



## APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL HELP AFTER A DISASTER General Information



British Columbia's Disaster Financial Assistance program (DFA) helps people and small businesses replace or restore property damaged in a disaster. It is administered through the Provincial Emergency Program of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

### WHAT KIND OF HELP CAN I GET?

The Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) program provides financial assistance to replace or restore items that are essential to your home, livelihood or community service.

It does **not** pay for:

- Loss or damage for which insurance is reasonably and readily available
- Recreational or seasonal residences
- Luxury goods
- Land that has been lost through erosion
- Landscaping

### HOW MUCH HELP IS AVAILABLE?

You can get detailed information in the DFA Guidelines, available at the Provincial Emergency Program Recovery Unit or access at [www.pep.bc.ca](http://www.pep.bc.ca)

In general:

- If your claim is accepted, DFA will fund 80% of the total eligible damage (over \$1,000).
- DFA will fund up to \$300,000 for replacement or restoration of homes, small businesses, farms or charitable/volunteer organizations.
- Your claim cannot exceed the cost of restoring or repairing items and property to their immediate pre-disaster condition.

### AM I ELIGIBLE FOR DFA ASSISTANCE?

You are eligible for DFA assistance if items essential to your home, business, farm or charitable/volunteer organization have been damaged in a disaster, and if you are a:

- Home owner or residential tenant (renter);
- Small business or farm owner;
- Charitable/volunteer organization;
- Local government.

You can submit an application in more than one category, such as for your home and for your small business.

If you are a landlord, you must qualify as a small business according to DFA Guidelines in order to receive assistance.

You can only apply for assistance under the farm and small business owner category if the farm or business is the primary source of income for all the owners collectively.

Large businesses and Crown Corporations are not eligible

## **HOW DO I APPLY?**

Once Disaster Financial Assistance has been approved for a disaster, follow these steps:

- 1. Review DFA Guidelines for eligibility**
- 2. Complete a DFA application, available at [www.pep.bc.ca](http://www.pep.bc.ca) or through the PEP Recovery Unit at (250) 952-5505 or toll-free at 1-888-257-4777.**

Eligible applicants will be contacted by a DFA evaluator who will visit you to review the damage and complete an assessment.

The evaluator will submit a report to PEP for final adjudication of your claim, and if your claim is accepted you will receive a settlement payment.

Printed copies of this and other brochures are available at all Provincial Emergency Program locations, or go to [www.pep.bc.ca](http://www.pep.bc.ca)

***Provincial Emergency Program Recovery Office  
Toll-free within BC: 1-888-257-4777***