

## FEMA Fair Market Rental Assistance

FEMA awards eligible applicants an initial Rental Assistance payment based on the Fair Market Rent (FMR) established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the county or parish where their pre-disaster residence is located and the number of bedrooms the household requires.

Rental Assistance is intended to cover the monthly rent amount and cost of essential utilities (i.e., gas, electric, water, oil, trash, and sewer), excluding telephone, cable, TV, or internet service for the housing unit. Rental Assistance may also be used to pay a security deposit in an amount that does not exceed the cost of one month of FMR. Rental Assistance counts towards the maximum amount of IHP financial assistance an applicant may receive.

For DR-4277-LA, the initial two months rental is based on HUD FMR and the 125% increase is not calculated in the initial rental; however, the 125% increase in FMR will begin upon rental recertification – CTHA – Continued Temporary Housing Assistance.

FEMA generally expects that pre-disaster renters will use their initial Rental Assistance to obtain permanent housing, and that all recipients of financial assistance will obtain and occupy permanent housing at the earliest possible time.

For CTHA – Continued Temporary Housing assistance (rental recertification):

Applicants in need of Continued Rental Assistance may request additional assistance. Applicants requesting Continued Rental Assistance must complete FEMA Form 010-0-12, and return it to FEMA along with supporting documentation.

- Homeowners: if the applicant's FEMA Verified Real Property Loss exceeds the amount of initial Rental Assistance awarded, the *Application for Continued Temporary Housing Assistance* will automatically be mailed after the initial Rental Assistance award.
  - o If the recorded FEMA Verified Real Property Loss does not exceed the amount of initial Rental Assistance awarded, the applicant must call FEMA's Helpline to request an *Application for Continued*
- Renters: the applicant must call FEMA's Helpline to request an *Application for Continued Temporary Housing Assistance*.

FEMA uses the information collected on Form 010-0-12 to verify an applicant continues to have a disaster-caused need for Continued Rental Assistance and determine how much Rental Assistance the applicant may be eligible to receive.