuals and families can include money for rental assistance, essential home repairs, personal property losses and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance.

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