



DISASTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Those impacted by a disaster may apply to the province for Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) where the losses could not be insured or where other programs are not available. Disaster financial assistance helps to replace or restore essential items and property that have been destroyed or damaged to pre-disaster condition.

Assistance is available to qualifying home owners, residential tenants, small businesses, farm operators, and not-for-profit charitable organizations. Applicants should be aware of the following:

- Financial assistance is provided for each accepted claim at 80 percent of the amount of total eligible damage that exceeds \$1,000, to a maximum limit of \$300,000.
- Claims may be made in more than one category (e.g., home owner and farm operation).
- A home owner or residential tenant must show that the home is their principal residence. Seasonal or recreational properties, hot tubs, patios, pools, garden tools, landscaping, luxury items (like jewelry, fur coats and collectibles), are recreational items (like boats), are not eligible for assistance.
- Small business and farm owners must demonstrate it is their primary source of income. Owners of damaged rental property must apply and qualify as a small business.
- Not-for-profit Charitable Organizations must provide a benefit of service to the community at large.
- Applications for DFA must be submitted to the Provincial Emergency Program (PEP) within 90 days of the date that DFA was authorized.

Assistance is also available to local governments for:

- Emergency response measures authorized by PEP, including incremental costs associated with their Emergency Operations Centre. Financial assistance is provided for each accepted response claim at 100 percent.
- Recovery measure to replace essential materials and rebuild or replace essential public infrastructures to the condition it was in before the disaster. Assistance is provided for each accepted recovery claim at 80 percent of the amount of total eligible damage that exceeds \$1,000.

To apply for DFA, the form and information for individuals and communities is available at PEP Regional Offices, PEP Recovery Office in Victoria at toll-free 1-888-257-4777, or on the PEP website at www.pep.bc.ca.